



MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF TOWNSHIPS  
**SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) will award up to five \$2,000 scholarships to high school juniors currently enrolled in a Minnesota public, private, or parochial school, or an approved home-study program, who plan to pursue post-secondary education at a college, university, or technical/vocational school. \*\*\* New for 2026: All applicants must also reside in a Minnesota township.

To apply, students must complete the application form and submit it together with a written essay responding to this year's township-focused topic.

The **2026** essay prompt is:

Townships depend on safe and efficient roads for residents, farmers, businesses, and emergency services, and county road engineers play a vital role in helping many townships achieve this goal.

What are the various ways in which townships work with and depend on county road engineers? Why are county engineers crucial for township road systems and community needs? Additionally, what steps can schools, local governments, and communities take to encourage more students to pursue careers in civil engineering and public works, especially in rural Minnesota?

Essays must be typed, double-spaced, and between 450 and 500 words.

Additional guidelines:

- Do not include your name, school, township or city name, or names of local officials within the essay or on its pages.
- Essays will be evaluated by an independent judging panel on originality, understanding of the topic, supporting examples, and proper spelling and punctuation.
- Applicants must be high school juniors and township residents.

Required application materials:

- Completed application form
- Written essay
- Current high school transcript
- Letter of recommendation from a teacher or counselor

All materials must be mailed in one envelope and postmarked no later than June 1, 2026, to:  
Minnesota Association of Townships Scholarship Program  
P.O. Box 267  
St. Michael, MN 55376

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. Scholarship recipients will be notified in writing in September 2026 and invited to attend the awards banquet at the MAT Annual Conference in December 2026 at Grand View Lodge in Brainerd, Minnesota. Awards will be issued to the recipient's college, university, or technical school financial aid office upon verification of enrollment. Questions: [info@mntownships.org](mailto:info@mntownships.org)

# 2026 MAT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_ County: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you live in a township? \_\_\_\_\_ If yes, township name: \_\_\_\_\_

High school presently attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's names: \_\_\_\_\_

Hobbies or activities of interest: \_\_\_\_\_

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Future goals: \_\_\_\_\_

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Any other comments you care to make about yourself: \_\_\_\_\_

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