

FORT MEADE SPOUSES' CLUB SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND APPLICATION
2025-2026 ACADEMIC YEAR



The Fort Meade Spouses' Club (FMSC) Scholarship Award is awarded annually to graduating High School Seniors and Continuing Education Students. This award is for students who rise to the challenges of Academia and still find time to volunteer in their community.

This scholarship will be applied to the **2025-2026** academic school year. This is a competitive scholarship; all eligible students are encouraged to apply and to take care to submit the best package they can to accurately reflect who they are. Multiple recipients may be selected.

Applicants will be notified in April of their application status.

Eligibility Criteria:

- ❖ The applicant must be a dependent child (unmarried) of any military member from any branch, active duty, retired, deceased military personnel, Reservist or National Guard, not to exceed 23 years of age.
- ❖ Additionally, applicants must meet **one** of the following criteria:
 1. To qualify as a full-time student, a minimum of 12 credits each semester for the academic year of the scholarship is required.
 2. All other applicants will qualify as a part time student.
- ❖ Military member must reside in the Fort Meade Area. Applicants must verify military dependency status.
- ❖ See page 2 for criteria that applies specifically to high school students only and continuing education students only.
- ❖ Submit a completed application on time as per details below.
- ❖ Volunteer in the community.

Financial Restrictions:

- ❖ Additional financial restrictions and obligations:
 1. Scholarships will be payable directly to the school for tuition only. Scholarships will be paid when the FMSC receives a detailed tuition 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, 2026** to submit a tuition statement 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 a scholarship winner receives 80% 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:

- Please answer the following prompt below with a minimum 1 page response.
 - Why do you believe volunteering and community service are essential, particularly in military families? How have you personally contributed to this tradition?
 - How have you inspired others to volunteer or contribute to their community through your actions or leadership?

- Proof of Military Status
 - DD214, DEERS enrollment, copy of orders, letter from Command or other documentation.

- 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.

- A recent letter of recommendation from a non-family member. The letter is required to be from a supervisor where you have volunteered on an ongoing basis. The letter must include your responsibilities, and how long you have been a volunteer with them.
 - Please be sure that the letter includes the contact information of your reference for verification purposes. 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.)

High School Students:

- Submit **official transcripts** for your junior year and first semester of your senior year.
 - Home school students: transcript submitted by the parent/guardian of the homeschooler
 - Transcripts may be sent to scholarships@fortmeadespousesclub.org. Must include transcript request in packet that is postmarked by March 20, 2025.

Continuing Education Students:

- Submit **official transcripts** for your previous year of study (may be senior year of high school) and first semester of this year's studies.
 - Transcripts may be sent to scholarships@fortmeadespousesclub.org. Must include transcript request in packet that is postmarked by March 20, 2025.

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

For additional information or questions please contact the Scholarship Director at
Scholarships@fortmeadespousesclub.org

Completed Application Packets must be postmarked or emailed by March 20, 2025.
Incomplete application packets or applications received after this date will NOT be considered.

**Fort Meade Spouses' Club
2025-2026 Fort Meade Spouses' Club Scholarship Award Application**

Please print clearly or type.	
Last Name:	First Name:
Phone:	Email:
Two contact telephone numbers including area code for your Parent/Guardian with whom you reside:	
Your Address: Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____	
Name of Applicant's Military Sponsor:	
Sponsor's Unit and Unit Address (or former unit, if retired):	
Sponsor's Branch of Service and Most Recent Rank:	
Sponsor's Address (if different from applicant): Street: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____	
High School Counselor's name and contact information:	
Current School's Name and telephone number:	
Current School's Address: Street: _____ Phone: _____ City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____	
Mark Status: Graduating High School Student 2024 _____ Continuing Education _____	
How many credits/semester hours do you plan to take in the following semesters of the upcoming academic year?	
School of Enrollment:	Cumulative GPA (if continuing student):

Major:	Minor:
Current Academic Rank (circle): UNDERGRAD GRAD N/A	
Anticipated Date of Graduation:	
Have you applied to your program? Yes ___ No ___ In Progress ___	
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):	
A resume style document may be attached to answer the following questions	
Please discuss your volunteer and community service experience over the past four years. Please include the approximate months/years, location, organization, and your role in providing the service.	
All other extracurricular activities with dates and positions held in school or out of school (such as involvement with sports, music or clubs.)	
Please share your work experience (if any.) Include approximate years, location and description of duties.	

List all honors or awards you have received in the past 4 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 the scholarship.
- I understand it is my responsibility to submit this package and all supporting documentation, and it must be **postmarked or emailed by March 20, 2025**.
- 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.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE

Date

SPONSOR'S SIGNATURE

Date

*****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