



BOARD OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE

Enhancing Life and Community
in Upper Merion Township

BCA 2025 PROGRAM OVERVIEW

Board of Supervisors Meeting
February 13, 2025

BCA - Overview

- **Established in 2013 through a partnership between Upper Merion Township and Valley Forge Casino Resort**
- **Advise the Board of Supervisors on providing assistance with monies received from the Valley Forge Casino Resort**
 - **Non-profit and 501(c) organizations propose projects which directly impact UM community residents**
 - **BCA Scholarships- High School Juniors and Seniors residing in UM Township and planning to attend college or other post-secondary educ are encouraged to apply.**
- **To date, the BCA has awarded over \$1,700,000 in grants.**

BCA MEMBERS

APPOINTED MEMBERS

Brett Montich

Lydia Dan-Sardiñas

David Karen

Greg Waks

Supervisor Liaison

VFCR REPRESENTATIVES

Ronald Bailey

Donna Hogan

Gerri Vattimo

Staff Liaison

NUMBER OF BCA APPLICATIONS 2024

TOTAL RECEIVED: 62

Organizations: . . . 39

Sports: 3

Scholarships: 20

TOTAL AWARDED: 61

Organizations: . . 38

Sports: 3

Scholarships: 20

Total Funds Awarded in 2024: \$207,116.79

NUMBER OF BCA APPLICANTS PER YEAR

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Organizations</u>	<u>Sports</u>	<u>Scholarships</u>
2013	41	29	4	8
2014	95	29	5	28
2015	103	53	9	40
2016	95	52	10	33
2017	101	63	5	33
2018	94	53	6	32
2019	77	49	4	24
2020	78	44	5	29
2021	76	51	7	18
2022	61	37	1	23
2023	65	42	3	20
2024	62	39	3	20
Total Applicants	948	541	62	308

TOTAL BCA AWARD RECIPIENTS PER YEAR

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Organizations</u>	<u>Sports</u>	<u>Scholarships</u>
2013	28	16	4	8
2014	59	26	5	28
2015	69	36	3	30
2016	65	33	7	25
2017	42	26	1	15
2018	59	28	4	27
2019	56	36	2	18
2020	56	29	3	24
2021	56	37	3	16
2022	47	30	1	16
2023	51	27	3	20
2024	61	38	3	20
TOTAL AWARDS	649	351	39	247

TOTAL BCA AWARD FUNDS PER YEAR

<u>Year</u>	<u>Funds Awarded</u>	
2013	\$128,000	
2014	\$155,000	
2015	\$149,000	
2016	\$152,273	
2017	\$149,540	
2018	\$151,705	
2019	\$152,385	
2020	\$177,790	(2 rounds)
2021	\$155,050	(2 rounds)
2022	\$135,500	
2023	\$144,231	
2024	\$207,117	

TOTAL BCA FUNDS AWARDED TO DATE = \$1,857,591

BCA APPLICATIONS PROCESS

- Early Review
- Organization & Sports Application
- Scholarship Application

BCA APPLICATIONS PROCESS

Early Review Period for Increased Application Quality

Scholarship Applications Early Review Period from Nov. 25th thru March 17th

- **Students (Juniors and Seniors)** may request a review of their scholarship application and receive feedback for improvement from the BCA.

Email questions to BCA@umtownship.org

BCA APPLICATIONS PROCESS

**Drop-In Meetings During Early Review Period
Offered for Increased Application Quality**

Organization and Sports Drop-In Session on March 10th

- **Orgs/Sports** may seek BCA feedback on applications at an in-person Drop-In Meeting at Township Building's Henderson Room – **5:30PM - 7:30PM.**

Email questions to BCA@umtownship.org

ORGANIZATIONS AND SPORTS APPLICATION

NON-PROFIT AND 501(C)(3) ORGS AND GROUPS

ORGANIZATION and SPORTS APPLICATION

- Project Description
- Project Cost
- Organization Description and Purpose
- Project Benefits specifically to Upper Merion Residents and the Upper Merion Community

ORGANIZATION and SPORTS APPLICATION

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- All proposed projects must be approved by the benefitting organization before an application can be accepted.

ORGANIZATION/SPORTS

Non-profit and/or 501(c) organizations that benefit Upper Merion Township are eligible to apply for a BCA grant

Organization Awards range from \$500 - \$20,000
(over \$10k requires 2% match per BCA policy)

Awardees must submit a year-end project summary by December 1st, including copies of invoices/receipts to show how approved funds per stated project purpose.

Fillable Applications for download are available on the BCA webpage at www.umtownship.org.

