



Academic Magnet High School

For Immediate Release

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Media Release

Academic Magnet Senior Only Student in Tri-County Region to Earn \$2500 National Merit Scholarship

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North Charleston, SC – The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the winners of the National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship for the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program last week, and the only student from Charleston County School District (CCSD) and the Tri-County area to receive one is Academic Magnet High School's Jack Oakman. He is one of just 35 students from South Carolina to earn an National Merit \$2,500 Scholarship this year.

According to NMSC, the 2,500 winners in the 70th annual program are the finalists in each state that are judged to have the strongest combination of accomplishments, skills, and potential for success in rigorous college studies.

NMSC finances most of these single-payment National Merit \$2500 Scholarships. Corporations and company foundations that sponsor awards through NMSC also help underwrite these scholarships with grants they provide in lieu of paying administrative fees. Scholars may use their awards at any regionally accredited U.S. college or university.

Students entered this year's National Merit Scholarship Program when they took the 2023 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT), which served as an initial screen of program entrants.

Once seniors from the Class of 2025 were selected as semifinalists, they fulfilled requirements to become finalists. They submitted a detailed scholarship application, which included writing an essay and providing information about extracurricular activities, awards, and leadership positions. Semifinalists also had to have an outstanding academic record, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, and earn SAT® scores that confirmed the qualifying test performance. From the semifinalist group, over 15,000 students met the finalist requirements.

By the conclusion of the 2025 competition, more than 6,930 finalists will have earned the "Merit Scholar" title and received a total of nearly \$26 million in college scholarships.

For more information about Jack Oakman, contact the school at (843) 746-1300.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 50,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse portfolio of educational options and specialized programs delivered to the students of CCSD through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools and programs. Rich educational opportunities for students include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; military; dual credit; and many more.