



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

VIRGINIA

ALDIE

JOHN CHAMPE H. S.
Buxhofer, Julian J.
Byreddy, Sahasra
Gouldsey, Connor J.
Kapoor, Jiya

LIGHTRIDGE H. S.
Ganjoo, Ragnea
Kuchkulla, Jhanvi Reddy
Shankar, Varsha

ALEXANDRIA

ALEXANDRIA CITY H. S.
Baldwin, Josiah Y.
Foster, Zoe S.
Hunnicut, Lucy I.

THOMAS JEFFERSON H. S. FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Alla, Pranav
Bahl, Sohana A.
Balu, Aniruddh
Banerjee, Hridhaan S.
Beaver, Mason X.
Bernstein, Aerin R.
Bu, Matthew J.
Chadalavada, Anirudh
Chakravarthy, Abhinav A.
Chennuru, Supreetha R.
Chu, Angelo L.
Deshpande, Aarush A.
Divakar, Minati
Du, Patrick H.
Guo, Edward J.
Hong, Chloe L.
Huang, Minjia J.
Jaddu, Sidh
Jasthi, Hasini
John, Maya O.
Kallurkar, Madhav S.
Kim, Ian P.
Koo, Bonna
Kottmeier, John R.
Koundinya, Aarit D.
Le, Huyiam H.
Lee, James J.
Lee, Kiwon
Li, Samantha W.
Lin, Cora M.
Lin, Stephen Y.
Lu, Alexander L.
Lwin, Alexis S.
Maniar, Vir
Mehta, Gia
Moloo, Zoya N.
Navale, Shriram
Park, Sarah G.
Parmar, Kabeer
Parthasarathy, Mohan J.
Percy, Jacob M.
Prokofev, Daniil M.
Purushothaman, Nethra D.
Raffo, Tristan N.
Rajeshirke, Sahas M.
Reddy, Arya
Reddy, Sahas K.
Roche, Madeline A.
Rosenberg, Elliott C.
Shan, Ethan Q.
Sombhatta, Eshaan V.
Sondhi, Agastya
Su, Kevin Q.
Tarrillo, Brandon D.
Thathineni, Mohith S.
Vaddi, Maneesh
Wen, Ellie
Wolfsthal, Jacob S.
Xu, Anna Y.
Yackee, Dorothy
Yang, Christopher
Yang, Jonathan
Yee, Aliana J.
Yee, Alicia
Yuan, Grace S.

Yuan, Justin D.
Zhang, Ellen Y.
Zhang, Jason C.
Zhong, Lauren M.

ST. STEPHEN'S AND
ST. AGNES SCHOOL
Reynolds, Charlotte G.
Schneider, Ella M.

ANNANDALE

ANNANDALE H. S.
Poolchuay, Nattha

ARLINGTON

ARLINGTON CAREER CENTER
Brannon, Joshua S.
Finnegan, Sean P.

BISHOP O'CONNELL H. S.
Rienzi, Lucy
Wu, Arthur

WAKEFIELD H. S.
Zee, Rachel K.

WASHINGTON - LIBERTY H. S.
FlintSteinig, Tyler S.
Freeman, Sarah R.
Kwan, Alexander S.
Singer, Aviva M.

THE H. B. WOODLAWN PROGRAM
Bergmann, Paige M.
Brown, Eleanor K.
Kadera, Ruby K.
Nussbaum, Penelope R.
Yi, Ava D.
Yoo, Andrew J.

YORKTOWN H. S.
Chinoy, Eric A.
Cohen, Gabriel D.
Lin, Ethan H.
Lodwig, Cole A.
Schwebach, William
Shiu, Walter
Sumner, Henry R.

ASHBURN

BRIAR WOODS H. S.
Arun, Nikhil S.
Borkar, Anvi
Garg, Adya
Kasture, Aaditya U.
Lee, Caleb D.
Naralasetti, Parvini S.
Rajkumar, Kaviya

BROAD RUN H. S.
Arun, Rohan
Gore, Smit N.
Madavarapu, Tanvi
Selvamani, Pranav

INDEPENDENCE H. S.
Barkman, Hudson C.
Chamarti, Vaishnavi
Chanda, Vihaan O.
Gutta, Ridhi
Shah, Neev C.
Smothers, Nathan A.
Sule, Aneesh
Yerra, Sydney

ROCK RIDGE H. S.
Behera, Krish
Danh, Evan M.
Dhannode, Shriyan
Ghimire, Himanshu
Karthikeyan, Abhinav
Korem, Saanvi R.
Mukherjee, Praneel

STONE BRIDGE H. S.
Drake, Brody P.
Li, Steven M.
Sahu, Simran

BLACKSBURG

BLACKSBURG H. S.
Li, Adelaide
Tao-Lin, Milo
Xu, Jevin

BRISTOW

HOMESCHOOL / ONLINE SCHOOL
McKennett, Alexandria

BURKE

LAKE BRADDOCK
SECONDARY SCHOOL
Dang, Jayden M.
Gu, Nathaniel J.
Heuett, Colin L.
Huynh, Lanny K.
Hyun, Eli H.
Koretsky, Jana Y.
Lee, Elisa S.
Mathis, Amy E.

