



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

MARYLAND

BALTIMORE

BAIS YAAKOV EVA WINER H. S.
Elman, Ayelet D.

BALTIMORE POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE

Jones, Winton A.
Pandian, Karun B.

BRYN MAWR SCHOOL

Berry, Natalie H.
Gandhi, Diya S.
Liu, Elizabeth S.
Luan, Tiffany
Luo, Clara
McCloskey, Aria M.
Polito, Bianca D.
Tan, Cynthia

GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER CENTER FOR ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY

Ozinal, Inara U.
Shellhammer, Layla C.

BETH TFILOH DAHAN COMMUNITY H. S.

Sunshine, Noah

FRIENDS SCHOOL

Greene, Levi
Minke, Quinn

GILMAN SCHOOL

Huang, Terence
Johnston, Michael
Kang, Aidan
Liu, Dylan
Liu, Max
Shou, Daniel
Wang, Lucas
Wu, Brandon
Zhao, Eric

BERLIN

STEPHEN DECATUR H. S.
Kim, Tyler

WORCESTER PREPARATORY SCHOOL

Mann, Gavin M.

BETHESDA

BETHESDA - CHEVY CHASE H. S.
Das, Uma
Majumder, Shoronya
Massey, William

HOLTON - ARMS SCHOOL

Delonis-Vigier, Sophie
Phillips, Avery
Provinse, Julia
Rogers, Leighton
Wu, Yuru

WALTER JOHNSON H. S.

Bagai, Zara
Field, William C.
Frank, Parker D.
Konduru, Hitesh
McCluer, Alexander E.
McCluer, Charles L.
Merchant, Farhan S.
Prokopowicz, Michael A.
Resnik, Alec J.
Senegal, Elias D.

WALT WHITMAN H. S.

Chen, Thomas
Fu, Mark
Gandhi, Seva
Golden, Henry
Hirsch, Lucy
Huang, Oliver

Khani, Ryan
Kiang, Windsor
Kim, Allison
Lekas, Elio
Ostrow, Sidney
Pei, Katelyn
Posner, Georges
Segal, Nathaniel
Shaw, Remy
Ta-Zhou, Emma
Xia, Kevin
Xu, Ellie
Zhang, Aaron
Zhang, Alice Kuangjin

BROOKLANDVILLE

ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL FOR BOYS
Yurko, Maxwell

BURTONSVILLE

PAINT BRANCH H. S.
Chris-Amuwa, Emmanuella O.

CLARKSVILLE

RIVER HILL H. S.
Chang, Evan H.
Crimmins, Gabriella J.
Du, Leon R.
He, Kevin
Hu, Julia K.
Huang, Ryan F.
Karegowdra, Sidaarth
Li, Haolin C.
Liu, Issac W.
Lu, Brian
Lu, Kevin
Marks, Alec H.
Pan, Zachary
Rahman, Andie P.
Sakhamuri, Manwanth
Skolkin, Emery J.
Tang, Tiffany K.
Tran, Colin D.
Wang, Eliana Y.
Zhang, Emily W.
Zhang, Jincheng J.
Zhang, Surie

COLUMBIA

ATHOLTON H. S.
Adotevi, Yarden S.
Andemariam, Amani Z.
Huang, Carina Z.
Mente, Ashwika
Onwueme, Solenyi K.
Wang, Anna Y.

HAMMOND H. S.

Bergmann, Beatrix C.
Miyagishima, Trevor K.

OAKLAND MILLS H. S.

Siebert, Eli E.

WILDE LAKE H. S.

Ponce, Ernesto J.

CROWNSVILLE

ROCKBRIDGE ACADEMY
McDowell, Amelia

CUMBERLAND

ALLEGANY H. S.
Hilderbrand, Corinna E.

EASTON

EASTON H. S.
Carver, Ivy J.

ELDERSBURG

LIBERTY H. S.
Kang, Peony

ELLICOTT CITY

CENTENNIAL H. S.
Bak, James N.
Gu, Amy J.
Li, Joe Z.

