**National Military Intelligence Foundation**

**2024 Merit Scholarship Application**

**General Instructions**

The National Military Intelligence Foundation (NMIF) is pleased to announce its annual competition for scholarships to support students pursuing courses of study and formal degrees in intelligence studies and related disciplines.

Please read the instructions carefully. Please send finalized application packages by the deadline of **June 14, 2024** toNMIFMeritScholarships@gmail.com**.**

Please direct ***only*** application and eligibility questions to Natalie.anderson.nmif@gmail.com.

**Summary of Eligibility Criteria:**

* **Academic Standing:** *Must be*a ***Sophomore,****[[1]](#footnote-1)* ***Junior****[[2]](#footnote-2)****, Senior****[[3]](#footnote-3)****,******Graduate student, or PhD candidate[[4]](#footnote-4)*** *at the time of application from an accredited educational institution.* Candidates pursuing a second bachelor’s degree are eligible for consideration if standing is Sophomore, Junior, or Senior.
* **Academic Status:** *Must be full-time students.* A ***full time undergraduate*** or ***graduate student*** shall be enrolled in an accredited institution for no less than 12 semester hours. NMIF understands that some graduate institutions define full-time differently. If you take less than 12 semester hours but your institution considers you full-time, please apply and be sure to provide *official justification/explanation from the university* to remain eligible.
* **Citizenship**: NMIF Merit Scholarships are intended for those eligible to and actively pursuing work for U.S. military, defense industry, and intelligence communities, requiring U.S. citizenship.
* **Evaluation Criteria**: Completeness of application package is important. Application package must meet all instructions and criteria described on page 2. If incomplete, NMIF will make ***one*** attempt to reach out to the student regarding missing portions. After such attempt, all incomplete applications will not be considered.
* **Use of Award**: Awards may be applied to Fall Semester/Fall Quarter 2024 or Spring Semester/Spring Quarter 2025. If a senior graduating May 2024 is selected as a recipient, the award can be provided to the student’s registrar or official loan provider toward the student’s remaining balance or accrued student debt. The award funds will be sent to the student’s registrar or loan provider; it will not be sent to the student directly.
* **Ability to Showcase Recipient Information:** The NMIF provides scholarships sponsored by organizations and families. Out of respect for these sponsors and families, the student ***must answer “yes” to Question H*** on page 10 to remain eligible for consideration for NMIF scholarships. If student answers “no,” they will be ineligible.

Scholarship Awards made by the NMIF shall be made solely at its discretion, ***all decisions are final and are not subject to outside adjudication***.

# Detailed Application Instructions and Criteria:

1. **Complete, Timely Application Package:** All applicants **must** provide the complete electronic application package as outlined below by e-mail to NMIFMeritScholarships@gmail.com **by June 14, 2024**. The package can be separate documents attached to an email, all attachments merged into 1 single file, OR a ZIP file with all documents contained.

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| **Applicant Package Checklist** | **Directions** |
| 1. Completed Application Form
 | Completed pages 4-10 of this document, save in PDF Format with your “lastname\_firstname” in file name. |
| 1. Resume
 | Provide in PDF format, no more than 3 pages. |
| 1. One letter of recommendation
 | One letter of recommendation that emphasizes your professional qualities, work ethic, and relevant experience and/or potential for a career in intelligence, national security, military intelligence, or related fields.Instruct your recommender to provide the letter one of two ways:* (Option 1) Provide to applicant for inclusion in electronic submission of application package via email.
* (Option 2) Directly to NMIF by **June 14, 2024** via email to NMIFMeritScholarships@gmail.com.
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| 1. Academic Transcripts (Unofficial is fine)
 | A **transcript (unofficial is fine)** attached with electronic submission of application package. Student can send updated unofficial transcript at conclusion of Spring 2024 semester too for updated records, after application closes, but is not required. |
| 1. Headshot photograph
 | A headshot photograph that, should you receive an award, NMIF will use in scholarship announcements on the NMIF website and social media pages and Night of Heroes Award Banquet presentation.  |
| 1. Concise 2-3 sentence student summary
 | A 2-3 sentence summary of your background that, should you receive an award, NMIF will use in scholarship announcements on the NMIF website and social media pages and Night of Heroes Award Banquet presentation. Examples of student summaries:* *“Susie Smith is a graduate student at \_\_\_ University pursuing an M.A. in \_\_\_\_\_ with specialization in \_\_\_\_. She previously graduated from \_\_\_ University with a B.A. in \_\_\_, and minor in \_\_\_. Susie worked as an analysis intern with the \_\_\_\_.”*
* *“John Doe is an undergraduate student pursuing a \_\_\_\_ degree with minors in \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ University. In addition to his undergraduate studies, he interns at \_\_\_\_. He also has internship experience working at \_\_\_ agency.”*
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| 1. Email body requirements
 | In addition to the documents listed above, ***within the email of the electronic application package submission, applicant*** ***must include***:* Address of your university financial office or registrar,[[5]](#footnote-5) where scholarship check should be sent, should you receive an award
* Student account number, should you receive an award
 |

