



# Mike García Scholarship & Martha Cox-Nitikman Memorial Scholarship

## 2024 Application

### Overview:

Building Skills Partnership (BSP) is a statewide non-profit organization made possible through a collaboration between community members, responsible businesses, Building Owners Managers Association (BOMA) and SEIU-USWW. BSP's mission is to improve the quality of life of SEIU-USWW building service workers by offering career and education programs that enable workers' personal and professional success.

BSP is proud to announce its Mike García Scholarship and Martha Cox-Nitikman Memorial Scholarship for the 2024-2025 academic year. This application is open to SEIU-USWW members and their children to help offset some of the rising costs of a higher education and to nurture the growth of future leaders.

### About Mike García

The son of a union factory worker, Mike worked as a janitor to support his college education. He shared his vision for the American Dream not only through his vital contributions to the fight for workers' rights, but by elevating higher education opportunities for immigrant janitors' children. Mike García strongly believed higher education and leadership was key to helping enhance and improve the lives of union members, their families and our communities. Mike's commitment to upholding the rights and dignity of immigrant workers has inspired statewide campaigns, helping janitors and their families achieve social and economic justice across California.

### About Martha Cox-Nitikman

For over three decades, Martha Cox-Nitikman worked as a tireless advocate as the Vice President of Public Policy for the Building Owners and Managers Association Greater Los Angeles (BOMA/GLA). Martha is remembered for her deep knowledge of industry issues and for her unrelenting approach to solving public challenges. Martha also served as a founding board member of Building Skills Partnership (BSP) from 2007 to 2019 and was instrumental in advocating for the expansion of its programs throughout California. As a board member, Martha helped steer the organization through immense growth.

### Applicants must meet the following requirement:

- Must be a **current** SEIU-USWW member **or** child of SEIU-USWW member
- Must be entering or continuing their education at either a 2-year community college, 4-year university, or vocational institution in the fall of 2024
- Use the award for the 2024-2025 academic year
- Have a GPA of 2.0 or higher

**Applications must submitted online to [mikegarciascholarship.org/apply](https://mikegarciascholarship.org/apply) or e-mailed no later than **Friday May 17th, 2024** to:**

Att: Zazil Rojas  
Building Skills Partnership  
828 W. Washington Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90015  
(323) 391-3179  
[scholarships@buildingskills.org](mailto:scholarships@buildingskills.org)



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### Applicant Information:

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_ Are **you** a member of SEIU-USWW?  Yes  No

### Educational Information:

Current school name: \_\_\_\_\_

Current school address: \_\_\_\_\_

College attending in Fall 2024 (*if different from current school*): \_\_\_\_\_

Anticipated Major: \_\_\_\_\_ Current GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

### Parent/ Guardian or SEIU-USWW Member Information:

(If **you** are an SEIU-USWW member applying for the scholarship, complete Member Information portion)

#### **SEIU-USWW Member information/ Parent 1:**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last 4-digits of SSN: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Worksite/Terminal: \_\_\_\_\_ Is the information for a parent or yourself?  Parent  Self

#### **Parent 2:**

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last 4-digits of SSN: \_\_\_\_\_ Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Worksite/Terminal: \_\_\_\_\_ Is this person also a member of SEIU-USWW?  Yes  No



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### Estimated Educational Expenses:

Did you submit a completed FAFSA/ CA Dream Act application?  Yes  No

#### Estimated Expenses *(This information is found on your school's financial aid website)*

Tuition & Mandatory Fees: (for the entire year) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Books & Supplies: (for the entire year) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Room & Board: (Cost of rent per year even if you will not live on campus) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Miscellaneous/ Personal: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(clothing, laundry, toiletries, personal items, etc)

Transportation: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(clothing, laundry, toiletries, personal items, etc)

Amount you're contributing at home: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Expenses: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(add all the amounts above)

Where will you be living during the 2024-2025 school year?  At home  On campus  Off campus, not at home

