California Teachers Association
Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Scholarship Fund



2026-2027 Scholarship Eligibility and Criteria

The applicant must also be one of the following:

- A dependent child of an active CTA member, CTA/NEA-Retired member, or deceased CTA member
- An active CTA member
- An active CTA Aspiring Educators (CTA-AE) member

  To receive the scholarship, the active CTA-AE member **must** reside in California and maintain membership at the time of disbursement.

Eligibility - To be eligible, the applicant must be:

- Pursuing a degree, credential, or certification for a **teaching-related career in public education** in an accredited institution of higher education
- A member of a defined BIPOC group:
  (African American/Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian/Pacific Islander or Hispanic)
- Enrolled for summer or fall semester of 2027

Criteria - Each Application is evaluated and scored on the following:

- Financial Need – 30 pts
- Applicant Statement – 30 pts

Applicant Statement Criteria (350 words or less):

Dependent child only:

1. Why are you choosing a career path related to public education?
2. What are your personal attributes and unique qualities that will help you succeed in a teaching related profession?
3. Why should there be more Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) educators represented in the field of education?

CTA and CTA-AE members only:

1. In the spirit of Martin Luther King Jr., who worked to promote civil rights and social justice, how do you intend to carry on his work in the following areas?
   - Social Justice, Equity and Diversity
   - Community Engagement
   - Advocacy in Education
2. Explain the importance of having more Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) educators in public education.

- Recommendation Forms – 20 pts
- Activities and achievements (For Dependent Children) – 20 pts
- School Site and Union Involvement (For CTA and CTA-AE members) – 20 pts

Deadline: Applications must be submitted online by Friday, February 19, 2027

Scholarship funds must be used for education-related expenses only.

CTA