1. **Academic Excellence and Rigor**: Great weight is placed on academic success, heavily considering major grade point average (or overall GPA in absence of major GPA). The NMIF also considers the demands and rigor of each applicant’s course of study and types of courses taken.
2. **Course of Study/Major**: All applicants shall be pursuing areas of study relevant to intelligence, national security, military intelligence, and/or related subjects (e.g., intelligence studies, intelligence analysis, homeland security, cybersecurity, security studies, global security studies, international affairs, etc.).
3. **Demonstrated commitment to pursue a career in intelligence, national security, military intelligence, and related career fields**: Each applicant shall include descriptions of special activities, course work, experiences, internships, prior military service, and other activities that provide tangible evidence of career aspirations aligning with intelligence, national security, and other related disciplines (i.e., homeland security, security studies, military intelligence, etc.). Each applicant shall put thought into demonstrating how they would apply current knowledge/experience to practical challenges faced in a career in these fields.
4. **Short essays:** As part of the application process each applicant is asked to provide typed answers to the following questions, included either embedded within this document on pages 6-8 or provided in a separate document. Please keep your combined answers to **2000 words** or less.
	1. Why are you interested in a career in intelligence, national security, military intelligence, and/or a relevant career field in support of the intelligence or military community?
	2. What role(s) are you pursuing for a career in intelligence, national security, military intelligence, and/or a relevant career field in support of the intelligence or military community (such as analysis, collection, targeting, operations, or other) and what skills/knowledge does your coursework and/or professional experiences provide to contribute to your success in such role(s)?
	3. What difference do you believe a NMIF Scholarship will make in your educational advancement and development of your professional career?

## The NMIF Scholarship Committee applies great weight to the quality and content of these essays and looks for clear, concise answers that reflect the dedication and character of the applicant.

1. **Financial Need:** All applicants shall complete the section describing how their education has been financed to date and how they expect future educational efforts to be financed. Applicants are asked to provide an amount of current student debt and total student debt that will be incurred at the time of graduation. Financial need is greatly considered by the Scholarship Committee in allocating awards but is not a sole determining factor of scholarship recipients.

Scholarship Application Form

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| **Applicant Information** |
| **Last Name** | **First Name** | **Middle Initial** |
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| **Applicant Home Address** |
| **Street #** | **City** | **State** | **Zip** | **Current Telephone** |
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| **Applicant Campus Address (If different than home address)** |
| **Street #** | **City** | **State** | **Zip** | **Applicant Current Email Address** |
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| **Current School Information** |
| **Name** | **Address** | **City** | **State** | **Zip** |
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| **Degree Information** |
| **Degree Being Sought (Select one)** |
| **Bachelor [ ]** | **Masters [ ]** | **Doctorate [ ]** | **Other [ ](specify)** |
| **Discipline/Field****(Major)** | **Degree Expected Date** |
|  |  |
| **Current Standing** |
| **Sophomore [ ]** | **Junior [ ]** | **Senior [ ]** | **Graduate [ ]** |
| **Total Hours/Credits Earned to Date[[6]](#footnote-6)** | **Hours/Credits Enrolled this Term [[7]](#footnote-7)** | **GPA**  |
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Scholarship Application Form

