

**MISSISSIPPI STATE TROOPERS ASSOCIATION
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

I. INTRODUCTION

The Mississippi State Troopers Association (MSTA) and its membership, understand the need to further education, shall fund a scholarship program to benefit the dependent children of its membership and to offset the cost of higher education. The rules, policies, and application process, as written and adopted for and by the membership of the MSTA.

II. ELIGIBILITY

Persons eligible to apply for the MSTA Scholarship will:

- A. Be considered a dependent child, natural or adopted, of an active, dues paying Member of the MSTA.
- B. Be classified as a high school senior who is eligible to graduate at the end of the current academic year, or a continuing student of an institution of higher Education.
- C. Have taken the ACT test.
- D. Be no more than twenty-two (22) years of age at the time of application.

III. SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

The MSTA Scholarship will consist of the following awards:

- A. Up to nine (9) scholarships in the amount of \$1,500 each will be awarded annually to qualified applicants, \$750 each semester.
- B. The total expenditure by the MSTA for scholarships will not exceed \$13,500 annually.
- C. Funds as awarded will be used for enrollment at any institution of higher learning.

IV. METHOD OF AWARDING SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

- A. Scholarship recipients will, within thirty (30) days of notification of awards, notify the Secretary of the MSTA, in writing, of their intentions to attend a particular institution of higher learning. The Treasurer will then issue a check in the prescribed amount of the award in the name of recipient and institution of higher learning.
- B. Any unused or unclaimed funds will become the property of the MSTA and will be awarded to the next qualified applicant, not to exceed \$750.00 per semester.
- C. Recipients must be considered "full time" college students to receive any scholarship funds.

V. APPLICATION PROCESS AND AWARD POLICY

- A. Application packets, containing all rules and application forms, will be the property of the MSTA. They will be maintained and available from the MSTA Board Secretary or designee.
- B. All applications must be received by the MSTA no later than April 1st of each year.
- C. The MSTA will publish information on availability of applications in the January, February and March newsletters each year.
- D. Recipients will only receive one (1) award per school year, given no later than August 1st of each year.
- E. All recipients will remain eligible to make applications provided the applicant continues to meet all eligibility requirements set forth in Section II.
- F. No recipients will receive more than a total of four (4) awards.
- G. The Secretary of the MSTA will notify selected recipients by registered mail.
- H. The Treasurer of the MSTA will issue award checks no later than August 1st of each year.

VI. OVERSIGHT AND SELECTION PROCESS

- A. The Board of Directors of the MSTA will serve as the MSTA Scholarship Oversight Committee.
- B. The Oversight Committee will serve as the governing body of the MSTA Scholarship Program and will:
 - 1. Seek and retain members of an independent selection team;
 - 2. Forward all applications and copies to members of the selection or application process;
 - 3. Investigate and resolve disputes resulting from the selection or application process;
 - 4. Investigate and approve, or disprove, special circumstances where hardship or scholastic discrepancies may occur; and
 - 5. Review applications, grade reports, and transcripts to determine eligibility for applicants and previous applicants.
 - 6. Review essay, leadership, and activity participation in school, community, and church.
- C. The actions of the Oversight Committee may be appealed to the MSTA Board of Directors. Only the association member, whose child or dependent is affected, may appeal to the MSTA Board of Directors. The MSTA Board of Directors will take into consideration all facts of order, conduct a roll call vote of the directors as to overrule or concur with the action of the Oversight Committee.
- D. Failure of an applicant to be selected as a recipient will not be considered grounds for appeals.

VII. SELECTION TEAM AND SELECTION PROCESS

- A. The members of the Oversight Committee will meet prior to April 15 of each year and select three (3) independent persons to serve as the Scholarship Selection Team.

