



Avery Melling Memorial Scholarship

The Avery Melling Memorial Scholarship was established to honor the life of Avery Melling, a 17-year-old junior at Manhattan High School, who was tragically killed in a rollover accident due to icy road conditions on December 24, 2024. Avery was loved by many, and she is often distinctly remembered by her vibrant personality, fierce generosity, love for cheerleading, and passion for welding. Through the establishment of this scholarship, we wish to honor Avery's life and dreams by helping a student from her class (Class of 2026) at Manhattan High School pursue higher education after the completion of high school. Avery had a substantial impact on her friends, family, coworkers, and community. We recognize that Avery and her bright legacy should never be forgotten, and the Avery Melling Memorial Scholarship is our collective way of doing this.

A scholarship of \$3000 will be awarded to one individual from the senior class of 2026 from Manhattan High School. After this a \$1000 scholarship will be awarded annually.

ELIGIBILITY:

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- High school senior (Class of 2026) at Manhattan High School
- Plans to further their education after high school by attending any accredited program or institution
- Proficient in academics - has maintained a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher throughout the last 2 years of high school (junior and senior year)
- Upstanding character - ex. Strong work ethic, self motivated/driven, problem solving skills/creative thinking, hardworking, eager to learn, positive, confident, creative, etc.

****This scholarship may be used for tuition costs, books and classroom supplies.**

DUE DATE: May 15, current year

APPLICATION:

A *paper copy* of the completed application (including the form, transcript, letters of recommendation, and essay) must be brought to the guidance counselor's office by the deadline of *May 15, or mailed to the Manhattan Public Schools Foundation PO Box 1223* Manhattan, MT 59741 and postmarked no later than May 15. Emailed or faxed applications will not be considered.

- 1. Completed Application Form** (included below)
- 2. Official & Current High School Transcript** (signed by school counselor or administrator)
- 3. 2 Letters of Recommendation**
 - At least one of these letters must be written by an employee of the school district, the other may be written by an adult friend other than a relative.
 - Make sure the recommenders touch on the character (examples could be the traits listed above) of the applicant and the academic proficiency of the applicant (if a school district employee) and sign their letters..
 - Please include these letters with your application.
- 4. Applicant Essay**
 - Typed; 12pt font; around 2-3 pages long

- Make sure the essay touches on the applicant's upstanding character (examples could include the traits listed above).
- The essay should be separated into paragraphs which discuss:
 - Background/About the Student
 - Passions, character traits, talents, etc.
 - Perhaps including an obstacle or challenge in your life and how you faced it.
 - Student Achievements & Academics
 - Any awards or achievements you have received
 - How do you thrive academically (classes you enjoy or do well in, etc.)
 - Student Involvements
 - School-affiliated or other extracurricular activities you are involved in and passionate about (ex. Clubs, sports, church groups, student council, fine arts programs/elective classes, etc.)
 - Have your supervisor fill out the attached form for one
 - Community/school service activity you participated in.
 - Career Goals & Work Ethic
 - What made you choose this career, where are you hoping to attend college, what are your goals for after college, etc. and how do you hope to achieve these goals
 - Legacy
 - How do you want to be remembered, and how will you leave a positive impact on others

MORE INFORMATION:

- The scholarship will be awarded to the winner at the award ceremony on May 27, 2026.
- The scholarship funds will be paid directly to the student's college/university/program of choice. It will be your responsibility to give your Student ID number to the Foundation and the address of the registrar's office at Your school.

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APPLICATION FORM

**Please be neat and complete (type if necessary).

Student Information:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Post-Graduation Plans: Be specific and use the following space:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian Information:

Full Name: _____ Relation to Applicant: _____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

☐ I verify that all the above information is true and correct.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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COMMUNITY SERVICE VERIFICATION STATEMENT

***Please have your community service representative verify your service by filling out the form below:

ACTIVITY #1

By completing the following statement you are verifying that all the community service described is true and accurate to the best of your knowledge.

NAME OF ACTIVITY: _____

I certify that _____ *(name of student)*

participated in _____

for _____ *(name of organization)*

from _____ to _____ *(dates)*.

Signature of Person Verifying Service: _____

Title: _____ Daytime Phone: _____