

**MARY NEIL ALEXANDER SCHOLARSHIP FUND
OF
MATTHEWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICATION PROCESS

The Mary Neil Alexander Scholarship Fund (MNASF) of Matthews Presbyterian Church was established to assist qualifying church members to pursue post-secondary education. In honor of Mary Neil Alexander, a long-time member of Matthews Presbyterian church and an educator, a generous donation was made and designated for this purpose in December 1995. The membership of Matthews Presbyterian Church, as well as the beneficiaries of the MNASF, deeply appreciates this expression of interest in the educational future of Matthews Presbyterian Church through the pursuit of higher education by its members.

Graduating high school seniors pursuing a college education, college students pursuing an undergraduate degree and college students or graduates pursuing a graduate degree are invited to apply. If you are pursuing graduate school and were a recipient of past awards, you may only apply if you have received less than four total annual awards.

These scholarship awards are annual grants and should not be perceived as loans. Should a recipient wish to express appreciation at a future time, contributions to the MNASF fund would be appropriate.

The amount of each scholarship may vary annually and is determined by the available income to be distributed, the number of approved applicants and overall financial need. Scholarship awards are paid directly by Matthews Presbyterian Church to the appropriate educational institution. Funds are to be applied to official academic expenses that the institution includes in its tuition billing.

Scholarship awards are for a single academic year and are based on full-time enrollment in a college or graduate school. Awards for part-time students may be granted depending on funds available and number of applicants and will be pro-rated. **Students may apply for subsequent annual awards, but awards are limited to a total of four years.**

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

Criteria for a scholarship from the MNASF are as follows:

- Active Membership in Matthews Presbyterian Church
- Moral Character
- Demonstrated Academic Achievement
- Submission of the application and supporting materials as listed below
- Financial Need

APPLICATION PROCESS

The completed application should contain all of the following:

- Completed MNASF Application Form (Please save an electronic copy of this form, the Personal Statement, and the Summary of Membership to update, as needed, and send each year)
 - Attached Personal Statement
 - Attached Summary of Membership in Matthews Presbyterian Church
- Two Reference Letters (starting in 2021, update every other year)
 - Personal reference (not a family member or college age student)
 - Academic reference (teacher, counselor, faculty member, professor, advisor, university administrator)
- MNASF Financial Need Form (Save and update every year)
- Unofficial School Transcript (Update every year)

Applicant is responsible for submitting all parts of the completed application process as listed above. The application form and materials may be turned in on or before the submission **DEADLINE on May 15, 2020**. No applications will be considered if turned in after the submission deadline. No exceptions will be made. Applicants should submit their applications and supporting materials to the MNASF Committee by email, MNASF@matthewspresbyterian.org.

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Scholarship Application

I am applying for: ___ Undergraduate College or ___ Graduate School

Applicant's Full Legal Name: _____

Applicant's Address: _____

Applicant's Phone Number: _____
Home Cell

Applicant's E-Mail: _____

Father's Full Name: _____

Father's Employer: _____

Mother's Full Name: _____

Mother's Employer: _____

If currently a senior in high school, please provide the following information:

Present High School: _____

GPA: Weighted: _____ Unweighted: _____

Class Rank: _____

First College Choice: _____

Second College Choice: _____

Start Date: _____

Desired Major: _____ Desired Minor: _____

Anticipated Career: _____

If currently enrolled in college, please answer the following:

College Attending: _____

Do you plan to remain at this college: YES NO

If no, what college or graduate school do you plan to attend in the coming year?

Current Academic Standing: ___ Freshman ___ Soph ___ Junior ___ Senior

Current GPA: _____ Anticipated Degree: _____

Current Major: _____ Current Minor: _____

Anticipated Career: _____

If applying as a college graduate, what degrees do you currently have: _____

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Scholastic Honors/Awards: _____

Extracurricular Activities: (Clubs, Performance Organizations, Sports, Hobbies, etc.)

Community Service/Organizations:

PERSONAL STATEMENT (500 words or less)

(Please type your response in essay form and attach with your name at the top)

Please tell us in your own words why you are applying for this particular scholarship, why you desire additional education, what goals you hope to accomplish through higher education, and who/what in your life has most influenced your goals.

SUMMARY OF MEMBERSHIP IN MATTHEWS PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (500 words or less)

(Please type your response in essay form and attach with your name at the top)

Please describe in your own what your membership in Matthews Presbyterian Church means to you. List all activities in which you have participated and explain why they are important to you.

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APPLICANT'S FINANCIAL NEED ESTIMATE

Applicant Name: _____

Indicate your chosen college (if accepted) or your first choice: _____

Have you been accepted: ____Yes ____Pending?

Is this in North Carolina: ____Yes ____No If no, what state: _____

Financial Need, while not the only criteria for this scholarship, is one of the main criteria considered. By filling this out completely to the best of your knowledge, the scholarship committee can better determine the best use of available scholarship awards.