CHANTILLY

CHANTILLY H. S.
Akundi, Srikar N.
Hu, Andrew J.
Kumar, Sahana
Kwon, Benjamin
Lee, Ariya S.
Ryu, Jaden C.
Samanta, Shinjini
Tanuku, Sahiti
Xie, Evangeline Y.
Yin, Hillary H.

ST. PAUL VI CATHOLIC H. S.
Kaminski, Genevieve
Malli, Indra
Simone, Francis

WESTFIELD H. S.
Dasaradi, Sreyas R.
Gupta, Atiksh
Salla, Kethan

CHARLOTTESVILLE

ALBEMARLE H. S.
Ke, Bryan X.
Miller, Jacob R.

CHARLOTTESVILLE H. S.
Rasmussen, Sydney
Snellings, William

MONTICELLO H. S.
Davidson, Charles S.

CHESAPEAKE

GRASSFIELD H. S.
Hudson, Olivia D.
Skandaraj, Bhuvanesh

VERITAS CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
Hao, Alvin

CLIFTON

CENTREVILLE H. S.
Ganesan, Arjun

CROZET

WESTERN ALBEMARLE H. S.
Schundler, William C.
Simmons, Henry A.

EXMORE

BROADWATER ACADEMY
Ye, Steven

FAIRFAX

JAMES W. ROBINSON
SECONDARY SCHOOL
Schoonover, Charles O.
Wise, Andrew J.

TRINITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
Morgan, Matthew

CARTER G. WOODSON H. S.
Adetosoye, Adedeji E.
Colman, Andrew J.
Kralovec, Benjamin T.
Wi, Elaina Y.

FALLS CHURCH

FALLS CHURCH H. S.
Jayson, Cybil A.

GEORGE C. MARSHALL H. S.
Anfilofyev, Polina
Yeow, Anya L.

MERIDIAN H. S.
Johnson, Andrew
Malheiro, Michelle
Mansouri, Clio
Sudarshan, Sesh

GAINESVILLE

GAINESVILLE H. S.
Chang, Abigail

GLEN ALLEN

DEEP RUN H. S.
Karim, Ryan

GLEN ALLEN H. S.
Orrock, Luke E.

HAMPTON

HAMPTON H. S.
Card, Seamus L.

HARRISONBURG

HARRISONBURG H. S.
Mercer, Elias

KING GEORGE

KING GEORGE H. S.
Archer, Deven

LEESBURG

EVERGREEN CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
Vanderwill, Noah H.

RIVERSIDE H. S.
Johnson, Keenan M.
Saunders, Evan C.
Virmani, Sarina A.

LEXINGTON

ROCKBRIDGE COUNTY H. S.
Eastwood, Samuel R.

MANASSAS

CHARLES J. COLGAN H. S.
Ahmad, Sajeela
Hamilton, William D.
Zhang, Samuel H.

OSBOURN H. S.
Charlton, Theodore S.
Wehner, Theodore A.

OSBOURN PARK H. S.
Wanchoo, Devin I.

MC LEAN

BASIS INDEPENDENT
Beckner, Colin
Farooqui, Suraiya
Han, Qian
Lee, Naomi
Tabb, Eli
Tang, Tang
Theobald, Giorgio
Xu, Binhao
Yang, Xinyu

HOMESCHOOL / ONLINE SCHOOL

Goktepe, Derin
Neppi, Henry H.

LANGLEY H. S.
Almeida, Arianne E.
Dinh, Lam N.
Eadhara, Abhinav
Fitzpatrick, Jaina S.
Huang, Bennett Y.
Jacobs, Madeline R.
Jeon, Daniel E.
Kim, Sabrina C.
Kwon, Luke M.
Langdo, Jonathan T.
Logan, Inger R.
Mecherikunnel, Ann T.
Nash, Mia M.
Nedungottil, Elakshi P.
Nguyen, Tyler V.
Park, Sungyeon
Rozsa, Alexander J.
Su, Lillian D.
Sunkar, Shveta
Wang, Yilin
Xu, Felix D.

Semifinalists: 2027 National Merit Scholarship Program

Virginia (continued)

Zeng, Eric X.
Zhao, Zifan

THE MADEIRA SCHOOL
Wu, Vivian
Xu, Iris
Zang, Catherine

MC LEAN H. S.
Anglin, Daniel J.
Chen, Rebecca K.
Cosentino, Samuel M.
Farrell, Margaret R.
Giglio, Chloe M.
Jagadeesan, Vasundhara
Li, Sarah Y.
Lin, Aaron Z.
Luo, Angela Q.
Mao, Lucas L.
Noh, Sean H.
O'Grady, Allegra F.
Su, Caroline Y.
Tong, Yunhan
Wang, Natalie P.
Zhang, Muyang
Zhu, Lexin

POTOMAC SCHOOL
Cangahuala, Santiago
Jackson, Jacob
Reinecke, Joshua
Robbins, Grayson
Toop, Caitlin
Travers, Aden
Zhai, Helena

MECHANICSVILLE
HANOVER H. S.
Irwin, Emma K.

