

FORT GEORGE G. MEADE
FORT MEADE SPOUSES' CLUB
SPOUSES SCHOLARSHIP

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND APPLICATION
2024-2025 ACADEMIC YEAR



The Fort Meade Spouses' Club (FMSC) Spouses Scholarship is awarded annually to spouses of enlisted service members in the Fort Meade area. This award is for military spouses committed to volunteerism and academic achievement.

This scholarship will be applied to the **2024-2025** academic school year. Multiple recipients will be selected for this competitive scholarship and all eligible applicants are encouraged to apply.

Applicants will be notified in April of their application status.

Eligibility Criteria:

- ❖ The applicant must be the spouse of any military member from any branch, active duty, retired, deceased military personnel, Reservist or National Guard who resides in the Fort Meade Area.
- ❖ Additionally, applicants must meet **one** of the following criteria:
 - a. To qualify as a full-time student, a minimum of 12 credits each semester for the academic year of the scholarship is required. **OR**
 - b. All other applicants will qualify as a part time student.
- ❖ Applicants must live on Fort Meade or in the surrounding Fort Meade area.
- ❖ Be an active volunteer in the military community.

Financial Restrictions:

Additional Financial Restrictions and Obligations:

1. Scholarships will be payable directly to the school for tuition only and will be paid when the FMSC receives a detailed statement of all financial activity on the student's account, to include hours enrolled, tuition and general institution fees, and any scholarships or grants.
2. Winners have until **August 1, 2025** to submit a bill from their school. Unclaimed funds will be retained by the FMSC.
3. Failure to submit documentation on time will result in forfeiture of scholarship.
4. Tuition will be paid directly to the school after the Scholarship Director has verified that all financial restrictions and regulations have been met.
5. If the scholarship winner receives 100% tuition money from other scholarships, tuition assistance, GI Bill, Post 9-11 GI Bill transfer, or any other sources that do not require repayment, the scholarship winner will become ineligible for the scholarship.
6. Scholarships may be used at any accredited college, university, business or vocational school for one year not to exceed the amount awarded

Required Documents to be Submitted with Application:

- Respond to the following prompt with a minimum 1 ½ page response:
 - What helped you make the decision to start volunteering or how did you get started in this field? Is there any advice or help that you could offer others who came to you wanting to start their own journey as well?
 - Relate to us a time where you found yourself in a situation where you were outside of your normal comfort zone and had to face the challenges this presented. How were you able to adapt or what strategies were you able to use to make it through, and what was the outcome?

- Proof of Military Status
 - Examples are: Copies of DD214, DEERS Enrollment, or Letter from Command.
 - If you have further questions, please contact scholarships@fortmeadespousesclub.org

- Two proofs of **sponsor** residency in the Fort Meade area:
 - One copy of a rental, mortgage, lease agreement, housing contract or property tax.
 - One copy of the top portion of a cable, landline or home utility bill, bank statement or credit card bill (with account numbers blacked out). Cell phone bills are not acceptable as proof of residency.

- SUBMIT OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPTS** from your appropriate higher level of education.
 - Transcripts may be sent to scholarships@fortmeadespousesclub.org from school officials. The official request for transcripts must be included in the packet postmarked by March 22, 2024.
 - Associates, business, and vocational school students: submit official high school transcripts if completed in the last 2 years
 - Bachelors students: submit official transcripts from associates degree if applicable or high school only if completed within the last 2 years
 - Masters students: submit official transcripts from your undergraduate program
 - Ph.D. students: submit official transcripts from your master's program if applicable, or prior course of study
 - Official transcripts for any courses taken in the previous 2 years

- Two current letters of recommendation from non-family members. For verification purposes, one letter is required to be from your supervisor from recent volunteer experience or from someone with whom you volunteered. Please be sure that the letter includes contact information for your references. Letters must be received by the deadline for scholarship applications. (Note: letters of recommendation cannot be accepted from members of the FMSC Scholarship Committee or other applicants for this scholarship.)

Completed applications and all supporting documentation should be sent together to:

Postmarked:

Fort Meade Spouses' Club
ATTN: Scholarship Director
P.O. Box 105
Fort Meade, MD 20755

Emailed:

Emailed to [Scholarships@fortmeadespousesclub.org](mailto:scholarships@fortmeadespousesclub.org)

For additional information or questions please contact the Scholarship Director at
[Scholarships@fortmeadespousesclub.org](mailto:scholarships@fortmeadespousesclub.org)

Completed Application Packets must be postmarked or emailed by March 22, 2024.

Incomplete application packets or applications received after this date will NOT be considered.

**Fort Meade Spouses' Club
2024-2025 Spouses' Scholarship Application**

Please print clearly or type.	
Last Name:	First Name:
Phone:	Email:
Your Address: Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____	
Name of Applicant's Military Spouse:	
Spouse's Unit and Unit Address (or former unit, if retired):	
Spouse's Branch of Service and Most Recent Rank:	
Spouse's Address (if different from applicant): Street: _____ Phone: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____	
How many credits/semester hours do you plan to take in the following semesters of the upcoming academic year?	
School of Enrollment:	Cumulative GPA:
Major:	Minor:
Current Academic Rank (circle): UNDERGRAD GRAD N/A	
Anticipated Date of Graduation:	
Have you applied to your program? Yes ___ No ___	
Have you been accepted into your program? Yes ___ No ___ In Progress ___	
Are you applying for any other scholarships or grants? Yes _____ No _____ Award Name(s):	
Maximum Award Amount(s) (if known):	

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A resume style document may be attached to answer the following questions.

Please discuss your volunteer and community service experience over the past five years. Please include the approximate months/years, location, organization, and your role in providing the service.

Please share your work experience. Include approximate years, location and description of duties.

Please share any other activities you participate in regularly (such as book club, choir, sports, etc.)

List all honors or awards you have received in the past 5 years.

By submitting and signing this form I attest:

- I have read and fully understand the Fort Meade Spouses' Club rules, guidelines, and criteria for their annual scholarships.
- I understand it is my responsibility to submit this package and all supporting documentation, and it must be **postmarked by March 22, 2024**.
- I understand that failure to have all documents submitted on time (including transcripts and references) will result in my application being deemed ineligible for scholarship consideration.
- The above information is accurate, true, and correct to the best of my knowledge.

_____ Date: _____
APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

_____ Date: _____
SPONSOR'S SIGNATURE

*****INCOMPLETE OR LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE APPLICANT TO ENSURE ALL DOCUMENTS ARE COMPLETE AND MAILED ON TIME*****

*****NO EXCEPTIONS*****

BEFORE YOU SUBMIT THIS APPLICATION, RETAIN A COPY FOR YOUR PERSONAL RECORDS.