



NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

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**SEMIFINALISTS IN THE 2027
NATIONAL MERIT® SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
September 9, 2026 Announcement**

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Note to editors: Semifinalists in your state are listed alphabetically by city and high school following this press release.

This material is prepared solely for news media to announce the names of Semifinalists; its use for any other purpose is prohibited.

Caution: Using numbers of Semifinalists to compare high schools, educational systems, or states will result in erroneous conclusions. The National Merit® Scholarship Program honors individual students who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. The program does not measure the quality or effectiveness of education within a school, system, or state. For more information about the competition, please visit www.nationalmerit.org.

Semifinalists in the 2027 National Merit® Scholarship Program

(Evanston, Illinois) Today officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC®) announced the names of more than 16,000 Semifinalists in the 72nd annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for about 6,700 National Merit Scholarships worth approximately \$24 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship® award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. About 95 percent of the Semifinalists are expected to attain Finalist standing, and approximately half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar® title.

NMSC, a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance, was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by about 260 business organizations, higher education institutions, and individual donors that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.

Steps in the 2027 Competition

Over 1.2 million juniors in about 20,000 high schools entered the 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2025 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. The number of Semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

To become a Finalist, the Semifinalist and a high school official must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which they provide information about the Semifinalist's academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received. A Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT® or ACT® scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test.

From over 16,000 Semifinalists, more than 15,000 are expected to advance to the Finalist level, and in February they will be notified of this designation. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this group of Finalists. Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

National Merit Scholarships

Three types of National Merit Scholarships will be offered in the spring of 2027. Every Finalist will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit® \$2500 Scholarships that will be awarded on a state-representational basis. About 700 corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards will be provided by approximately 120 corporations and business organizations for Finalists who meet their specified criteria, such as children of the grantor's employees or residents of communities where sponsor plants or offices are located. In addition, about 140 colleges and universities are expected to finance some 3,500 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who will attend the sponsor institution.

National Merit Scholarship winners of 2027 will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning in April and concluding in July. These scholarship recipients will join over 395,000 other distinguished young people who have earned the Merit Scholar title.

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Semifinalists: 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program

CONNECTICUT

AVON

AVON H. S.
Chasmawala, Nabeel S.
Chung, Sarah E.
Mukku, Vishnu
Sinha, Krishna
Van Hoof, Abigail M.
Zhou, Angela J.

BETHEL

BETHEL H. S.
Lambert, Riley

BRIDGEPORT

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND
SOFTWARE ENGINEERING H. S.
Wermuth, Charlie

BROOKFIELD

BROOKFIELD H. S.
Ghosh, Shomick

BURLINGTON

LEWIS S. MILLS H. S.
Peters, Margaret

CHESHIRE

CHESHIRE H. S.
Cheng, David W.
Ma, Qirun R.

DANBURY

IMMACULATE H. S.
Pattison, Robert

DARIEN

DARIEN H. S.
Badura, Serena K.
Ehrbar, Thomas M.
Huang, Hannah R.
Michalowski, Sydney
Straden, Charlotte
Younessian, Aiden Z.
Zou, Chloe

EAST LYME

EAST LYME H. S.
Chen, Jack
Feng, Jessica

ELLINGTON

ELLINGTON H. S.
Kannan, Shriya A.

FAIRFIELD

FAIRFIELD COLLEGE
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Casas, Alejandro
Dunleavy, Owen

FAIRFIELD LUDLOWE H. S.
Martins, Anamika

FAIRFIELD WARDE H. S.
Kushel, Edward

FALLS VILLAGE

HOUSATONIC VALLEY
REGIONAL SCHOOL
Almeida, Adelaide

FARMINGTON

FARMINGTON H. S.
Bagchi, Pranit
Canada, Sophie H.
Ganta, Sumanaga P.
Jabido, Aiden L.
Lee, Daniel J.
Machlarz-Earle, Olivia J.
Samineni, Geethika
Shenoy, Isha J.
Yu, Claire C.

MISS PORTER'S SCHOOL
Bi, Haijia

GLASTONBURY

GLASTONBURY H. S.
Biswas, Jay Aditya
Brown, Catherine
Korkmaz, Anthony
Wagner, Brian

GREENWICH

BRUNSWICK SCHOOL
Costantini, Lucio
Wang, George

GREENWICH ACADEMY

Bock, Talia
Kesmodel, Abigail
Mao, Emma

GREENWICH COUNTRY

DAY SCHOOL
O'Keeffe, Shephard

GREENWICH H. S.
Dozier, William L.
Fan, Rhea R.
Foell, Amelia L.
Karube, Hiroya
Liang, Youhan A.
Paulson, Dane M.
Podoshchev, Ellie A.
Puskas, Edward M.
Qin, Kaitlyn
Song, Angelina S.
Southworth, Isaac C.
Stern, Nora E.
Tsai, Lelin
Varghese, Benjamin S.
Zientek, Karolina

GUILFORD

GUILFORD H. S.
DiMartino, Trent C.
Toyn, Galen M.

HAMDEN

HAMDEN HALL COUNTRY
DAY SCHOOL
Zhou, Ruoxi

HIGGANUM

HADDAM - KILLINGWORTH H. S.
Brown, Dylan
Peese, Bruce

KENT

KENT SCHOOL
Liu, Ethan
Niu, Newton
Shin, Michael
Yu, Sebastian

LAKEVILLE

THE HOTCHKISS SCHOOL
Abdirahman, Sulayman L.
Jiao, Alex
Patel, Deven S.

MADISON

DANIEL HAND H. S.
Johnson, Jack L.
Swift, Owen M.

MANCHESTER

MANCHESTER H. S.
Rader, Gabriel K.

