



Society of American Military Engineers

Northern Virginia Post

2026 Scholarship Application

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

A. SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

A high school senior, college undergraduate, or graduate student residing in Northern Virginia who has a sponsorship letter from a current non-student member of the NoVA post qualifies. Northern Virginia includes the counties of Arlington, Fairfax, Loudoun, Prince William, Fauquier, and Stafford, as well as the independent cities within these counties. Students must have applied to, been accepted to, or be attending a college or university and plan to pursue, or are currently pursuing, a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math) field, a related major, or a supporting discipline.

B. SCHOLARSHIP REGULATIONS

1. All applicants will be considered regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, or rank of the sponsor.
2. The NoVA Post encourages applications from students who wish to be considered for a needs-based scholarship based on the applicant's financial need and their family. Only one scholarship will be awarded per applicant.
3. If an applicant's family member is on the Post Scholarship Committee, the committee member will recuse themselves from all proceedings regarding the scholarship selection.

C. REQUIREMENTS

1. The complete application must include a signed acknowledgment (see Application Instructions).
2. The applicant will include official transcripts from all educational institutions, high schools, colleges, and universities.
3. The applicant will provide two letters of recommendation from individuals unrelated to the student. Suggested sources for letters of recommendation: school or educational institution faculty member, employer, leaders of volunteer organizations, or clergy. Additionally, a sponsorship letter from a non-student member of the NoVA post sponsor is required, in total, for three letters for each applicant.
4. An original 300-500 word typed essay addressing one of the topics listed below. Essays will be judged on sincerity, content, writing ability, grammar, and punctuation. If you are an applicant not pursuing a STEM degree but rather an alternate degree, answer prompt e.
 - a. After graduation, do you plan on serving in the US Military or pursuing a career with the US Government? How does pursuing a degree in the STEM field impact your future career plans? What plans do you have to give back to your country or community?

- b. Discuss your passion for engineering, the moment or experience that sparked your interest, and how you plan to impact the field.
 - c. Reflect on how engineering addresses major global issues like climate change, renewable energy, clean water, or infrastructure development and your aspirations to contribute to these solutions.
 - d. How will AI impact and is impacting the construction and building environment and the engineering fields?
 - e. **(Students NOT pursuing a STEM degree must answer this question)**
Please provide us with a statement of how you see your field of study and your career path applying to the STEM industry after graduation.
5. Please sign and date the application, thereby acknowledging that all statements are accurate and factual and that you are fully aware of all its rules and requirements.

D. INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Applications will be typed. A signature is required on the application. Print the application, sign it, scan it, and submit it electronically or sign it electronically.
- 2. Transcripts, completed essays, and references must be part of the electronic application. Scan transcripts or other hard-copy documents as necessary.
- 3. Applications must be submitted electronically, preferably as one document.
- 4. Applications are judged on academic achievement, school-sponsored activities, community and extracurricular activities, personal achievement, essays, and recommendation letters.
- 5. Completed application and all attachments must be transmitted by e-mail by midnight, March 1st, 2026. The committee will not consider incomplete applications or those received after March 1, 2026.
- 6. E-mail the completed and signed application with all attachments to:

NoVA SAME Scholarship Committee
E-mail: **Scholarship@SAMENOVA.onmicrosoft.com**

SAME NOVA SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

GRADE LEVEL: ☐ High School ☐ Undergraduate ☐ Graduate
 ☐ Freshman ☐ Sophomore ☐ Junior ☐ Senior

SAME MEMBER NUMBER (if appropriate)

APPLICANT'S NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE:

EMAIL ADDRESS:

INSTITUTION PRESENTLY ATTENDING:

EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION SPONSORED ACTIVITIES: Indicate educational institution-sponsored activities (Honor Societies/Dean's List, Clubs, Student Government, Performing Arts, Athletics, etc.) that you participated in, including duration and any offices held and awards/honors received.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES: Indicate extracurricular activities (outside of educational institutions) that you have participated in. Include community groups/projects, organizations, social groups, church, hobbies, and personal achievements. Include any offices held and awards/honors received.

WORK EXPERIENCES (IF APPLICABLE): Briefly describe your work experiences, paid or volunteer. Include future summer plans if you have applied for Internships/Work-Study for an upcoming break or semester.

EDUCATIONAL PLANS: Briefly describe your academic plans. For graduating High School seniors, provide the name of the college/university you will be attending or have applied for and your intended major. Confirmation of acceptance will be required to provide funds. For current university and college students, clarify your degree plans and the focus of your degree studies.

TRANSCRIPT CLARIFICATIONS: For graduating High School seniors, if not clearly indicated on your transcript, please identify which courses, if any, were advanced placement. Grading is assumed to be on a 4-point scale. If the grading system computes a GPA greater than 4.0 (on a 4-point scale), please explain how the GPA is calculated. For undergraduate and graduate students, please provide any clarifications that might be necessary to address any irregularities in your transcript.

APPLICANT ESSAY: Include a 300-500 word typed essay on one of the prescribed topics, according to the requirements.

NEEDS-BASED INFORMATION (if applicable): If you wish to be considered for a needs-based scholarship, please provide a detailed financial statement and budget for the upcoming year for your expenses and a brief statement describing relevant or special circumstances supporting a needs-based application.

PRIVACY ACT/ACKNOWLEDGMENT

I acknowledge reading the instructions about this application and fully understand the requirements therein. By signing, I am verifying that the information I have provided to the NOVA Post is accurate to the best of my knowledge. I freely consent to allow the Scholarship Committee to confirm all the information included herein. If selected for a scholarship, I agree to allow the use of my name and picture for publication in local newspapers, media, and SAME publications.

*I understand that the primary purpose of the information submitted is for the Post Scholarship Committee to judge my application for the possible award of a scholarship. Disclosure of all information is **voluntary**; however, failure to provide requested information may result in the committee and its designated judges being unable to ultimately judge the submitted packet and determine eligibility for a scholarship award. All information is used solely to evaluate the applicant for a Post Scholarship; only members of the Scholarship Committee and appointed judges will have access to the information.*

Signature of Applicant

Date