MIDLOTHIAN
CLOVER HILL H. S.
Fang, Abigail H.
Harris, Henry W.
Raddin, Stacer D.
Schuman, Jonah D.
Schuman, Micah A.

COSBY H. S.
Kulzer, Nathan G.

MINERAL
LOUISA COUNTY H. S.
Freeman, Samir

MONETA
STAUNTON RIVER H. S.
Short, Arrington T.

NORFOLK
NORFOLK ACADEMY
Allgeier, James
Fernandez, Frederick

OAKTON
FLINT HILL SCHOOL
Blake, Ariana
Tan, Zachary
Trimmer, Charles

RESTON
SOUTH LAKES H. S.
Bowen, Dalton J.
O'Leary, Eamon

RICHMOND
CODERVA REGIONAL H. S.
Jarvis, Jordan W.

COLLEGIATE SCHOOL
Pena, Arianna

MONACAN H. S.
Weinland, Tristan R.

ST. CHRISTOPHER'S SCHOOL
Wood, Witt G.

VERITAS SCHOOL
Traeger, Judah W.

MAGGIE L. WALKER
GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL
Deorah, Charvi
Dong, David
Joshi, Anubhav
Karthikeyan, Neha Yashawini
Kidd, Bladen
Kumar, Priya
Lewis, Sita
Moon, Simon
Murthy, Shivank
Neelakantan, Rohan
Nguyen, Camden
Radcliffe, Madeline
Sun, Amy
Syed, Aahil
Tong, Grant
Yellin, Nathan
Yu, Yan Angela
Zhang, Olivia

ROANOKE
PATRICK HENRY H. S.
Fedak, Henry

ROUND HILL
HOMESCHOOL / ONLINE SCHOOL
Littlejohn, Soren J.

SOUTH RIDING
FREEDOM H. S.
Muhammad, Aran D.
Muralikrishnan, Kavin
Parthaje, Shreshtha
Zhang, Darren

SPRINGFIELD
WEST SPRINGFIELD H. S.
Tio, Daniel G.
Tschebull-Jones, Charlotte A.

STAFFORD
COLONIAL FORGE H. S.
Knauth, Katelyn I.

HOMESCHOOL / ONLINE SCHOOL
Ethrige, Nolan

MOUNTAIN VIEW H. S.
Soguktas, Vildan D.

NORTH STAFFORD H. S.
Hughes, Charles H.

STEPHENS CITY
SHERANDO H. S.
Henry, Callynn G.

STERLING
DOMINION H. S.
Man, Dakota A.

HOMESCHOOL / ONLINE SCHOOL
Grant, Patrick

SUFFOLK
NANSEMOND - SUFFOLK
ACADEMY
Miranda, Caitlin

VIENNA
JAMES MADISON H. S.
Bowman, Benjamin W.
Carson, Jasper P.
Gupta, Namish K.
Hong, Stella L.
Reznikov, Jason E.
Rooney, Sonya E.
Sangkharat, Luke J.
Symons-Campbell, Vera L.
Ye, Jason M.

OAKCREST SCHOOL
Hardy, Grace

OAKTON H. S.
Chu, Caroline G.
Deng, Huining
Emmerich, Adeline J.
Li, Janet
Sher, Nidhi
Smith-Zoh, Maisie I.
Suresh, Shrutika
Uribe, Monica A.
Wan, Andy
Wang, Sophia Y.
Xu, Ivy Y.

Yin, Clara J.
Zou, Michael Y.

VIRGINIA BEACH
CAPE HENRY COLLEGIATE
Goudar, Vikram
Pattnaik, Soham

CATHOLIC H. S.
Haywood, Madison

FIRST COLONIAL H. S.
Reins, Adam K.

OCEAN LAKES H. S.
Desai, Eeshan A.
Lin, Eric
Sakharpe, Mihika A.
Von St. Paul, Bennett J.

WILLIAMSBURG
JAMESTOWN H. S.
Farah, Aidan
Gershowitz, Benjamin

LAFAYETTE H. S.
White, Snake M.

WALSINGHAM ACADEMY
Pei, Helia L.

WARHILL H. S.
Wolff, Donnaven

WINCHESTER
JOHN HANDLEY H. S.
Mueller, Anna
Schianchi, Iacopo

WOODBIDGE
HERITAGE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL
Sheppard, Gwen K.

WOODBIDGE H. S.
Ramirez Jam, Sophia

YORKTOWN
GRAFTON H. S.
Smith, Shyota A.

TABB H. S.
Brockman, Mabel E.
Cone, Logan S.
Pham, Jet Q.