Are you or your parents seeing a reduction of hours or were they laid off?  Yes  No

### Estimated Income/ Subsidy/ Aid:

What is your Estimated Family Contribution: \_\_\_\_\_

(your EFC is found in your FAFSA/ CA Dream Act report)

Scholarships/ Grants: (include total amount of any you'll receive) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Loans: (how much are you requesting in loans) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Family Support: (support your family provides to your education) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Employment: (your annual income if any) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total Expenses: (add all the amounts above) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian's 1 gross income: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/ Guardian's 2 gross income: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

# of people in your household: \_\_\_\_\_ # of full-time college students in your household: \_\_\_\_\_



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### Personal Statements: (must be included in application for consideration)

Here you will have the opportunity to give the selection committee a holistic view of your profile as a student and as a member of your community. All responses must be at least 1-page, typed, and single spaced.

#### **Essay 1:**

As individuals, we undergo life-altering experiences that shape and mold us into the students we become today. Please share a personal story or a lesson about resilience and/or perseverance – whether experienced by you or someone close to you – that serves as a source of motivation driving you towards achieving your educational goals.

#### **Essay 2:**

As a child of a union member or as a union member, how will you use your education and leadership skills to address the challenges and inequities seen in communities of color?

**If you are a policy-related major and would like to be considered for the Martha Cox-Nitikman Memorial Scholarship, please answer the following essay question:**

What sparked your interest in studying policy and what do you hope to accomplish with this major?

### Required Documents:

In order to complete the application process the applicant **must email** all of the following documents to [scholarships@buildingskills.org](mailto:scholarships@buildingskills.org) no later than **Friday May 17th, 2024**:

- A completed and signed application submitted online via [mikegarciascholarship.org/apply](http://mikegarciascholarship.org/apply) or email the written application to [scholarships@buildingskills.org](mailto:scholarships@buildingskills.org).
- Official transcripts and/or GED certificate
- 1 letter of recommendation from a teacher/ instructor, coach, counselor, supervisor or community leader that can speak about the leadership traits of the candidate (*must not be more than 1-year old*)
- 2 typed personal statements (*see page 4*)
- Proof of acceptance or matriculation at qualifying educational institution for the 2024-2025 school year
- Student Aid Report (From FAFSA or CA Dream Act)
- Resumé



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### Applicant Availability:

BSP holds events where you would be able to fulfill your community and leadership development hours, please share your availability by checking all that may apply:

<b><u>Weekdays</u></b>		<b><u>Weekends</u></b>	
<b><u>Mornings</u></b> <i>(10am-1pm)</i>		<b><u>Afternoons</u></b> <i>(2pm-5pm)</i>	
<b><u>Summer Break</u></b> <i>(June-July)</i>		<b><u>Spring Break</u></b>	
<b><u>Winter Break)</u></b> <i>(November-December)</i>		<b><u>Other</u></b> <i>Please share your availability</i>	

Volunteer opportunities will be shared via email throughout the year that can be completed both virtually and in person that may not appear in the options above.

### Application Submission

I certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. If requested, I agree to provide additional information for verification purposes.

Additionally, if I am selected for a scholarship, BSP will request a photo for its use in announcing the winners on its website, Facebook page, or in other online or printed literature. I authorize BSP to use my photo along with a written profile of me in its online or printed materials.

I agree to complete **10 hours of community and leadership development opportunities** with Building Skills Partnership throughout the school year. If you attend a campus outside of the region and/or state, accommodations will be made for you to complete the hours of community development opportunities elsewhere. **Failure to complete these hours will disqualify you from applying in subsequent years.**

*Volunteer placement will be at a "first come, first serve" basis and is subject to space availability*

As a Mike Garcia and Martha Cox-Nitikman Scholar I also agree to commit to attend award ceremonies and fundraising events with my parents and family when available.

Student Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*If you have any questions about the application or need assistance completing it, please contact Zazil Rojas using the contact information on page 1.*