

FROM THE OFFICE OF  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
RUTH JONES McCLENDON**  
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**Contact:** Marge Reyna, District Office Manager 210/225-2107



**Representative McClendon Announces  
\$400,000 2008 - 2009 Scholarship  
Fund**

**(San Antonio)** State Representative Ruth Jones McClendon (D-San Antonio) announced that approximately \$400,000 in scholarships is available for high school graduates from San Antonio and eighteen other urban areas throughout Texas. Administrated by the Texas Association of Developing Colleges (TADC), the Urban Scholarship Program was created during the 74th legislative session as part of House Bill 2128 with the cooperation of the three largest

local telephone companies in the State: Verizon, AT&T, and Sprint/United and Centel Telephone. **Since the establishment of the fund over 7000 scholarships have been awarded to students throughout the state of Texas.**

This fund was created to provide access to higher education opportunities for Texans who, without this assistance, might not be able to strive for a college education, stated Representative McClendon. Basically all the problems facing our communities, including economic parity, high crime, building cohesive families, and other quality of life issues are related to the lack of education. By providing increased avenues of educational opportunity, we multiply our chances of improving the conditions of our State. The goal of this fund is to boost chances of reaching this target.

The 2008-2009 Urban Scholarship Fund is for Texas residents who are also U.S. citizens and full-time undergraduates in good academic standing at any accredited public or private non-profit college, university or technical college. Additionally, applicants must demonstrate financial need and have graduated from a high school in the following metropolitan cities: Abilene, Amarillo, Arlington, Austin, Beaumont, Corpus Christi, Dallas, El Paso, Fort Worth, Garland, Houston, Irving, Laredo, Lubbock, Mesquite, Pasadena, Plano, San Antonio and Waco. **Students interested in applying for scholarships should contact their high school guidance counselor or college financial aid officer. They may also contact the Texas Association of Developing Colleges at (214) 630-2511 or by visiting the website at [www.txadc.org](http://www.txadc.org). The deadline for applying for the 2008-2009 Urban Scholarship fund is Monday, July 9, 2008 (postmark).**

The Texas Association of Developing Colleges (TADC), a Dallas higher education consortium administering the program, anticipates awarding between 300 and 350

scholarships. The number of awards is uncertain because of the varying funding levels to different types of institutions.

Students attending technical, junior or community colleges will receive \$700; public four-year college and university students will receive \$1,000 and private four-year college and university students will receive \$2,000.

The Urban Scholarship fund was created in 1995 with Representative Yvonne Davis (D-Dallas) attached an amendment to the omnibus telecom bill creating a pool of funds derived from unclaimed telephone service deposits. Previously unclaimed funds went into the unclaimed funds pool. Although these funds will be shifted into the scholarship account, local telephone companies will still reimburse consumers for any funds properly claimed in the future.

Students from non-metropolitan areas of the State may be covered by the Rural Scholarship Fund which was also created by HB2128.