Applying for a

NATIONAL SMOKEJUMPER ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP

What you need to know

Below is a 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 your application documentation.

Application process summary

- **Open**: January 1, 2027
- **Deadline**: June 30, 2027
- **Application steps:**
  - Create a personal account on www.Smokejumpers.com
  - Input qualifying information as outlined below.
  - Attach transcripts and narrative.
  - Your application will automatically be provided to the Scholarship Committee.

Required documents.

- Your transcripts.
- A personal narrative.

Information needed to create a scholarship application account.

- Your name, telephone, email, and mailing address.
  - Go to www.Smokejumpers.com. Click on Outreach, Scholarships and Grants.

Information needed to complete an application.

- The name(s), rookie base, and year(s) for you and/or your smokejumper relative (spouse, parent, and/or grandparent).
- A **current** NSA membership for you or that of your smokejumper relative (spouse, parent, or grandparent) Caution! Don't assume an NSA membership is current. Verify.
- The accredited college, university, technical, or other diploma granting school in which you will be enrolled, its financial aid office contact information (mailing address, website, phone number), and your school or student identification number.
- Your academic information, such as years of higher education completed, your current class ranking and cumulative grade-point average.

Detailed information about the application process

What you should know when applying for an NSA scholarship

- The NSA Scholarship Committee has adopted the best practice of most scholarship granting institutions using metrics to select recipients. These metrics result in a numerical score that committee members will use to rank order applications.
- Some of the criteria that will be taken into consideration include past or present employment as a smokejumper or smokejumper pilot, type of academic program, grade point average, and the quality and thoroughness of the narrative submitted.

What are the scholarship criteria and selection process?

- Scholarship applicants must demonstrate financial need.
- Applicants may apply for a scholarship between January 1 to June 30, 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 finance office. Students must provide their student identification number and the school's address where the scholarship will be sent.
- Funds provided by the National Smokejumper Association are intended to be used for academic purposes such as tuition, fees, room, board and/or books.
- 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 the candidate's educational goals and how they will use their education or training in service to others and their community.
- The Scholarship Committee does not want you to use AI when writing your narrative. The Committee may use an AI detection tool to evaluate your writing. It is permissible to use 'Editor' to check spelling and punctuation.

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 earning a post-high school degree.
- An applicant must be:
  - A current NSA member or be a spouse, child, or grandchild of a current NSA member. NSA membership will be considered as '**current**' *only if the membership has been established by March 31st, and*
  - A current or former smokejumper or smokejumper pilot or be a direct family relation to a current or former smokejumper or smokejumper pilot, who is spouse, child, or grandchild, and
  - Currently enrolled in an accredited program that will lead to a college, university, or technical school degree.
  - Previous applicants may reapply. Scholarship winners must skip one year before reapplying.

What is required of you to apply? (Every detail in the following information is of upmost importance. Failure to follow these instructions may result in your application disqualification.)

- An online application is provided for your use which you must complete, along with your narrative and your up-to-date school transcript. If you submit your transcript prior to completing your current academic year you must also submit a final copy by June 30th.
- Your narrative must begin with the format below:
    1. Use a 12-point font (no script font) with double spaced lines.
    2. Your name and phone number at the top of each page
    3. Also, at the top of Page 1 state:
        a. Your current employment and average hours worked per week during your school year and during non-school time.
        b. The number of household members dependent on your financial and/or physical support
    4. Your narrative should proceed in the following order:
        a. The narrative should be two-to-three typewritten pages in length, or more if you find it necessary, addressing the criteria listed below.
        b. A statement of financial need explaining why you would benefit from being awarded a scholarship. This will also give you an opportunity to explain any extenuating circumstances you may have.
        c. Describe your personal efforts to fund your education.
        d. Explain how you intend to use your degree/training.
        e. Describe with examples, your:
            i. leadership style
            ii. character
        f. List your participation in extracurricular, community volunteer and service activities.
        g. Provide any other relevant information that you feel would make your case for being granted this scholarship.

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 the Scholarship Committee. Receipt of your application will be acknowledged within ten days.

- Your application must be submitted *no later than* **June 30.**
- Successful applicants will be *notified* by **July 30**.

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