Selection Team Members will:

- 1. Be persons of professional nature;

2. Does not have an association or affiliation with any business or organization which has a vested interest in the affairs of the MSTA;
 3. Not to be a parent, guardian, dependent, or relation to any member of the MSTA;
- B. The members of the Oversight Committee will consult with Selection Team Members in relation to compensation for their services and will submit requests for compensation to the Board of Directors for review. If approved by the Board of Directors, the treasurer of the Board of Directors will issue payment to the specified Selection Team Members.
 - C. The Oversight Committee will maintain a record of all persons submitting applications and arrange for copies of each application to be delivered to members of the Selection Team.
 - D. All applications will be reviewed by each member of the Selection Team and rated. (See rating process)
 - E. Rating reports on each application will be submitted to the Oversight Committee no later than April 15 of each year.
 - F. All applications and rating reports will become property of MSTA.

VIII. RATING PROCESS

- A. Selection Team Members shall review each application and return a rating report to the Oversight Committee chairperson.
- B. Applications shall be rated on a 100-point scale. The following areas shall be rated according to the applicable points.
 1. **Scholastic Aptitude:** 0 to 40 points. Points are based upon the applicants ACT score, with 40 points being awarded for a score of 32-36, 35 points for a score of 28-31, 30 points for a score of 24-27, 25 points for a score of 21-23, 20 points for a score of 19-23, 20 points for a score of 15-20, 15 point for 14 and below. Total point cannot exceed 40 points.
 2. **Essay:** 0 to 40 points. Points are awarded for clear presentation of ideas, content, grammar, punctuation, and creativity. The points cannot exceed 40.
 3. **Leadership:** 0 to 20 points. Points are based upon the applicants leadership ability (i.e. class offices held, leadership positions,

community services, activities, sports, employment, honors, awards, driving record). This information will be included in a detailed activity resume` submitted with the application. College age applicants will include high school and college activity information. Total points cannot exceed 20. The point amount awarded will be determined by the Selection Team Members and combined with other member's rating and averaged for a final point total.

4. **Qualifying Score:** A minimum composite score of 70.

**MISSISSIPPI STATE TROOPERS ASSOCIATION
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SELECTION TEAM RATING REPORT

APPLICANT _____

APPLICATION REVIEWED BY _____

SCHOLASTIC APTITUDE (ACT SCORE) _____ POINT TOTAL (0-40) _____

ESSAY POINT TOTAL (0-40) _____

LEADERSHIP AND CHARACTER POINT TOTAL (0-20) _____

TOTAL POINTS _____

Please return this report, along with the application to:

**The Mississippi State Troopers Association
c/o Scholarship Committee
P. O. Box 22871
Jackson, MS 39225-2871**

MISSISSIPPI STATE TROOPERS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Please answer all questions completely. All incomplete applications will be returned. If you need assistance, please contact the Mississippi State Troopers Association. (Please print in black ink or type all information).

Please include these items with applications:

1. A typewritten essay of at least 400 and no more than 600 words on a topic selected by the MSTA Board of Directors.
2. A current resume' starting with your freshman year of high school through the present date. Applicants who are currently enrolled in a University or Community College will include a current resume` starting with your freshman year of high school.
3. A current photo of yourself. (To be used for publication in the Mississippi State Troopers Association Magazine if selected).
4. A copy of your driving record.

**MISSISSIPPI STATE TROOPERS ASSOCIATION
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

Please answer all questions completely. All incomplete **applications will be returned.** (Please print in ink or type all information).

I. Personal Information

- 1. Name _____
(Last) (First) (Middle/Maiden)

- 2. Social Security Number _____

- 3. Date of Birth _____

- 4. Age _____ (As of date of completion of this application)

- 5. Permanent home mailing address _____
(Street)

(City) (County) (State) (Zip)

- 6. Permanent telephone number _____

Qualifying association member's name: _____

Troop assignment and detachment _____

Relationship to applicant _____
Family members (Parent, guardian, siblings, etc.)
 - a. Father _____ Address _____
 - b. Mother _____ Address _____
 - c. Brothers/Sisters _____ Address _____

