

NATIONAL SMOKEJUMPER ASSOCIATION

ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The National Smokejumper Association plans to annually award as many as eight \$2,500 scholarships in 2019. The total number of awards will depend on the number of applicants and their qualifications.

WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW WHEN APPLYING FOR AN NSA SCHOLARSHIP

The NSA Board of Directors has recently adopted the best practice of many, if not most, scholarship-granting institutions – namely, using metrics to select recipients. These metrics result in a numerical score that board members will use to rank applications.

Some of the criteria that will be taken into consideration include NSA membership, employment (past or present as a smokejumper or pilot), type of academic program, grade-point average, and the quality of the essay submitted.

In evaluating the essay, board members will assess the overall quality of the writing and how the essay reflects on the candidate's character, strengths and leadership style. Board members will also assess candidates' educational goals and how they will use their education or training in service to others. Applicants should also describe any involvement with volunteer activities, personal efforts to fund their education, and participation in extracurricular activities.

Finally, the essay is limited to one to two typewritten pages in order to make submission easier for the candidate as well as easier for the board to assess.

WHO MAY APPLY FOR A NATIONAL SMOKEJUMPER ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP?

National Smokejumper Association scholarships are intended to provide financial support to students who are committed to obtaining advanced education. An applicant must be:

- a current or former smokejumper or smokejumper pilot or have a direct family relation to a current or former smokejumper or smokejumper pilot (spouse, children or grandchildren), and
- currently enrolled in an accredited program that will lead to a college degree or other accreditation.

Previous applicants may reapply. Scholarship winners must skip one year before reapplying.

WHAT IS REQUIRED IF YOU INTEND TO APPLY?

- We need your full name, mailing address including zip code, e-mail address and phone number.
- If you are not a smokejumper or smokejumper pilot, we need to know your relationship to a smokejumper or smokejumper pilot.
 - Be sure to provide us with a transcript showing your GPA. Also be sure to identify where you went to school last year – e.g., high school or college/university – and the number of years of **advanced education** you've completed.
 - A narrative not to exceed one to two typewritten pages addressing the criteria listed in bullets "a" and "b" below:
 - a. Your narrative must describe your leadership style/character/service potential and explain how

you intend to use your degree/training.

b. Your narrative should contain a statement of financial need which is a short (1-2 paragraph) piece that explains why you would benefit from being awarded a scholarship. This will also give you an opportunity to explain any extenuating circumstances you may have.

- You need to include the name and address of the financial aid office of the educational facility and your student activity account number or related information. This information is required because award funds are sent directly to the educational facility.

WHERE DO YOU SEND YOUR APPLICATION PACKAGE?

Email your application package to **Jim Cherry** (Missoula '57) at jimcherry@wctatel.net, no later than June 15.

WHAT ARE THE SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA AND SELECTION PROCESS?

- Scholarship applicants must demonstrate financial need.
- Applicants may apply for a scholarship at any time but they must be enrolled at the school of their choice by the time funds are dispensed. Funds are not paid to the applicant but are sent directly to the school's student finance office. Students must provide their student identification number and the school's address where the check will be sent.
- Current members of the National Smokejumper Association will receive priority consideration.
- Successful applicants will be notified by July 15. Scholarship funds will be paid by the National Smokejumper Association to the education institution of choice and are intended to be used for academic purposes such as tuition, fees, room, board and/or books.
- As many as eight scholarships can be awarded annually.