



NASC Scholarship Resource Guide

The Basics

About the NASC Scholarship

- \$212,500 will be awarded this year
 - 75 National Finalists receive \$1,500
 - 10 National Winners receive \$10,000

Timeline

- **Applications Open:** September 15, 2026
- **Applications Close:** December 2, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. ET
- **Winners Announced:** January 2027

Eligibility Requirements

To be eligible, a student must be:

- A high school junior or senior who is a current officer of their school's student council
- An NASC student account holder, verified by the NASC adviser
- Planning to pursue a degree at an accredited U.S. college or university, trade school, or a military institute.
- Enrolled in a school with an active NASC membership

There is no limit to the number of applicants from a student council but a maximum of one winner per school.

Award Distribution

- One-time, non-renewable award
- Payable to the institution, not the individual
- Used for qualified educational expenses
- Students inform their institution as outside awards may impact financial aid packages
- Checks mailed to colleges in July/August
- Must be used within two years of receiving the scholarship

Ideal Candidate

- Demonstrates a service mindset by seeking out volunteer opportunities to fulfill needs and help others.
- Creates opportunities for student council members and the student body to serve within the school and community.
- Takes ownership and responsibility as a leader, in title or in action, in school and community.
- Develops, expands, and practices leadership skills, with a demonstrated growth mindset and examples of leadership skills in action.
- Creates opportunities for members of the student body to express their ideas, concerns, and opinions within the school.
- Fosters a safe, welcoming, and inclusive school culture through activities, projects, events, and actions.



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Application Process

3 Phases to Apply

- Create an Account.
- Get Verified by NASC adviser.
- Complete and submit the online application.

Completing the Application

Phase 1: Student Creates an Account

- Visit natstuco.org/create-student-account/.
- Create a Student Account and link to a school using the city and state search or School ID number.
- The NASC adviser can find the 8-digit school ID by logging into the NASC website and looking under "My Account."
- All NASC students can create accounts as soon as they are inducted.
- Students should choose an e-mail address that can receive e-mails from external senders.

Phase 2: Student Gets Verified

- The NASC adviser receives an e-mail with the names of all students who created accounts during a 24-hour period each evening. This e-mail goes out once per day only. The e-mail includes instructions for how to verify students.
- If the NASC adviser is aware of students waiting to be verified, they can log in at any time to view their online roster following the steps included here: natstuco.org/manage-student-roster/.
- Students receive a confirmation e-mail once they've been verified. **Wait to be verified before starting the application.** If students log into the application before being verified, they will need to completely log out to refresh their synced data before they are able to start.

Phase 3: Complete and Submit an Application

Step #1: Visit the NASC Scholarship landing page and click "Apply Now."

- Visit natstuco.org/scholarship.
- The "Apply Now" link will only appear when the application is open. Open the application and log in using the same e-mail and password used for the NASC website.
- Open the Profile and your account information will automatically populate. You'll need to answer one eligibility question before clicking "Create Profile."
- Most application Profile data is populated from your NHS student account. You cannot change it here. If your account information is incorrect, such as the spelling of a student's name or school name, contact our team for assistance: natstuco.org/contact/.
- Reminder:** If a student logs in before being verified, they will need to log out and then log back in to sync new Profile data.



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Step #2: Complete the 5 sections of your application

Academic Profile: Highlight your academic achievements and your role in student council, including:

- GPA on a 4.0 scale
- Specific coursework or independent learning
- Awards or recognitions received
- Current role in student council
- Total number of years in student council (high school and middle school)
- Leadership positions in other clubs or activities
- Demographic information

Student Council Experience: Share 3–6 student council activities that speak to your experience, then respond to five open-ended questions which reference these activities. For each activity, include the following:

- Title or description of activity
- Your involvement: participated/attended, contributed to its planning, led the activity, etc.
- Your time: number of hours you contributed to research, planning, design, execution, reporting, etc.

Respond to 5 open-ended questions (maximum of 300 words each), referencing the activities and roles shared in the application:

- How have you advocated on behalf of other students?
- How have you approached decision-making and balanced competing interests?
- How have you collaborated with school administration to address or solve problems?
- How have you handled significant challenges or obstacles in your role?
- How have your actions inspired your peers and led to positive change at your school?

NASC Adviser Recommendation: Submit a request for the NASC adviser to complete a form speaking to a student's character and leadership skills. The recommendation requires answers to specific questions, which is different from a standard letter of recommendation.

Students enter a request in the application portal by entering the name and e-mail address of the recommender. Students should confirm that they are using the correct e-mail address and ask the recommender to confirm receipt of the e-mail, which comes from No-reply@email.zenginehq.com with instructions and a unique link to complete for that student.

Recommenders have a much more substantial form to complete than the adviser. Be mindful of their time and prepare them so that they can provide the best support possible for you. The recommendation form must be completed before the student can submit their application.

The recommendation cannot be completed by the same person as the Educator Recommendation or by any family member.



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Educator Recommendation: Submit a request for your recommender to complete a form speaking to your character and leadership skills. The recommendation requires answers to specific questions, which is different from a standard letter of recommendation.

Students enter a request in the application portal by entering the name and e-mail address of the recommender. Students should confirm that they are using the correct e-mail address and ask the recommender to confirm receipt of the e-mail, which comes from No-reply@email.zenginehq.com with instructions and a unique link to complete for that student.

Recommenders have a much more substantial form to complete than the adviser. Be mindful of their time and prepare them so that they can provide the best support possible for you. The recommendation form must be completed before the student can submit their application.

Recommendations cannot be completed by the NASC adviser or family members. Speak with another teacher, school counselor, or administrator who can provide support.

Certification Statement: Review the terms of the award and certify that you are the one completing it.

Step #3: Submit your application

After all sections of the application are complete, the application can be submitted! It is the student's responsibility to ensure that the adviser and recommender complete their forms ahead of the deadline, as the student will be unable to submit without these components.

Now you're ready to submit your application!

Have additional questions not answered in this guide?

- 1) Check out our [FAQs](#).
- 2) Contact us at nascscholarship@principals.org.