

For Immediate Release

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Greater Providence Board of REALTORS® Announces Diversity Scholarship Program for REALTORS® to Increase Diversity and Representation in Real Estate

The Greater Providence Board of REALTORS® has announced a Diversity Scholarship program for minorities and members of other underrepresented communities looking to enter or further their careers in the real estate field. The scholarship program is intended to increase diversity and representation in real estate to help all members of the Greater Providence community attain the dream of homeownership, especially those from historically underserved communities.

Scholarships will be awarded on rolling basis through November 15, 2021, in increments up to \$1,500 per person subject to selection by the Board and availability of funds. The scholarships can be applied towards payment on sales pre-licensing course registration fees offered through the Greater Providence Board of REALTORS® or offered by the Rhode Island Association of REALTORS®. Applicants must be affiliated with a REALTOR®-brokerage in Rhode Island to be eligible, as well as meeting other basic requirements.

“The events of the past year plus have shown the importance of and critical need for increased diversity in the real estate field.” says Michael Pereira, 2021 President of the Greater Providence Board of REALTORS®. “Discrimination, such as the overt and subtle steering discovered during the Newsday investigations on Long Island and other cases across the country, are a sad reminder that discrimination and unequal treatment are still realities in our field. By making our field more diverse and bringing more perspectives and life experiences to the table, the Greater Providence Board of REALTORS® hopes to make buying, selling or renting a home a more fair, equitable and inclusive process for all.”

The Greater Providence Board of REALTORS® Diversity Scholarship was approved by the Association’s Board of Directors on March 3, 2021. Those interested in applying for a Diversity Scholarship should visit www.gpbob.realtor and the Diversity page there or call 401-274-8383 for more information.

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The Greater Providence Board of REALTORS® is a chartered member Board of the National Association of REALTORS®. It was established in 1907 and serves over 2,000 REALTORS®, Appraisers and Affiliate members throughout the Greater Providence area. Its mission is to successfully implement tools & innovative technologies in order to help cultivate leaders in their real estate communities.