



THE VIRGIN ISLANDS WATER & POWER AUTHORITY CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS NEWS RELEASE

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WAPA Highlights Available Engineering/Tech Scholarship with VI High School Students



Image: Tracie Wells, HR Business Manager, shares details about the Alva C. McFarlane Scholarship with students at St. Croix Central High School on December 9.

U.S. Virgin Islands (December 15, 2025) – The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority (“WAPA” or “the Authority”) is actively engaging students across the territory through a series of informational sessions highlighting the Alva C. McFarlane Scholarship Program, the largest scholarship in the U.S. Virgin Islands, which provides students with meaningful educational support and pathways to careers in engineering and technical fields.

Representatives from WAPA’s Human Resources and Communications teams presented to 30 juniors and seniors at St. Croix Central High School on December 9, 22 seniors at The Good Hope Country Day School on December 10, and 8 seniors at Ivanna Eudora Kean High School on December 11.

The team shared details about the Alva C. McFarlane Scholarship and encouraged students to apply for the Bachelor’s and Technical Degree awards, which can provide up to \$80,000 in funding. Additional school visits are planned this week and throughout January 2026, ensuring students in both districts have full access to information and support ahead of the application deadline.

“The Alva C. McFarlane Scholarship is an investment in the future of the Virgin Islands,” said Tracie Wells, HR Business Partner at WAPA. “We are proud to provide students with the resources and guidance they need to pursue higher education and careers in engineering and technical fields. We encourage all eligible students to take advantage of this incredible opportunity.”

The Alva C. McFarlane Scholarship is designed to support students as they pursue higher education, including degrees and certificates in engineering and related technical fields, offering financial assistance that helps reduce barriers to academic and professional success. The program features the following award categories:

Bachelor’s Degree – Up to \$80,000

Eligible applicants include:

- Graduating high school seniors
- College freshmen and sophomores
- UVI students enrolled or planning to enroll in the five-year engineering program

Associate’s Degree / Technical Certification – Up to \$30,000

Eligible applicants include:

- Graduating high school seniors pursuing an associate’s degree in Electrical Engineering Technology, Electronics Engineering, or a related field
- Individuals planning to attend trade school or pursue technical certification

Scholarships in each category are awarded per district, supporting students from both St. Croix and St. Thomas–St. John.

Applications for the Alva C. McFarlane Scholarship Program are due by **January 31, 2026**.

All aspiring engineers are encouraged to apply today

at: <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/viwapa/promotionaljobs>. The Authority invites families, educators, and community members to help share this opportunity.

For more information, contact Tracie Wells at tracie.wells@viwapa.vi.

The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority Communication’s department is committed to reaching, informing, and connecting with the youngest members of the community to the eldest, through meaningful, transparent and effective communication.

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About WAPA: The Virgin Islands Water and Power Authority is an autonomous agency of the Virgin Islands Government which produces and distributes electricity and drinking water to residential and commercial customers in the territory. WAPA was created by the Fifth Legislature of the Virgin Islands in 1964 through Act No. 1248. Today, WAPA generates electrical power at production plants on St. Thomas and St. Croix and distributes electrical service through smart grids to customers on St. Thomas, St. Croix, St. John, Hassel Island, and Water Island. Potable water is distributed to almost 13,000 customers through water lines and standpipes. WAPA also has the responsibility of installing and maintaining streetlights.