

Mountain Lakes
High School
National Merit
Recognition

Qualifying for National Merit Recognition

In order to be eligible for the National Merit Scholarship Program, a student must:

- take the PSAT/NMSQT during his or her 3rd year (junior year) of high school
- be enrolled as a high school student (traditional or homeschooled) and plan to enroll in college full time by the fall after his or her high school graduation and
- attend high school in the U.S., the District of Columbia, or U.S. commonwealth and territory

National Merit Scholarship Corporation

The National Merit Scholarship Corporation conducts an annual competition for recognition and scholarship, known as the National Merit Scholarship Program.

The highest achieving students are identified by the program as National Merit Scholars.

Selection of National Merit Qualifiers

- Approximately 1.6 million students enter the competition by taking the PSAT/NMSQT.
- This test assesses student ability in Critical Reading, Mathematics, and Writing.
- Students receive scores for each section of this test. These scores range from 8-38.

National Merit Selection Index

In order to calculate a student's Selection Index, these three scores are added, then that sum is doubled.

As an example, a student who earns scores of 34, 35, and 36 would use the formula to find that $34+35+36=105$. Again, this is doubled to give this student a Selection Index of 210.

National Merit Commended Students

- Commended Students are named on the basis of a nationally applied Selection Index score, which may vary from year to year.
- This year, NMSC communicated that, in order to earn Commended status, students must earn a score of at least 207.
- Only 34,000 of the 1.6 million testers nationwide earned this distinction. This means only 2% are identified this way.

Mountain Lakes High School Commended Scholars

This year, twenty-three (23) members of our senior class have earned the remarkable distinction of Commended Students. This is nearly double last year's impressive total of thirteen (13).

We are extraordinarily proud of the hard work and focus that has led to this prestigious honor.

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

JOSEPH BORIN

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

CHIRAG CHANDNANI

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

KATHERINE CHEN

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

CINAED COLLINS

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

OLIVIA DUARTE

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

CASEY FAN

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

GARY GUO

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

MONALISA HAIT

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

REBECCA HIRSCHFELD

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

SHARIQA IQBAL

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

CONNOR LEWIS

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

WINSTON LI

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

JUSTIN LIANG

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

ARDEN MALONEY

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

SARAH MCAULIFFE

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

GEORGE PANAGOS

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

ARUNIMA PAUL

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

SHOBIKA PRABHU

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

ELLA SCAROLA

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

DOROTHY YAO

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

MICHAEL YELPO

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

KAYLEE ZHANG

MLHS COMMENDED STUDENTS

SOPHIA ZHANG

National Merit Semi-Finalists

In early September, about 16,000 students, or approximately one-third of the 50,000 high scorers, are notified that they have qualified as Semifinalists. To ensure that academically talented young people from all parts of the United States are included in this talent pool, Semifinalists are designated on a state-representational basis. Semifinalists are the highest scoring entrants in each state. Qualifying scores vary from state to state and from year to year, but the scores of all Semifinalists are extremely high.

This year, NJ's qualifying score for Semi-Finalists is 223, an incredibly elite total.

Mountain Lakes High School Semi-Finalists

This year, Mountain Lakes has two (2) students who have earned scores in the top 0.5% in the nation and have moved forward in the Scholarship application process as Semi-Finalists.

It brings me great pleasure to introduce these three accomplished students.

MLHS NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

MARGARET BEREI

MLHS NATIONAL MERIT SEMIFINALISTS

SAANVI VAVILALA

The Mountain Lakes School District and our
entire community are so proud of your
accomplishments!

CONGRATULATIONS!!!