Address _____

Address _____

II. Educational Information

1. College Status:
 Entering Freshman
 Community College; Cumulative GPA _____
 Senior College; Cumulative GPA _____
2. Student Classification: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior
Anticipated university graduation date _____
3. Have you received a bachelor's degree from any institution? Yes No
4. College or University planned to attend _____

REQUIRED FOR FRESHMEN

5. High school information: **(To Be Completed by High School Official)**
 - (a) High school attended (name/address) _____

 - (b) Class rank _____ of graduates
 - (c) Graduation date _____
 - (d) ACT assessment scores: English _____ Math _____
Social Studies or Reading _____ Science Reasoning _____
Composite _____ Date of National Test for ACT _____
(month/year)
 - (e) SAT scores: Verbal _____ Math _____ Combined Scores _____
Date of Test _____
(month/year)
 - (f) National Merit Semifinalist
National Achievement Semifinalist
 - (g) GED Certificate (if applicable)

I certify that all information on this completed application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge as reflected by appropriate school records.

Signature of School Official _____ Date _____

PRINT Name & Title of School Official _____

REQUIRED FOR ALL COMMUNITY COLLEGE AND SENIOR COLLEGE APPLICANTS

6. Community and Senior college information
(To be completed by college official)

- a. Community and Senior college attended (name/address) _____

- b. Graduation date _____
- c. Grade-point average (on a 4.0 scale) _____
- d. ACT assessment scores: English _____ Math _____
Social Studies or Reading _____ Science Reasoning _____
Composite _____ Date of National Test for ACT _____
(month/year)
- e. SAT scores: Verbal _____ Math _____ Combined Scores _____
Date of Test _____ (month/year)

Signature of School Official _____ Date _____

PRINT Name & Title of School Official _____

CERTIFICATION

**PAGE 8 OR PAGE 9 MUST BE COMPLETED
AND SIGNED BY A SCHOOL OFFICIAL ON
EVERY APPLICANT.**

**MISSISSIPPI STATE TROOPERS ASSOCIATION
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MEMBER VERIFICATION FORM

Scholarship Applicant's Name _____
Association Member's Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____

This is to verify that _____ is a member on good standing of the Mississippi State Troopers Association's active dues paying membership.

_____ Date _____
President of MSTA

_____ Date _____
Secretary of MSTA

Applicant, complete the top portion of the form and return to:

The Mississippi State Troopers Association
c/o Scholarship Program
P. O. Box 22871
Jackson, MS 39225-2871

The signatures for verification will be added when the application is submitted to the Association.

Institution of Higher Learning the applicant plans to attend:

Name _____

Address _____

Director of Financial Aid of Institution:

**MISSISSIPPI STATE TROOPERS ASSOCIATION
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM AGREEMENT**

I, _____ (applicant), hereby indicate and confirm my understanding that the decisions and rulings of the Mississippi State Troopers Association (MSTA) concerning all rules and conditions pertaining to scholarship programs are final and binding. I confirm and agree that in the event that I am selected as a recipient or alternate for an award (scholarship), I will comply with all rules and conditions established for the administration of such an award. I understand that should any portion of my application be false or imply dishonesty, I will immediately withdraw my application and return any awards or grants issued to me, and will no longer be eligible to apply for any scholarships or educational assistance from the MSTA. I further confirm and understand that I must meet grade point and attendance requirements as set forth in the rules and conditions of the Scholarship Program or I will forfeit any further scholarship assistance or funding for a period of one (1) year. I understand that this agreement and all application materials become and are the property of the MSTA and agree to permit publication of any application information and photographs.

APPLICANT

QUALIFYING MSTA MEMBER

Final Checklist

- () Has Personal Information Form been completed and signed by the school official(s)?**
- () Has member verification form been completed?**
- () Has a current photo of yourself been included?**
- () Has a typewritten essay been completed?**
- () Has a driving record been included?**
- () Has a current resume` been completed?**
- () Copy of ACT Score**

Please return application to:

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