

Submitting An Application For A ***National Smokejumper Association*** Scholarship

What You Need To Know

Below is a brief summary of the information you will be required to submit during the application process. Following the summary is a detailed explanation of the entire process and detailed information about how to assemble and submit all of your application documentation.

Application Process Summary

Applications Period

- **Open:** January 1st, 2021
- **Deadline:** June 30th, 2021!

Required Documents

- Your transcripts.
- A personal narrative.

Information Needed to Create a Scholarship Application Account

- Your name, phone, email, and mailing address.
- You will also need to create & use a secure password.

Information Needed to Complete an Application

- The name(s) and rookie base/year(s) for yourself, or smokejumper relatives.
- The school you will be enrolled in, it's financial aid office information, and your ID#.
- Your academic information, such as: years of higher education completed, class ranking and cumulative grade point average (CGPA).

Detailed Information About the Application Process

What You Should Know When Applying For An NSA Scholarship

- The **NSA Board of Directors** has 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.

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).
 - Be 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 Of You To Apply?

- An application is provided for your use which you must complete, along with your narrative and your up-to-date school transcript.
- You must provide a narrative not to exceed one to two typewritten pages addressing the criteria listed below:
 1. Your narrative should describe your leadership style/character/service potential and explain how you intend to use your degree/training.
 2. Your narrative should contain a statement of financial need which 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.
 3. Applicants should also describe any involvement with volunteer activities, personal efforts to fund their education, and participation in extracurricular activities.

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. For purposes of scholarship applications, NSA memberships will be considered as 'current' *only if the membership has been established by March 31st.*
- In evaluating the narrative, the Scholarship Committee will assess the overall quality of the writing and how the narrative reflects on the candidate's character, strengths and leadership style.
- The Scholarship Committee will also assess candidate's educational goals and how they will use their education or training in service to others.

Your Application Package

- Once you complete your application and successfully submit it electronically, your electronic application, including the application form, narrative, and transcript will be automatically provided to **Jim Cherry (Missoula '57)**, Chair of the Scholarship Committee.
- Your application must be submitted *no later than June 30th!*
- Successful applicants will be *notified* by **July 30th.**
- Scholarship funds will be paid by the National Smokejumper Association to the education institution and are intended to be used for academic purposes such as tuition, fees, room, board and/or books.

Contact

- **Jim Cherry**
- *email:* jimcherry@wctatel.net
- *phone:* 319-529-1245