

Khwezilomso Endowed Fund in Africana Studies

DEADLINES FOR 2026-2027 APPLICATIONS:

FALL 2026: **AUGUST 3, 2026**

WINTER 2027: **NOVEMBER 21, 2026**

SPRING/SUMMER 2027: **MARCH 1, 2027**

In the Xhosa language of South Africa, *khwezilomso* is the term for “morning star,” the first star of the morning that signals the beginning of a new day filled with bright promises. This term represents the envisioned impact of this endowed fund for students in the Africana Studies program at BYU. The Khwezilomso Endowed Fund provides financial support in the form of scholarships, internships, travel grants (e.g. for research projects, conference, or other experiential learning opportunities), to students who are involved in Africana Studies, with a preference for students with a greater financial need and students who are from Africa (regardless of the students’ nationality or national origin). The funds are administered by the Kennedy Center through the Africana Studies program. Recipients will be chosen by a committee of Africana Studies program faculty. Amounts will vary according to the number and nature of the applications.

Who should apply?

All students involved in the Africana Studies program are invited to apply for scholarship money (including for study abroad programs), for grants for internships, for travel grants to attend conferences or conduct studies or research, etc. Previous recipients may apply.

How do I apply?

Complete the Khwezilomso Endowed Fund in Africana Studies application form that follows. Combine the application, your transcript, personal statement, and all other supporting documentation **into one pdf file labeled with your name and the semester for which you are applying.** Email the file, along with a brief introductory message, to Dr. Leslie Hadfield, leslie_hadfield@byu.edu.

***Applications must be complete to be considered, so please follow instructions carefully.**

Questions?

Email leslie_hadfield@byu.edu or call 801.422.8013

Khwezilomso Endowed Fund in Africana Studies – Scholarship and Grant Application

Name: _____ Student ID: _____

Street/Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Major and emphasis? _____

Class standing: Soph ___ Junior ___ Senior ___ Graduate Student ___ Anticipated Graduation: _____

Total GPA: _____ Major GPA: _____ *Please attach a copy of your transcript.

Have you declared a minor in Africana Studies? Yes ___ No ___

Are you from Africa? _____

What type of financial aid are you applying for?

Scholarship _____

Internship _____

Travel Grant _____

Other _____ (Please explain) _____

Estimated financial need (e.g. semester tuition, travel costs, research budget) _____

Are you currently working? Yes ___ No ___ If so, how many hours per week? _____

List all other scholarships/loans and their amounts you have received for past semesters, or will be receiving for the semester for which you are seeking aid:

I certify that the information furnished on this form is true to the best of my knowledge. I further certify that if my status changes after I receive funds, I will notify the awards committee and understand that I may be asked to return the funds that have been awarded me. I understand my academic records may be viewed by a review committee.

Signature/Date

ATTACHMENTS

TRANSCRIPT

Please attach a current transcript (unofficial or official is okay).

PERSONAL STATEMENT AND PROPOSAL

Write a **short (1-2 page) personal statement** that **1)** describes your educational plans, **2)** describes your financial need and how you will use the funds you are applying for to accomplish your educational plans, and **3)** discusses your personal connection to Africana Studies. If you are applying for a scholarship to study abroad, for an internship, or travel grant, please include an **estimated budget**.

If you are applying to support travel to conduct research or studies, you will need to also include a 1-2 page **research proposal** outlining your research question, its significance, and your plan for carrying out the research, including a budget.

For tips on writing an effective personal statement and research/grant proposal see [BYU's Research and Writing Center handouts](#) (look under the "Types of Writing" tab).

REFERENCES

Please list two people who are familiar with your work. At least one must be a BYU professor.

Recommender #1: _____ Email: _____

Recommender #2: _____ Email: _____

FORMS AND ATTACHMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE DEADLINE.