Please be assured that information provided in this form is held in strict confidence on a need to know basis by the current members of the Scholarship Committee.

Please provide your chosen college's costs for the academic year if known or the **best estimate** of those expenses for each college you may attend.

Please provide all sources of income that will provide for your college costs including the amount of all awarded and pending scholarships.

FAMILY INFORMATION

Number in your family: _____

Number of older siblings: _____ Ages: _____

Number of younger siblings: ____Ages: _____

Number of siblings attending: College: ____ Graduate School: _____

Any other family members currently attending college: _____

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED

Please list all scholarships for which you have applied and amount pending or awarded:

<u>Scholarship Name</u>	<u>\$\$ Pending Amount</u>	<u>\$\$ Awarded Amount</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

COLLEGE LOAN/FINANCIAL AID APPLICATIONS SUBMITTED:

Please list all college loans or financial aid for which you have applied and amount pending or awarded:

<u>Loan Name</u>	<u>\$\$ Pending Amount</u>	<u>\$\$ Awarded Amount</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

ESTIMATED FINANCIAL DATA

FIRST CHOICE COLLEGE: _____

<u>Academic Year's College Expenses</u>		<u>Applicant's Estimated Year's Contributions toward Expenses</u>	
Tuition	\$ _____	Family's Financial Contribution	\$ _____
Room	\$ _____	Other Assistance	\$ _____
Meal Plan	\$ _____	Savings	\$ _____
Books/Supplies	\$ _____	Earnings	\$ _____
College Fees	\$ _____	Loans Received	\$ _____
Clothing/Laundry	\$ _____	Loans Pending	\$ _____
Travel	\$ _____	Scholarships Received	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____	Scholarships Pending	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____	TOTAL	\$ _____

Estimate of Financial Aid needed: \$ _____

If you have applied to more than one college and have not yet chosen one, please go to page 5 and fill out financial information for second and third colleges. Thank you.

SECOND CHOICE COLLEGE _____

<u>Academic Year's College Expenses</u>		<u>Applicant's Estimated Year's Contributions toward Expenses</u>	
Tuition	\$ _____	Family's Financial Contribution	\$ _____
Room	\$ _____	Other Assistance	\$ _____
Meal Plan	\$ _____	Savings	\$ _____
Books/Supplies	\$ _____	Earnings	\$ _____
College Fees	\$ _____	Loans	\$ _____
Clothing/Laundry	\$ _____	Scholarships Received	\$ _____
Travel	\$ _____	Scholarships Pending	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____	Other Sources	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____	TOTAL	\$ _____

Estimate of Financial Aid Needed: \$ _____

THIRD CHOICE COLLEGE: _____

<u>Academic Year's College Expenses</u>		<u>Applicant's Estimated Year's Contributions toward Expenses</u>	
Tuition	\$ _____	Family's Financial Contribution	\$ _____
Room	\$ _____	Other Assistance	\$ _____
Meal Plan	\$ _____	Savings	\$ _____
Books/Supplies	\$ _____	Earnings	\$ _____
College Fees	\$ _____	Loans	\$ _____
Clothing/Laundry	\$ _____	Scholarships Received	\$ _____
Travel	\$ _____	Scholarships Pending	\$ _____
Other	\$ _____	Other Sources	\$ _____
TOTAL	\$ _____	TOTAL	\$ _____

Estimate of Financial Aid Needed: \$ _____

*******SIGNATURES REQUIRED*******

I have provided all information on these forms completely and to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the current scholarship committee has access to this information which will be kept in strict confidence.

APPLICANT ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE _____

DATE: _____

PARENT ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE _____

DATE: _____

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REFERENCE FORM

NAME OF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT: _____

_____ I waive my right to read this reference
_____ I do not waive my right to read this reference

NAME OF REFERENCE: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ **E-Mail:** _____

Please answer the following questions about this scholarship applicant as fully as you can:

- 1) What is your relationship with this applicant? How long have you known them?

- 2) What one trait does the applicant possess that would ensure his/her future academic success? Explain.

- 3) Please give specific examples from your interactions with this applicant that best describe his/her strength of character.

- 4) Please rate the applicant in the following areas using the following rating scale:
**Superior (One of the top few I have encountered) = 5 Excellent = 4 Above Average = 3
Average = 2 Below Average = 1**

Motivation_____	Creative Qualities_____	Self-Discipline_____
Growth Potential_____	Personal Initiative_____	Leadership_____
Self-Confidence_____	Warmth of Personality_____	Concern for Others_____
Social Awareness_____	Energy_____	Emotional Maturity_____
Reaction to Setbacks_____	Tolerance_____	

Please email this completed form to MNASF@matthewspresbyterian.org by May 15, 2020.

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