

2026 CAROL SCHULTZ EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Each year at the Minnesota NAHRO awards scholarships for post-secondary educational programs. **In 2026, two scholarships of \$1,500** will be awarded to student applicants who are sponsored by active Minnesota NAHRO Agency Members and selected as winners. **Each agency member may sponsor only one applicant. Scholarships may be used for any accredited post-secondary education program, except for graduate or post-graduate programs.**

ELIGIBILITY

- Be a resident of a publicly-owned housing unit or a participant in a rent assistance program administered by a Minnesota NAHRO agency member.
- Be enrolled in a post-secondary program or be accepted into a post-secondary program beginning fall 2026.
- Education programs must be accredited and may not be graduate or post-graduate programs.

HOW TO APPLY

- Return a completed application to your sponsoring agency member by **March 27th, 2026**.
- Applications can be downloaded at www.mnnahro.org/about/scholarships/

Please review this material carefully. If you have any questions, please contact your sponsoring agency.

- **INFORMATION FORM:** To be considered, all sections of the application must be completed. If a section is not applicable, write N/A (not applicable) in the section; do not leave any sections blank. Any application that has blank sections, or that is missing appropriate submittals or signatures, will be disqualified.
- **ONE LETTER OF CHARACTER RECOMMENDATION:** Please attach a letter of recommendation from a **non-relative**. Letters of recommendation will be accepted from a representative from the local housing authority or community organization, an employer, or a school professional such as a teacher, principal, or guidance counselor. **Recommendations from family members will NOT be considered.** All recommendations should include the writer's name; relationship to the applicant; and the length of time the writer has known the applicant.
- **AN UNOFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT FROM HIGH SCHOOL AND/OR THE ACADEMIC INSTITUTION THE APPLICANT IS CURRENTLY ATTENDING.** A digital copy or scanned in hard copy are both acceptable.
- **VERIFICATION OF ACCEPTANCE/ATTENDANCE AT AN ACCREDITED INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**
- **AN ESSAY (750-1,000 WORDS) WRITTEN BY THE APPLICANT.**
 - Essay prompt: Please tell us about yourself and how this scholarship will help you, the applicant, achieve your goal of attending and graduating from college.
- **A CLEAR HIGH-RESOLUTION HEADSHOT OF THE APPLICANT.**

AWARD DISTRIBUTION

- Sponsored applications will be reviewed and selected by the Minnesota NAHRO Scholarship Committee and will be announced the week of May 18th. Recipients will also be notified by mail.

2026 CAROL SCHULTZ EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD APPLICATION

DEADLINE: This application must be submitted to your *sponsoring agency* so that it can be approved by the sponsoring agency and submitted to Minnesota NAHRO no later than March 27th, 2026.

APPLICANT'S NAME: _____
FIRST MIDDLE LAST

LOCAL ADDRESS: _____
NUMBER AND STREET CITY STATE ZIP

DATE OF BIRTH: _____
(MM/DD/YYYY)

PHONE NUMBER: (____) _____ - _____ EMAIL: _____

Which housing and/or community development agency are you affiliated with? _____

EDUCATION HISTORY

(Check one) High School Senior High School Graduate/GED Recipient

| SCHOOL ATTENDED | DATES ATTENDED | CREDITS COMPLETED | DEGREE RECEIVED | FINAL GPA |
|-----------------|----------------|-------------------|-----------------|-----------|
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2026-2027 EDUCATION PLANS

What college, university, vocational, or post-secondary school do you plan to attend/are attending in 2026-2027 (include city & state):

2026-2027 ENROLLMENT STATUS (select one):

Plan to apply Applied but not accepted yet Applied and accepted

Anticipated major or vocational goal:

Average length of program (2 years / 4 years, etc.): _____

FINANCIAL REQUIREMENT

Please provide a statement of estimated cost of education for 2026-2027. Estimated cost for entire 2026-2027 school year includes tuition, student fees, books, and school supplies only (you may use the estimate provided by the school):

HONORS, AWARDS, & COMMUNITY / SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

Please list all honors or awards received and any community / school activities in which you have actively participated within the past 5 years (attach extra sheet if needed).

