



2025 NSA STUDENT SCHOLARSHIPS

Frequently Asked Questions

APPLICATIONS OPEN FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2025

Am I eligible if I transfer from a junior college?

Yes, if you will have junior status on September 15 of the scholarship year.

Am I eligible if I'm in an accelerated adult learning program?

Yes, if you will have junior status on September 15 of the scholarship year.

Are there other eligibility requirements?

Yes and No. NSA Foundation scholarships are awarded to eligible students, regardless of citizenship status, who are attending a U.S. based college or university.

Do I have to be a speech or communications major to apply?

No, you do not. While the Scholarship Committee is looking for students who have studied or are studying communication or a similar course of study, other courses of study will be considered. In addition, consideration will be given to those who participate in activities or organizations where public speaking plays a prominent role.

How many scholarships are awarded each year?

Up to eight scholarships may be awarded each year.

What is the amount of the scholarship?

Each scholarship is in the amount of \$5,000.

When is the application due date?

Sunday, April 20, 2025, at 11:59 p.m. PT.

How do you define "full-time" student?

Full-time status is defined by your institution. It is determined by a specific number of hours/credits required to be eligible for full-time status.

Is financial need considered?

Hardship and financial need may be considered. However, final decisions are not based solely on financial need.

When are my references due?

References are due **Monday, May 5, 2025**. Please ensure you inform your references they will be hearing from NSAF once your application is officially submitted.

Are "official" transcripts required?

You may upload an unofficial transcript with your institution's address clearly visible as well as your name and course grades. We will not accept screenshots of a grade report.

What is the latest date to provide my transcripts?

Your application will be considered complete when your transcripts are uploaded to your application or received directly from your institution by **Monday, May 5, 2025**. If your transcripts are not provided by this date, your application will not be considered.

Where should I have my institution send my transcripts?

If your institution is willing to send them electronically, provide this email address: NSAFCares@NSAFoundation.org. If your institution will only mail your transcripts, please provide this address:

NSA Foundation
323 Washington Avenue North, Suite 200
Minneapolis, MN 55401

Is a video required?

Yes, a video is required.

How do I submit my video?

Your video should be uploaded to YouTube and the link added to the application. It is suggested you title your YouTube video as follows: **Your Name, NSA Scholarship 20xx**. Only online videos will be accepted.

What is the committee looking for in a video?

The video should give the committee insight into what type of speaker you are. It should be of you giving a presentation either in front of an audience or to a camera. (Professional editing is not required.)

The video will be evaluated for:

- Professionalism
- Articulation
- Setting
- Effectiveness

How long should my video be?

It is suggested you edit your video footage to highlight your message. It should be no longer than **5 minutes** long.

Do my recommendations have to be from a speech instructor or the speech/communications department head or dean?

Not necessarily. Recommenders should attest to the candidate's interests, skills, and or abilities in public speaking as well as character and other positive attributes. If you have not taken any speech/communication classes, ask a professor and/or client that has seen you present or speak to complete the online form.

What is the committee looking for in my 500-word essay?

In awarding scholarships, scholarship committee members consider the applicants advancement of the National Speakers Association four key competencies: Eloquence, Expertise, Enterprise, and Ethics.