



Charleston County School District
Office of Communications
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Media Release

Four Academic Magnet Graduates on Final List of National Merit College-Sponsored Winners for 2025

Charleston, SC (July 16, 2025) – The National Merit Scholarship Corporation released the names of close to 800 additional winners of National Merit Scholarships financed by colleges and universities. These Merit Scholar designees, including four from Academic Magnet High School, join more than 2,900 other college-sponsored award recipients [who were announced in June.](#)

The following four Academic Magnet grads who received college-sponsored National Merit Scholarships this month are:

William C. Brodsky II - National Merit Clemson University Scholarship
Emma Q. Fang - National Merit Northeastern University Scholarship
Julian M. Gillum - National Merit Emory University Scholarship
Beatrice J. Vaught - National Merit Purdue University Scholarship

A total of 14 graduating seniors from Charleston County School District's Class of 2025 received scholarships in the 70th annual National Merit Scholarship program.

Officials of each sponsor college selected their scholarship recipients from among the 2025 National Merit Scholarship Program finalists who plan to attend their institution. These awards provide between \$500 and \$2,000 annually for up to four years of undergraduate study at the institution financing the scholarship.

This year, 146 higher education institutions are underwriting more than 3,700 Merit Scholarship awards through the National Merit Scholarship Program. Sponsor colleges and universities include 74 private and 72 public institutions located in 42 states and the District of Columbia.

More than 7,100 finalists earned the "Merit Scholar" and received a total of nearly \$26 million in college scholarships in 2025.

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 the 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.

For more information, please contact the Office of Communications at (843) 937-6303.

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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 51,000 students in 90 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.