Lu, Nathan S.
Namkoong, Ellie Y.
Paul, Kaitlin
Sivakumar, Hruday
Su, Lyra
Sundaram, Shreya M.
Yang, Matthew Z.

GLENELG COUNTRY SCHOOL

Choi, Danielle
Kurc, Robert
Murtaza, Aila
Putman, Madelyn

HOWARD H. S.

Chittimalla, Shaunak
Kathirkaman, Ruthravasan
Kumar, Jeeva S.
McKay, Audrey
Verma, Anika

MOUNT HEBRON H. S.

Hussain, Talha A.

ESSEX

EASTERN TECHNICAL H. S.
Kashyap, Tanvi
Manek, Nishtha
Nagelia, Manas M.
Yu, Daniel J.

FALLSTON

FALLSTON H. S.
Cai, Deborah

FULTON

RESERVOIR H. S.
Zecharias, Abigail H.
Zhuang, Stephanie

GAITHERSBURG

QUINCE ORCHARD H. S.
Chen, Griffin H.

GERMANTOWN

SENECA VALLEY H. S.
Kolawole, Gabrielle A.

GLENELG

GLENELG H. S.
Lineberger, Oliver E.
Rodda, Abhinav R.
Shi, Madeline Y.
Tsai, Ethan

GREAT MILLS

GREAT MILLS H. S.
Moriarty, Carol

GREENBELT

ELEANOR ROOSEVELT H. S.
Yang, Theodore

IJAMSVILLE

OAKDALE H. S.
Wood, Rowan M.

URBANA H. S.

Agrawal, Simran T.
Das, Ishanvi
Kini, Uma B.
Korotchenko, Bella C.
Kumar, Mihir
Lord, Trystan A.
Teng, Ethan T.
Wang, Victor L.
Wang, Yibo
Warburton, Parker K.

KENSINGTON

BROOKEWOOD SCHOOL
Andrews, Cecilia

LEONARDTOWN

LEONARDTOWN H. S.
Steere, Nathaniel

ST. MARY'S RYKEN H. S.

Annulis, Luke

LUSBY

PATUXENT H. S.
Barrett, Elijah J.

LUTHERVILLE

MARYVALE PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Sipes, Shannon

MARRIOTTSVILLE

HOMESCHOOL / ONLINE SCHOOL
Baugher, Jackson L.

MARRIOTTS RIDGE H. S.

Batta, Sahasra
Chung, Chloe D.
Kalepu, Sriyanshi
Kang, Seohyun
Kuncha, Ruthvik K.
Lee, Nathaniel P.
Liu, David X.
Nellutla, Hasini
Netla, Isha S.
Park, Kathryn S.
Ranasinghe, Akshan S.
Rankin, Asha L.
Thatikonda, Sarayu
Vavilala, Mahathi
Yam, Ching Yin
Yang, Michael Z.
Yu, Dayeon
Zhao, Zara M.

NORTH BETHESDA

GEORGETOWN PREPARATORY SCHOOL
Finn, Charles
Villegas Vega, Francisco

OLNEY

OUR LADY OF GOOD COUNSEL H. S.
Onwulata, Kelila

OWINGS

NORTHERN H. S.
Ahmad, Ali M.

OWINGS MILLS

MC DONOUGH SCHOOL
Blam, Aaron
Gray, Caleb
Hang, Natalie
Keane, Samantha
Pahwa, Reshma
Zhang, Lucy

PIKESVILLE

THE PARK SCHOOL
Rogers, Talia

POOLESVILLE

POOLESVILLE H. S.
Badibanga, Gloria G.
Deshpande, Poorvi I.
Diehl, Ryan A.
Du, Allen Y.
Fowlkes, Bryce A.
Ganesh, Srivatsan N.
Karmakar, Ankush
Park, William J.
Payne, Kirabo K.
Poludas, Harshitha
Radel, Matan E.
Ro, Sofya E.
She, Vivian Y.
Stallard, Megan P.
Wen, Caleb R.
Xu, Katherine
Yoon, Anthony D.
Zhong, Eunia S.
Zhou, Anna W.