MIDDLEBURY

WESTOVER SCHOOL
Nguyen, Thu Ha

MIDDLETOWN

XAVIER H. S.
DelGreco, Benjamin
Ng, Jason

MILFORD

JONATHAN LAW H. S.
Muthyapu, Rithvik

MONROE

MASUK H. S.
Londono, Daniel J.

NEW CANAAN

NEW CANAAN H. S.
Ding, Victor Y.
Duggar, Kane A.
Juneja, Aksh
Leffers, Gus J.
Stiles, Allison C.

ST. LUKE'S SCHOOL

Aronian, John
James, Rylan
Smith, Cullen

NEW HAVEN

WILBUR CROSS H. S.
Berkowitz, Tal

HOPKINS SCHOOL

Beauclair, John P.
Ehrlich, Beckett
Hall, Henrietta C.
Klaus, John
Monin, Alexander
Ning, Ethan
Novemsky, Noah E.
Pittard, Thomas
Resch, Calder
Roberts, Lukas S.
Sklar, Theodore
Vallabhajosyula, Nikhet P.
Xue, Yutong
Zhong, Vivian

NEWINGTON

NEWINGTON H. S.
Bacaoco, Luke A.

NORTH HAVEN

NORTH HAVEN H. S.
Dean, Aaron

NORWALK

CENTER FOR GLOBAL STUDIES
Narendula, Maya H.

NORWALK H. S.

Wu, Michael

OLD LYME

LYME - OLD LYME H. S.
Fulara, Lauren M.

POMFRET CENTER

HOMESCHOOL / ONLINE SCHOOL
Storey, Dahveed D.

REDDING

JOEL BARLOW H. S.
Bradford, Austin Y.

RIDGEFIELD

RIDGEFIELD H. S.
DeVito, Davis Q.
Feliciano, Samuel S.
Gupta, Kaitan N.
Knispel, William C.
Mischenko, Mark C.
Mitev, Alina S.
Zou, Ryan H.

ROCKY HILL

ROCKY HILL H. S.
Prabu, Amrutha

SHELTON

SHELTON H. S.
Sanborn, Stephanie R.

SIMSBURY

SIMSBURY H. S.
Dong, Claire

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL

Jin, Jiu

SOUTH WINDSOR

SOUTH WINDSOR H. S.
Banerjee, Shreyansh

Melia, Thomas
Perkins, Zachary
Rajan, Sanjay
Shah, Shruti
Shunmugaraja, Akhil
Sohagiya, Harshiv
Srikumar, Karthik
Zhang, Andrew

SOUTHINGTON

SOUTHINGTON H. S.
Jasulavic, Devon E.
Kohl, Thomas H.

STAMFORD

ACADEMY OF INFORMATION
TECHNOLOGY AND ENGINEERING
Allardyce, Graham
Amann, Alexander
Nerenberg, Elliot

KING SCHOOL

Jakubowsky, Mia
Marti, Nicholas
Rieser, Lily
Sommerville, Marilyn
Srihari, Tyler

WESTHILL H. S.

Martignoni, Gavin

STORRS

EDWIN O. SMITH H. S.
Solomon Marcy, Willis

TRUMBULL

ST. JOSEPH H. S.
Mountcastle, Paul

TRUMBULL H. S.

Brunt, Maura
Hua, Jenny
Jakka, Neel
Maltais, Jude
Sullivan, Tate
Zentz, Hudson

WALLINGFORD

CHOATE ROSEMARY HALL
Alejandro, Neil M.
Fan, Ruiqi
Han, Leah S.
Kousaka, Kazushi
Lam, Kaylin S.
Park, Yune
Sheth, Shaleen J.
Sun, Yichen
Wang, Neil G.
Wei, Leo L.

LYMAN HALL H. S.

Misarski, Alexander

WATERFORD

WATERFORD H. S.
Chuchev, Michael E.
Wang, Ethan J.

WATERTOWN

THE TAFT SCHOOL
Choi, Leehyun
Dong, Andrew
Li, Zhiqing

WEST HARTFORD

CONARD H. S.
Bombino, Sebastian P.
Shukla, Arianna K.

HALL H. S.

Barnes, Sophie
Einstein, Max
Hao, Richard
Holt, Liam

KINGSWOOD - OXFORD SCHOOL

Naujoks, Benjamin
Sohn, Kenneth

WEST HAVEN

ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE
UNIVERSITY MAGNET SCHOOL
Bhandary Alexander, Sahana

WESTON

WESTON H. S.
Xia, Allen

Semifinalists: 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program

Connecticut (continued)

WESTPORT

GREENS FARMS ACADEMY
Qiao, En

PIERREPONT SCHOOL

Hsien, Hong-yu
Kizner, Julian M.
Krishnan, Arun
Reddy, Maya V.

STAPLES H. S.

Barrett, Cora C.
Carpenter, Joseph M.
Little, Tyler J.
Olasewere, Anwara A.
Roberts, Charlotte M.
Rudra, Ayush
Vora, Sahil A.
White, Gabriella T.

WETHERSFIELD

WETHERSFIELD H. S.
Brokin, Sasha

WILTON

WILTON H. S.
Arun, Varsha
Jaiswal, Ishanvi
Littin, Henry
Mord, Sebastian M.
Saagi, Anshika R.
Srinivasan, Achintya

WINDSOR

THE LOOMIS CHAFFEE SCHOOL

Berglind, Millen
Jeong, Yoora
Maru, Saaya
Park, Hyunmin
Song, Ruopan
Weng, Zhao Yang Calvin
Zeng, Brian

WINDSOR H. S.

Sewell, Nathan

WOODBIDGE

AMITY REGIONAL H. S.

Campos, Carys S.
Hurwitz, Shai J.
Lee, Sean S.
Macci, Daniel J.