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| **Intelligence-Related Courses** |
| **Course Name** | **Credits Earned** | **Dates** |
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| **Other Colleges / Universities Attended (If Applicable)** |
| **School Name** | **Dates** | **Registrar Name/Email Address** |
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| **Relevant academic honors and other awards earned** |
| **Award Name and Date Presented** | **Presented By (organization)** | **In Recognition For** |
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Scholarship Application Form

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| **Applicant Essay Responses** |

1. **Why are you interested in a career in intelligence, national security, military intelligence, and/or a relevant career field in support of the intelligence or military community?[[8]](#footnote-8)**

Scholarship Application Form

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| **Applicant Essay Responses** |

1. **What role(s) are you pursuing for a career in intelligence, national security, military intelligence, and/or a relevant career field in support of the intelligence or military community (such as analysis, collection, targeting, operations, or other) and what skills/knowledge does your coursework and/or professional experiences provide to contribute to your success in such role(s)? [[9]](#footnote-9)**

Scholarship Application Form

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| **Applicant Essay Responses** |

1. **What difference do you believe a NMIF Scholarship will make in your educational advancement and development of your professional career? [[10]](#footnote-10)**

Scholarship Application Form

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| **Financial Information** |

1. **How have you paid for your education to date?** (put “x” in box below)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Savings [ ] | Loans [ ] | GI Bill [ ] | Tuition Reimbursement from employer [ ] |
| Scholarships [ ] | **Describe Briefly** |
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| Family support [ ] | **Describe Briefly** |
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1. **How do you expect to pay for the rest of your education that you are enrolled in?** (put “x” in box below)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Savings [ ] | Loans [ ] | GI Bill [ ] | Tuition Reimbursement from employer [ ] |
| Scholarships [ ] | **Describe Briefly** |
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| Family support [ ] | **Describe Briefly** |
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Scholarship Application Form

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| **Financial Information** |

1. **How much educational debt do you have today?** (put “x” in box below)

 [ ] $1000-$5,999

 [ ] $6,000-$10,999

 [ ] $11,000-$25,999

 [ ] $26,000-55,999

 [ ] $56,000-99,999

 [ ] More than $100,000

1. **How much educational debt will you have at the conclusion of your studies (answer in absence of NMIF scholarship or others you have applied for which you have not yet received)?** (put “x” in box below)

 [ ] $1000-$5,999

 [ ] $6,000-$10,999

 [ ] $11,000-$25,999

 [ ] $26,000-55,999

 [ ] $56,000-99,999

 [ ] More than $100,000

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| **NMIF Sponsored Named Scholarship Disclaimer and Question** |

The NMIF provides scholarships sponsored by organizations and families. Out of respect for these sponsors and families, the student must answer “yes” to Question H below to remain eligible for consideration for the NMIF scholarships. If student answers “no,” they will be ineligible.

1. **Are you willing to share your name, photo, and short summary about your studies and relevant experience upon receipt of the scholarship to be shared on the NMIF website, social media pages, Awards Banquet materials/ceremony presentation, and future scholarship fundraising material?**

Please Select One:

YES [ ]

NO [ ]

1. ***Sophomore***: completed >29 semester hours. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. ***Junior***: completed >48 semester hours. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. ***Senior***: completed no less than 72 semester hours. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. ***Graduate student***: a student who has been awarded a bachelor’s degree or equivalent from an accredited educational institution and is pursuing a Master’s Degree, a Doctoral Degree, a professional degree. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. Ask your university which office (financial aid vs. registrar) should receive the scholarship check, it varies by university. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. This will be verified against your transcript. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. This will be verified against your transcript. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. ##  The NMIF Scholarship Committee applies great weight to the quality and content of these essays and looks for clear, concise answers that reflect the dedication and character of the applicant.

 [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. ##  The NMIF Scholarship Committee applies great weight to the quality and content of these essays and looks for clear, concise answers that reflect the dedication and character of the applicant.

 [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. ##  The NMIF Scholarship Committee applies great weight to the quality and content of these essays and looks for clear, concise answers that reflect the dedication and character of the applicant.

 [↑](#footnote-ref-10)