NATIONAL
LEASED HOUSING
ASSOCIATION

FOR RELEASE: November 2, 2026
Contact: Marta Juaniza (202) 785-8888

Federally Assisted Residents Encouraged to Apply for Tuition Assistance

WASHINGTON – The National Leased Housing Association (NLHA) Education Fund is seeking applications for its resident scholarship program. The National Leased Housing Association formed the NLHA Education Fund in 2007 to provide educational assistance to residents of federally assisted rental housing.

Tax-deductible donations from affordable housing providers, lenders and brokers with significant assistance provided by Apartment Income REIT Corporation, known as AIR Communities (formerly AIMCO) through its charity, make The Education Fund possible. Last year, 49 scholarships were awarded. To date, the Fund has provided over $1.7 million in tuition assistance.

The Education Fund provides scholarships on behalf of eligible individuals living in privately owned federally assisted housing, which includes Section 8 voucher or project-based rental assistance or LIHTC recipients, following four distinctive roads to higher education, three named in memory of long-time housing advocates. Funds are provided directly to the college/school for tuition assistance on behalf of successful applicants upon confirmation of need. Applicants may only apply under **one** of the following categories:

The AIR Gives Opportunity Scholarship *is designed to assist college freshmen or returning undergraduates*.

The Bill Gandert Memorial Vocational Scholarship *is directed to graduating high school seniors interested in studying a specific trade (electrician; nurse; plumber; medical assistant; hair stylist; paramedic; etc.).*

The Mary Lou Manzie Memorial Scholarship *benefits non-traditional students (those who have been out of high school for at least three years) in pursuing an associates or undergraduate degree.*

The Neil Churchill Memorial Graduate Studies Scholarship *is provided to those eligible applicants who are seeking to complete graduate-level coursework.*

Specific criteria have been developed for each scholarship category, and consideration will be afforded to all eligible candidates who apply. All applicants must apply starting November 1 electronically at https://nlhascholars.communityforce.com. **Applications are due by March 19, 2027.** Awards are expected to be announced in early June 2027.