THE 2026 - MONTCLAIR LIONS CLUB STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP

Eligibility: To qualify for this scholarship 12th grade students must be attending a High School (Public, Private or Home School) in Prince William County and live in the 22025/22026 zip code. Additionally, Seniors participating in the Montclair Leo Club are also eligible.

Introduction: The Montclair Lions award one or more scholarships for leadership and academic achievement each year to graduating high school seniors preparing to pursue higher education. To qualify for this scholarship, students must have demonstrated their leadership skills in support of their school and community while maintaining academic excellence. Scholarship amounts vary based on funds raised during the year of award, but generally average $1000 per scholarship.

All applications shall be submitted by Electronic (Digital) filing by **Tuesday, 7 April 2026** to montclairlion246@gmail.com, and must be reviewed by a student's parent or guidance counselor for accuracy.

Selection Criteria: Scholarship(s) will be awarded based on the following criteria:

- Completeness of the application and the level of details provided,
- Demonstrated leadership as well as academic excellences,
- Expressed understanding of why leadership in support of school and community is important to the applicant, and how it has benefited them, their classmates and their surrounding community at large.
- Demonstrated above average academic achievements.
- Demonstrated intent to continue higher education at a two- or four-year college.
- Recognition offered by others on applicants' leadership and commitment to community and self-advancement.
- A statement provided by an adult that the data presented is accurate and true.

In addition, if an applicant feels that financial hardship should be considered, details of the hardship should be provided with the application.

History and Background: This scholarship(s) recognizes leadership and scholastic aptitude, as well as service, in keeping with a key objective of Lions, one of the largest service organizations in the world. Lion Clubs worldwide strive to promote good citizenship and take an active

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interest in supporting the civic, cultural, social, and moral welfare of the local community. Lions achieve this mission by volunteering their time and resources and partnering with other organizations to improve health and well-being, strengthen our local community, and support those in need through humanitarian services. organizations to improve health and well-being, strengthen our local community, and support those in need through humanitarian services.

The Application Process: Students must send an "Intent to Apply" E-mail providing their name, the name of their high school or home school, and contact information for themselves and their school counselor. Please E-mail intent to: montclairlion246@gmail.com **by Friday, 6 March 2026.**

Students must then compile and forward their application and all supporting materials by **Tuesday, 7 April 2026 to the same Email address.** The application may be a combination of an E-mail and attachments, in **MS Word, or PDF format**, or a single combined file in either format.

The application must be coordinated with Parents or individual Guidance Counselors and include a signed statement that the data presented is accurate and true.

The scholarship winner (or winners) will be determined by the Montclair Lions Club Scholarship Committee and ranked according to the Selection Criteria presented below. Top applicants may be interviewed by the Committee, if necessary.

Instructions:

1) The student must submit their intent to apply by Friday, 6 March 2026, and their full and complete application by Tuesday, 7 April 2026, to montclairlion246@gmail.com.

2) The student must document their leadership skills and commitment to improving their community by providing a resume/listing of school and community service activities, projects, and events they have led or directly supported. These efforts may be sponsored by their school, church, or the community at large. This resume/listing should describe the activities, the student's roles and responsibilities, approximate time spent participating in each, and the types of services provided. Please include a name and telephone number of a contact person for each activity, if available.

3) The student must demonstrate via an original essay, their understanding of why leadership is important in school and community activities, how it benefits themselves, their classmates and their community. This essay should not be more than 400 words. This essay should discuss; a) the student's motivation for taking on leadership roles, b) why it is important

to them and those around them at the High School level, and c) how it might benefit them as well as others later in life.

4) The student must show an above average academic record, as validated by a copy of their high school transcripts showing cumulative grade point average of at least 3.0 on a 4-point scale. Please also include a list of any honors or distinctions received during high school.

5) The student must demonstrate plans for continuing their education as verified by at least one letter of acceptance to either a two- or four-year college.

6) The student must provide copies of at least two letters of recommendation, preferably from individuals involved in some aspect of their community service involvement (e.g. faculty/advisor of a school club, community organization or church group). Alternatively, a letter of recommendation could also be from someone who benefited from the student's involvement.

Application:

1. **Student Information:**
   Name:
   Address:
   City:
   Telephone No.
   Email Address for School Counselor:
   Senior High School being attended:
   GPA and SAT Scores (if taken):
   College where student has been accepted:
   A statement on financial need (if applicable): _____
   Signatures of Applicant _____
   Signature and Parent/Guidance Counselor attesting all information is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge. ____ _____

2. Resume/List of extracurricular activities participated in during high school, especially the student's roles and responsibilities,

3. An original essay documenting the students' understanding of why leadership is important, especially to the community.

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4. A copy of their High Schools transcripts documenting academic standing, plus a list of any Honors or Distinctions achieved in school, work and or service,

5. A minimum of two letters of recommendation

6. A copy of an acceptance letter from either a 2-or 4-year accredited higher educational program.

7. A statement of financial need, if applicable.

Instruction to Parents and Guidance Counselor:

Please review the student's information and all requested documents for accuracy.

Who are the Montclair Lions:

The Montclair Lions are a 501(c)3 charitable organization chartered over 42 years ago, providing service and support to our local community. We raise and donate funds to local charities and volunteer our time to help a variety of charitable organizations including Habitat for Humanity, ACTS, Dumfries-Triangle Volunteer Fire Department, Hilda Barg Homeless Shelter, and Virginia Remote Area Medical (RAM) clinics. We host a semi-annual Drug-Takeback Day and participate annually in the Quantico Christmas Wreath laying. We are also a major supporter of sight and hearing screenings at local Prince William County schools, and we collect and recycle used glasses for distribution overseas.

In addition, we sponsor and provide financial support to the Virginia Diabetes Youth Camps, Vision Walk, the Leader Dog Program, Old Dominion Eye Foundation, Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) Sight First Program, Northern Virginia Sight & Hearing Van, Lions Eyeglass Recycling Center, Lions Hearing Aid Bank Foundation, Special Olympics, Youth for Tomorrow, DTQ Little League.

Our club website is https://montclairlions.org