

PENNSYLVANIA MUNICIPAL LEAGUE

2026 JOHN A. GARNER, JR.

CIVIC ENGAGEMENT SCHOLARSHIPS



The Pennsylvania Municipal League represents participating Pennsylvania cities, boroughs, townships and home rule communities that all share The League's municipal policy interests. The Pennsylvania Municipal League strengthens and empowers effective local government through advocacy, education, and support for our members.



Scholarships are open to member municipalities of the Pennsylvania Municipal League (The League) and its secretariat the Pennsylvania State Association of Township Commissioners (PSATC).

SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION

The scholarship entitles the recipient to receive credit for tuition, books, laboratory fees or other academic costs, and room and board when housed under the control of the institution involved. Personal allowances or expense monies to the recipient of the scholarship are not permitted. The scholarship check will be sent directly to the Financial Aid Office of the institution involved, in August of the student's first semester. This scholarship is a one-time payment made directly to the institution of higher education. In the event a recipient leaves the institution for any reason and funds of this scholarship remain as a credit to the student's account, the institution involved shall return the balance of the scholarship to the Pennsylvania Municipal League.

HOW TO APPLY

Essay Theme: "Civics and You"

Participants are invited to explore the theme by writing about opportunities within their community that promote civic involvement and encourage citizens to take an active role in addressing local challenges that can help address local issues and strengthen their community.

Length: Three typewritten, double-spaced pages.

Eligibility: The school counselor selects the applicant. Applicants must be high school seniors who are residents of the Commonwealth. Preference will be given to applicants attending high schools that are located in or service a League or PSATC member municipality.

Entry Deadline: Essay and application must be submitted by email and received no later than Monday, May 11, 2026 or they will be disqualified. Winning essays will be announced in July. Recipients of the scholarships must submit, to the Pennsylvania Municipal League, a certificate of admission or a letter of acceptance by Friday, July 17, 2026.

Scholarships: Three scholarships will be awarded:

1st Place: \$2,000 | 2nd Place: \$1,000 | 3rd Place: \$500

Scholarships may be used at any institution of the recipient's choice which has an education program designed to take one or more years to complete.

ATTENTION Guidance Counselors:

Each school is to be represented with only **ONE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION** which has been selected by you.



Please email questions and submissions to:

Mary Costik, CMP
mcostik@pml.org | (717) 562-7699

2026

Scholarship Application

Please type or print clearly.

1. Student's Date of Birth: _____ / _____ / _____
(Month) (Day) (Year)

2. Student's Name: (First) _____ (MI) _____ (Last) _____

3. Student's Home Phone: () _____

4. Student's Permanent Mailing Address:

(Number and Street)

(City, State, Zip)

5. Email: _____

6. Name of High School: _____

7. School Address: _____
(Number, Street)

(City, State, Zip)

8. School Phone: () _____

9. Father: _____ Mother: _____
(Last, First, MI) (Last, First, MI)

10. Guardian's Name: _____

11. Father's Work Phone: () _____

12. Mother's Work Phone: () _____

13. Name of Guidance Counselor: _____

14. Guidance Counselor's Email: _____

15. Institutions where applicant has applied and/or been accepted:

Institutions applied to:

Accepted:

Yes No Pending

Yes No Pending

Yes No Pending

(Course of Study)

(Degree Sought)