



2026 MCRD MUSEUM FOUNDATION

COLONEL NATE SMITH SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

(Rev. 09/22/2026)

Thank you for your interest in the 2026 Colonel Nate Smith Scholarship. This scholarship is available only to Marines and Sailors (and their dependents) currently stationed at MCRD San Diego/The Western Recruiting Region. Applicants must be high school graduates and currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate program. Award recipients will be chosen by the Selection Committee based on academic performance, extracurricular activities, and their essay. Three selected recipients will each receive a \$5,000 scholarship for costs associated with future academic endeavors.

*Scholarship applications are due 31 December 2026. Please submit completed applications via email to achristensen@mcrdmhs.org. Scholarship recipients will be notified shortly after the 31 December application deadline and will be recognized at an awards ceremony at MCRD San Diego in January 2027.

Questions concerning the Colonel Nate Smith Scholarship can be directed to achristensen@mcrdmhs.org

1. Personal Information for Applicant

First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Suffix

Address (Street and apartment number)	City	State (2 letter code)	Zip Code

Home Phone	Cell Phone	Email Address

Date of Birth MM/DD/YYYY	Marital Status	Children	Total Number of Dependents Don't count yourself

Applicant's Initials_____

2. Check block and complete information for your eligibility category:

	Enlisted Marine or Sailor assigned to MCRD San Diego or the WRR. Rank: Unit:
	Dependent of enlisted Marine or Sailor assigned to MCRD San Diego or WRR. Sponsor's Name: Rank: Unit: Relationship to sponsor:

3. High School Academic Status:

	I am a high school graduate. Year graduated: Name of school: City and state of school:
	I will graduate from high school in 20____. Month: City and state of school:

4. College Enrollment Status

PART A

	I will use this scholarship to pursue an associate of arts degree.
	I will use this scholarship to pursue an undergraduate degree.
	I will use this scholarship to pursue a graduate degree.

PART B

	I have enrolled in and been accepted to: School: City and state of school: I plan to major in:
	I am currently enrolled and attending: School: City and state of school: Class status: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior Adv Degree Semester hours towards degree completed: Major area of study: Cumulative GPA:

Applicant's Initials_____

5. Police Records Check

	I have never been convicted of a felony.
	I have been convicted of a felony. Explain.

6. List your significant military accomplishments in bullet format to include: awards, medals and decorations; number and location of deployments; MOS, and class standing at formal schools. (*Maximum length: 20 lines*)

7. List your high school and college achievements: honors, awards, sports participation, student leadership billets, participation in music programs, papers, class or ASB officer or committee assignments. (*Maximum length: 15 lines*)

8. List church and community achievement, activities, service and participation. (*Maximum length: 15 lines*)

9. What are your career goals? (*Maximum length: 10 lines*)

10. ESSAY: Write, in a narrative style, your concerns for the future of our society and for the people of the world—in other words, “your philosophy of life.” Take time in composing this as it is a major factor in the committee’s evaluation of your application. The committee is interested in how you plan to fulfill your role as future leader in our society. (*Maximum length: 50 lines. We’re looking for your authentic voice and creativity, so any use of AI will disqualify your submission.*)

Applicant's Initials_____

Following MUST be completed when application is submitted:

Applicant's initials at the bottom of all pages.

Following MUST be submitted with application:

Proof of college acceptance or current enrollment is attached.

Following MAY be submitted with application:

Letters of recommendation are attached from: (list name and position for each)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

11. I certify that the information I have submitted is correct and that the essay work is my own.

Date	Applicant's Signature

Applicant's Initials_____