POTOMAC

WINSTON CHURCHILL H. S.
Amjadi, Lily
Bonness, Beckett
Chou, Troy
Dang, Megan
Fan, Anderson
Gaunt, Konstantinos
Li, James
Peng, Emily
Raney, Arianna
Sastry, Sriram
Siegal, Opal
Song, Michael
Wang, Christopher
Weng, Amber
Zhang, Andrew

Semifinalists: 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program

Maryland (continued)

HEIGHTS SCHOOL
Patel, Rayn

ST. ANDREW'S EPISCOPAL
SCHOOL
Warmenhoven, Andrew

ROCKVILLE

RICHARD MONTGOMERY H. S.
Amster, Michael J.
Arun Venkatesh, Rithika
Ashford, Margot L.
Bhise, Ved B.
Blackman, Nadia J.
Burgess Eisenberg, Solomon A.
Chung, Mei Shong E.
Deng, Callie X.
Deng, Maggie R.
Dworkin, Alice C.
Haugen, Inder A.
Hwang, Aaron H.
Jiang, Sophiana M.
Keller, Adelaide O.
Kim, Jacob A.
Kuan, Andrew
Lee, Jonah M.
Liao, Zhihan W.
Liu, Bruce G.
Lu, Alan
Madia, Kiran K.
Pei, Ethan
Pipa, Frances S.
Pu, Henry J.
Rai, Rohan
Ramamurthi, Ganesh S.
Shah, Parim R.
Sharma, Nimay
Sledge, Caeli E.
Sun, Julia Z.
Wang, Sophia
Wei, Anita Q.
Wong, Drew R.
Yan, Samuel L.
Zhao, Peter G.

THOMAS SPRIGG WOOTTON H. S.
Bonangelino, Liam
Chawla, Armaan
Foerster, Peter
Gao, Cody
Kim, Joshua
Lam-Vu, Quinn
Lukashanets, Cheslav
Wen, Tianze
Yang, Alexander
Zhu, David

SALISBURY

JAMES M. BENNETT H. S.
Jin, Peter L.

SEVERNA PARK

SEVERN SCHOOL
Gonzalez, Reid

SEVERNA PARK H. S.
Leroux, Eli

SILVER SPRING

MONTGOMERY BLAIR H. S.
Amin, Jiya
Awasthi, Raj
Boucher, Mason
Brinegar, Juniper
Dai, Andrew
Easaw, Sam
Feng, Ciara
Foley, Dermott
Fry, Charles
Gorbachev, Zoe
Gupta, Avi
Hsieh, Jessica
Hu, Hanrong
Hung, Mitchell
Li, Yixuan
Liu, Kenneth
Nekoui, Arman
Neuman, Esme
Qian, William
Ram, Prithvi
Reese, Noor
Regachuelo, Victoria Angeli
Shao, Grace

Shen, Kevin
Shkolnik, Arina
Singh, Meghna
Singh-Prasad, Manil
Stemp, Roman
Wang, Christopher
Wang, David
Ward, Finn
Xiang, Mengtong
Yan, Siyuan
Youssef, Sami
Zhu, Edward

WHEATON H. S.
Wendling, Clara E.

YESHIVA OF
GREATER WASHINGTON
Cypess, Hadassah

SYKESVILLE

CENTURY H. S.
Swisdak, Nora

TIMONIUM

DULANEY H. S.
Brayton, Rachel R.
Yantsen, Polina S.

TOWSON

CALVERT HALL COLLEGE H. S.
Browne, Drew
Murray, Jason

LOCH RAVEN H. S.
Lotz, Anthony W.

NOTRE DAME
PREPARATORY SCHOOL
McKenzie, Carrie
Pociluyko, Evelyn

UNION BRIDGE

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY H. S.
Brown-Akoto, Jayden