

## 2026 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION & APPLICATION CRITERIA

### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

Preference will be given to applicants who are U.S. citizens and have their home address in the Hampton Roads region as shown at <https://www.hrpdcva.gov/uploads/images/localities.jpg>. They also must be:

- A college student (freshman through graduate student) enrolled in an accredited college/university and pursuing an engineering, architecture, construction, facilities management, or environmental management/science bachelor's or master's degree or equivalent, or
- A high school senior planning to enroll at an accredited college/university in the Fall to pursue a Bachelor's degree or equivalent in an engineering, architecture, construction, facilities management, or environmental management/science course of study.
- NOTE: Additional preference will be given to a current member or dependent of a current member of the SAME Virginia Peninsula Post who meets the above criteria ("current" meaning having active membership as of January 1, 2026).

### AWARDS

- Scholarships will have a maximum value of \$5,000. The final value, number, and categories of scholarships awarded will be recommended by the Evaluation Panel, and approved by the Board of Directors, and will be based on need, qualifications, and available funds.
- There will be up to four award categories considered: 1) high school seniors, 2) college freshmen/sophomores, juniors/seniors, and 3) graduate students.
- Winners will be notified via phone and email on or before July 15, each year. Awards will be mailed directly to winning applicants. All recipients are encouraged to provide a receipt letter with pictures or a video to be presented at a SAME Virginia Peninsula Post general meeting.

**SELECTION CRITERIA** Selection will be based on these three weighted criteria:

- **Academic Standing and Acknowledgments** (50%) - combines GPA and overall academic achievement, honor societies and/or fraternities, academic awards, Dean's list, etc.
- **Community and School Involvement** (25%) – evaluates extracurricular activities including work experience (paid or volunteer), school-sponsored activities (sports, clubs, student government, etc.), participation in service organizations, or other service, which may include military involvement (Cadet positions, ROTC, etc.). Identify any leadership positions held.
- **STEM Goals**- (15%) plans to follow a STEM career path.
- **Financial Need** (10%) - based on a statement of financial need from the applicant regarding how educational costs are being met/not being met.

### EVALUATION PANEL

- The Virginia Peninsula Post will convene a panel of no less than three Post members to evaluate the applications received.
- Using the criteria outlined above, the Evaluation Panel will score the applications and, based on score, will rank them within each of the four award categories.
- The Evaluation Panel will present their recommendations for the number and value of awards in writing to the Virginia Peninsula Post Board of Directors for approval. Once approved, the selected applicants will be notified.

**SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS. The items below must be emailed, to the address below no later than April 30, to be considered.** The Evaluation Panel will not consider any incomplete application for award.

- A signed 2026 Scholarship Applicant Information Sheet (attached).
- A written statement, no more than two (2) pages using single-spaced paragraphs of 12 point Times New Roman text, from the applicant addressing each of the three selection criteria (1) academic accomplishments, 2) community/school activities, and 3) financial need).
- A signed letter of recommendation emailed to the Scholarship Chair below, directly from a school official, counselor, coach, etc. having direct knowledge of the applicant. Letters from family or neighbors will not be accepted.
- A copy of the applicant's full current school transcript e-mailed to the Scholarship Chair below directly from a school official.

**The completed application must be emailed to the Scholarship Committee Chair, % samepeninsula@gmail.com, by April 30, 2026.** If you have questions, please contact Amelia DaCruz at 757.376.8606.



2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT INFORMATION SHEET

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Home Address:

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

University or High School Currently Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Course of Study (Current or Planned Major): \_\_\_\_\_

Check as applicable. Current Status: High School Level: Senior \_\_\_\_

College Level: Freshman \_\_\_\_ Sophomore \_\_\_\_ Junior \_\_\_\_ Senior \_\_\_\_ Graduate School  
\_\_\_\_

For High School applicants, provide contact information of your school Guidance Office:

\_\_\_\_\_

For High School applicants, provide universities you might attend/apply, in order of preference.

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Why did you choose to apply to the Virginia Peninsula Post for scholarship support?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

SAME.org Membership Number of \_\_\_\_\_ self or \_\_\_\_ parent (or "none") \_\_\_\_

Checklist for Other Application Items Required:

\_\_\_\_ Applicant Statement addressing the three selection criteria (2-pages maximum).

\_\_\_\_ Official Transcript emailed to the Scholarship Chair from the school.

\_\_\_\_ Letter of Recommendation emailed to the Scholarship Chair from a school official.

The information above is correct to the best of my ability.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**The completed application must be emailed to Scholarship Committee Chair, % samepeninsual@gmail.com, no later than April 30, 2025.** If you have questions, please contact Amelia DaCruz@ 757.376.8606.