ORGANIZATION APPLICATION & PROJECT SUMMARY REPORT

ORGANIZATION/AGENCY NAME: _____

AMOUNT REQUESTED: _____

TYPE OF ORGANIZATION:

NON-PROFIT

GOVERNMENT

OTHER (PLEASE SPECIFY): _____

TAX ID NUMBER: _____

PROJECT NAME: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE: _____

ORGANIZATION PROJECT COMPLETION REPORT

Brief SUMMARY of BCA project:

Organization name:
Project name:
Project objectives completed:
Project items not completed with reasons:
Funds Used for the Project as compared to the Project Plan Funds
Comments
SIGNATURE/date:

ATTACH RECEIPTS of all BCA projects fully covered by _____

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

**HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS AND JUNIORS
RESIDING IN UPPER MERION**

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

BCA Scholarships Range from \$1,000 to \$10,000

- Most Scholarship Awards Range between \$1,000 and \$4,000
- Ronald G. Wagenmann Scholarship - \$5,000 (multiple may be awarded in a grant year)
- General Von Steuben Scholarship - \$10,000

SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

- High School Seniors and Juniors in good standing, residing in Upper Merion Township, and intending on attending post-secondary education are eligible to apply
- Students can be enrolled in any high school – provided that the student applicant is an Upper Merion Township resident
- Students may aspire to any post-secondary educational opportunity (college, trade, technical, vocational)

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

- A Quality Community Service Project Plan – includes required adult project sponsor, and project must be approved by the organization or individual
- Academics – Transcripts and Letters of Recommendation
- Special Circumstances may be included
- College/School Acceptance Letter (if decided/obtained)
- Financial Aid Cover Letter / Tuition Financial Aid Needs

SCHOLARSHIP COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT REQUIRMENTS

- Submit a project plan which includes a minimum of 15 community service hours that will be performed as part of BCA scholarship grant. Approval of project must be obtained prior to submission to the BCA.
- Develop a project with sufficient comprehensiveness and quality to ensure that it will bring value to a local organization/the general community
(*Past community service projects are not eligible.*)

SCHOLARSHIP COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT REQUIREMENTS

- Service Project for Seniors must be performed between June 1 and December 1, 2025 (6 months to complete)
- Service Project for Juniors must be performed between June 1, 2025 and March 31, 2026 of their Senior Year. (9 months to complete)

SCHOLARSHIP COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT REQUIRMENTS

- **PAYMENT:** One scholarship award payment for total award amount will be issued to the college or post-secondary school and payment is contingent on the student's on-time submission of the Service Project Completion per signed agreement
(Seniors in December of Freshman Year of College;
Juniors in July following High School Graduation)

SCHOLARSHIP COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT REQUIRMENTS

- **SERVICE PROJECT PLAN FORM** – Signed approval from organization of the student's Project/Service proposal
- **SERVICE PROJECT REPORT** – Project Summary Narrative (fillable form provided), Project Photos, Flyers, Presentations, Social Media Promotions, etc.
- **SERVICE PROJECT VERIFICATION LETTER** – Certification/Signoff from organization/adult supervisor that validates project and the required hours completed.

Email questions to BCA@umtownship.org

SCHOLARSHIP COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT REQUIRMENTS

- **Senior's Service Project is Due NLT December 1, 2025**
(same year that award is granted)
- **Junior's Service Project is Due NLT March 31, 2026**
(in Sr. year after Jr. year award)

Submit a quality project proposal that will make a real difference to the Upper Merion Township community!*

Email questions to BCA@umtownship.org

SCHOLARSHIP COMMUNITY SERVICE PROJECT REQUIREMENTS



BOARD OF COMMUNITY ASSISTANCE Enhancing Life and Community in Upper Merion Township

SCHOLARSHIP SERVICE PROJECT PLAN APPROVAL FORM

Your BCA Community Service Project Plan is required to be approved/signed off by the organization or sponsoring adult and included as part of your application.

- Service Project Name: _____
- Listing of specific service project elements:

1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	
5.	

Provide additional detail of Project Plan on separate sheet.

_____ has been provided by the Organization, Township Department or Program (Library, Parks & Rec,
_____ location the project will be worked? YES NO

SCHOLARSHIP COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS REQUIRED – PER AWARD LEVEL

<u>Award Value</u>	<u>Volunteer Hours Required</u>
\$7,000 - \$10,000	50 hours
\$5,000 - \$6,999	40 hours
\$3,000 - \$4,999	30 hours
\$1,500 - \$2,999	20 hours
\$1,000 - \$1,499	15 hours

BCA APPLICATIONS PROCESS

**ALL Applications are DUE
March 31, 2025 at 5:00PM**

Submit via Email, US Mail, or Hand Delivery
to Cashier Window Township Building.

Email questions to BCA@umtownship.org

2025 BCA AWARD RECOMMENDATION ANNOUNCEMENT

- Presentation of Award Recommendations will be made to the Board of Supervisors at the **Thursday, May 15, 2025 7:00PM Business Meeting.**
- Applicant attendance is not required. Meeting will be televised on UMGA-TV (Comcast–Channel 22 / Verizon–Channel 33)
- Award Recipients Presentation (following approval from Board of Supervisors) will be posted on the Upper Merion Township Website (www.umtownship.org)
- Letters will be mailed to all BCA 2025 applicants to inform each as to whether they received an award or not.
- Award Recipients will be invited to the Award Reception at the VFCR on June 4, 2025.

APPLICATION SUBMITTAL LOCATION

Email application pdf to gvattimo@umtownship.org (Gerri Vattimo, BCA Staff Liaison)

U.S. Mail:

Upper Merion Township Building, Admin (2nd Level)

175 W. Valley Forge Road

King of Prussia, PA 19406

ATTN: BCA Staff Liaison, Gerri Vattimo

Drop off at the Cashier Window, Township Building 2nd Level



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THANK YOU!