

2026

**SOLID WASTE ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA
(SWANA)**

**MID-ATLANTIC
CHAPTER**

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM

CATEGORY I

**(High School Senior going to 1st Year of
College)**

**INSTRUCTIONS AND APPLICATION
(Application due date is **May 4, 2026**)**

SWANA

MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM

CATEGORY I **APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS** **for** **GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS**

I. DEADLINES and SCHEDULES

May 4 -- All completed application forms and back-up documentation must be **received** by the Chapter Scholarship Committee Chairperson.

June -- Announcement and award of Chapter Scholarship winner(s).

II. SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

A. Eligibility

Category I applicants must be graduating high school seniors, or graduate equivalent certified candidates, who have been accepted for enrollment in a junior college or four-year college or university.

To be considered for an award, the candidate must be either:

- (1) the son, daughter, adopted son, adopted daughter, grandson, granddaughter, adopted grandson, or adopted granddaughter of a SWANA Mid-Atlantic Chapter Member (the sponsor), in good standing at the time of the recommendation, the application submittal, the selection, and the award, or
- (2) the son, daughter, adopted son, adopted daughter, grandson, granddaughter, adopted grandson, or adopted granddaughter of an employee in the solid waste field in the states of Maryland or Delaware, or Washington, DC ; and is sponsored by a Chapter member in good standing at the time of recommendation, the application submittal, the selection, and the award, or
- (3) a Mid-Atlantic Chapter member in good standing at the time of the application submittal, the selection, and the award, or
- (4) an employee in the solid waste field in the states of Maryland or Delaware, or Washington, DC; and is sponsored by a Chapter member in good standing at the time of recommendation, application submittal, the selection, and the award.

(Note--This category is not open to Student Members, SWANA employees, and members of SWANA employees' families.)

SWANA and the Chapter pledges to uphold the policy that all persons shall have equal access to these programs, regardless of race, color, age, sex, marital or veteran status, creed, religion, or disability.

B. Award(s) by the Chapter

Each Chapter Category I scholarship amount is typically \$500-\$2,000 but may be increased or decreased based upon the number of applicants for all scholarship categories, the number of qualified applicants, the availability of funds, etc., as solely determined by the Chapter at the time of the scholarship selection.

Likewise, the number of Chapter Category I scholarships to be awarded by the Chapter will vary depending on the number of applicants for all of the scholarship categories, the quality of the applications and resultant scores, the availability of funds, etc., as solely determined by the Chapter at the time of scholarship selection. In addition, the Chapter may elect not to award any Category I scholarships if there are no qualified applications, as solely determined by the Chapter.

III. SCORING OF APPLICANTS for Category I (graduating high school senior candidates who have been accepted for enrollment in a college or university)

1. Academics -- **50%**
 - a. GPA
 - b. ACT and/or SAT Scores
 - c. Academic achievement awards and honors
2. Community Activities -- **20%**
 - a. Volunteer Activities (not at school)
 - b. Scouting
 - c. Charitable, civic, or religious activities
 - d. High school ROTC
 - e. Military Service
 - f. Employment (not at school)
3. Extracurricular Activities at school -- **20%**
 - a. Athletics
 - b. Music, drama, debate, student paper or yearbook, clubs, etc.
 - c. Student government
 - d. Employment (at school)
4. Discussion on solid waste management -- **10%**
 - Clarity and organization of the work
 - Grammar and spelling
 - Accuracy and originality
 - Neatness
 - NOTE: No Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools and/or technologies are to be used in the completion of this assignment. Each applicant must sign below this 'code of conduct' statement.

Optional additional rating criterion at the sole option of the applicant for a maximum additional twenty (20) points to be added to the score based upon the preceding four criteria—In 200 words or less, describe why you should be considered for a scholarship and/or what are extenuating special personal or family circumstances or hardships or needs of which the Scholarship Committee should be aware. This may include an explanation of why participation in extracurricular or other activities is limited, grade point average is low, etc. Label your sheet as "Optional Discussion." Grammar and spelling will be considered too in its evaluation by the Committee.

IV. COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

Each applicant will be required to submit the *completed application form with all of the appropriate attached forms and ensure that all of the following back-up documentation* is sent to the Chapter Scholarship Committee Chairperson by **May 4**:

1. SAT/ACT/Achievement Test scores,
2. Current grade point average,
3. High school transcripts, and
4. Acceptance to an accredited institution.

The back-up documentation should be sent to the *Chapter Scholarship Committee Chairperson* by the institution issuing the award, grade, score, etc.