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION

Please attach two letters of recommendation from **non-relatives**. Eligible recommendation-writers include a representative from the local housing authority or community organization, an employer, or a school professional such as a teacher or a guidance counselor. **No recommendations from family members will be considered.**

List the contact information for these people below. Please include their name, address, phone number, relationship to you, and length of time you have known them.

REFERENCE ONE: _____

| | | | | |
|-------|--------------|----------------------|-------|-----|
| NAME | STREET | CITY | STATE | ZIP |
| _____ | | | | |
| PHONE | RELATIONSHIP | LENGTH OF TIME KNOWN | | |

REFERENCE TWO: _____

| | | | | |
|-------|--------------|----------------------|-------|-----|
| NAME | STREET | CITY | STATE | ZIP |
| _____ | | | | |
| PHONE | RELATIONSHIP | LENGTH OF TIME KNOWN | | |

ESSAY

Please write an essay using 750 – 1,000 words to answer the following questions:

- Where do you see yourself in the next four years and how will this scholarship help you to achieve those goals?
- What are you doing now to achieve those goals?

Essays showcasing outstanding community service will be considered for additional scholarship awards. If you have any unusual circumstances that you would like the scholarship committee to consider, please include them in your essay.

CERTIFICATION

BY MY SIGNATURE, I AGREE TO THE FOLLOWING:

- That the information I have given is true to the best of my knowledge.
- To maintain satisfactory educational progress.
- To keep NAHRO informed of any changes in schools or enrollment status.
- To provide, or respond to NAHRO requests for, periodic updates on academic progress for the duration of the candidate's receipt of 2026-2027 scholarship funds.
- To consent to the use of my profile, progress, and testimonial, by NAHRO and its subsidiaries, for marketing and fundraising purposes.
- To authorize the office of financial aid to release my grades and pertinent information to NAHRO.
- To authorize the release of my contact information to contractor for the college program (if funded).

Applicant Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature (if under 18)

Date

REQUIREMENTS CHECKLIST

- Application
- High School Transcript or GED Certificate mailed directly from the high school (or college if already enrolled)
- Verification of acceptance (or current attendance) to institution of higher education (if available)
- Educational History
- Educational Plan
- Financial Requirement
- Honors and Awards (Please list award and date e.g. mm/yyyy)
- One Letter of Recommendation
- Essay with 750-1000 words answering the following questions:
 - a) Where do you see yourself in the next four years and how will this scholarship help you to achieve those goals?
 - b) What are you doing now to achieve those goals? Essays showcasing outstanding community service will be considered for the additional scholarship awards.
- Certification Signature
- Photo of Applicant (High Resolution – to be sent in separate email apart from scholarship application)
- Agency Sponsor Form (Minnesota NAHRO Use Only and serves as second letter of recommendation)

AGENCY SPONSORSHIP

TO SPONSOR AN APPLICANT, AN AGENCY MEMBER MUST:

- Solicit applications by posting notice of the scholarship availability and eligibility guidelines.
- Provide application forms to potential candidates.
- Select a sponsored applicant from submissions received.
- Submit nominee's completed application to Minnesota NAHRO by **March 25th, 2025**.

2026 CAROL SCHULTZ EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP AWARD NOMINATING FORM

TO BE FILLED OUT BY SPONSORING AGENCY: Each member agency may submit one scholarship application to Minnesota NAHRO for any given year. The application together with the sponsor form and other supporting documentation must be submitted by **March 27th, 2026** to:

Shannon Guernsey, Executive Director, Minnesota NAHRO
555 North Wabasha Street, #245, St. Paul, MN 55102
sguernsey@mnnahro.org

Sponsor Agency: _____

Contact Person: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Phone: _____ Email: _____

Agency Comments on Behalf of Applicant: _____

I am submitting this Sponsorship for the Carol Schultz Education Scholarship on behalf of my Agency and in support of the Application made by:

(Name of Applicant)

Signature of Authorized Representative of Agency:

* The number of scholarships awarded is dependent upon the number of applications received and the amount of scholarship funds raised by Minnesota NAHRO in the previous year. *