Any of the above back-up documentation provided directly from the applicant will be considered valid where written permission is granted in advance by the Chapter Scholarship Committee Chairperson. Applicants have the responsibility for verifying that their back-up documentation has been received by the Chapter Scholarship Committee Chairperson. Please leave sufficient time for the institution to process and mail your requested documentation. Be aware that if you miss the deadline of **May 4** for submittal of your application and back-up documentation, you may be disqualified at the sole discretion of the Chapter Scholarship Committee.

Illegible applications or applications without proper signatures will not be accepted. If more space is required to document awards, citizenship qualifications or extracurricular activities, these forms may be copied. Forms that are similar in appearance and layout may be accepted at the sole discretion of the Chapter Scholarship Committee.

V. SUMMARY

With this document, the Mid-Atlantic Chapter of SWANA has attempted to outline the application requirements for the Chapter Program. We realize, however, that there will always be questions that cannot be answered on paper. If any questions or problems should arise, please feel free to contact the Chapter's Scholarship Committee Chairperson.

SWANA believes that the education of both students and the general public is an important step in eliminating some of our biggest solid waste management problems facing our world. Through the scholarship programs, we are beginning to address the problem of educating you, the student, in the hopes of producing knowledgeable and responsible solid waste management professionals for the future. Good luck!

Category I Scholarship Application Submittals:

From applicant by May 4:

1. Application
2. Discussion on solid waste management
3. Statement of financial need
4. Optional discussion of why . . . and/or what . . .
5. Forms
 - a. Documentation of Academic Achievement Awards and Honors
 - b. Documentation of Citizen Activities
 - c. Documentation of Extracurricular Activities

From high school and/or testing agency by **May 4:**

1. SAT/ACT/Achievement Test scores
2. Current GPA and transcript
3. Copy of college/university acceptance letter (Note—this may be attached by the applicant with the application.)

Chapter Scholarship Committee Chairperson:

Mr. Mehal M. Trivedi, Engineer
Chair, SWANA Mid-Atlantic Chapter Scholarship Committee
c/o Division of Water and Sewer Utilities
Department of Regulatory Compliance
4520 Metropolitan Court
Frederick, MD 21704
mtrivedi@frederickcountymd.gov
(301) 600-3043

Acknowledgement of Receipt - Applicants may need to verify that their application (by Email or USPS) was received on a timely basis by emailing or calling. If they do not get acknowledgment of the receipt of their application from the Chapter within three (3) working days, then they need to contact us to confirm the receipt. To receive an acknowledgement, the applicant is required to email two (2) different individuals (mtrivedi@FrederickCountyMD.gov; s.lippy@verizon.net).

SWANA MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM

CATEGORY I APPLICATION (Graduating High School Seniors)

1. Applicant's Full Name _____
2. Applicant's address and telephone number(s)

3. Name, address and telephone of the SWANA **Mid-Atlantic Chapter** Member sponsor (including membership number)

4. Sponsor's relationship to applicant _____
5. Sponsor's SWANA Chapter affiliation _____
6. High school name, address; and name and telephone number for Faculty Advisor

7. Have a complete transcript, SAT/ACT/Achievement test scores, and a copy of your college/university acceptance letter mailed to the Chapter Scholarship Committee Chairperson. (The latter may be attached to this application.)
8. Current Grade Point Average _____ (4.0 scale) _____ (5.0 scale)
SAT/ACT score(s) _____ Math _____ Writing _____ Reading _____
9. Achievement Test Score(s) _____
10. What college/university do you plan to attend? _____

Location (city/state) _____

What major(s) are you considering at this time? _____

Required attachments:

- A one-page discussion of your views on solid waste management: what it is, who participates, what are the current issues facing the profession, and your thoughts on its future direction.
- A short statement of your financial needs, listing any other scholarships or educational funding awarded to date for the coming year in context with estimated tuition and related expenses. If applicable, please attach a copy of your Free Application for Financial Student Aid Student Assessment Report.

Optional attachment:

- Discussion of why . . . and/or what extenuating . . .

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of Sponsor _____ Date _____

SWANA
MID-ATLANTIC CHAPTER SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM
CATEGORY I (Graduating High School Senior)

Discussion on solid waste management

Code of Conduct” Statement

I verify that the above information is true to the best of my _____

Applicant’s Signature

Knowledge and no Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools and/or technologies were used in the completion of this assignment.

This form may be copied if more space is needed.