



Virginia Motorcoach Association Estes-Counselman Scholarship Program Application

Rules

Virginia Motorcoach Association (VMA) Scholarships will be awarded in the amount of \$750.00 each in the year 2023. Eligible for these awards are full-time employees, or the dependent children of full-time employees, of VMA Operator (both Tour and Motorcoach) Member companies and of VMA Associate Member companies. The award will go to applicants which best meet the requirements set forth by the Scholarship Committee. Two annual scholarships will be awarded: one for VMA Operator Members of either type (Tour or Motorcoach) and one for VMA Associate Members. Award eligibility for VMA Associate Members is limited to only the actual individual contact member(s), or their family members, actively listed with and having a direct interest in the VMA, as opposed to all employees within the Associate organization.

The Scholarship Committee will be authorized to review the applications blindly, i.e., without identifying data, and make the selections. The Scholarship Committee is appointed by the Board of Directors and will serve at the discretion of the Board. The Committee Chair, Deb Owings, will be the point-of-contact for all pre-submission inquiries.

Criteria for Eligibility:

Those eligible to apply must:

- Have been employed by VMA member organization for a minimum of one year by January 1 in the year in which the scholarships are awarded.
- Already be registered to a full-time college, professional school, or trade school in the previous fall or at the time of application.
- Hold a minimum Grade Point Average (GPA) of 3.0 or if a professional or trade school, the equivalent of a B grade.
- The winners, or the parents of the winners, must still be employed at the member's company at the time the winners are selected.

(NOTE: Dependent applicants that will be first year higher education students may apply. Enrollment will need to be validated before the award is given and final high school GPA will be requested.)

Application & Selection Timeframe:

- Applications must be typed for legibility. Handwritten applications will not be accepted.
- Applicant must include proof of eligibility (i.e., high school transcripts, or most recent higher education transcripts if a returning higher education student) as well as proof of registration for the coming semester to the institution where accepted.
- The Scholarship Committee will consider applications received between January 1, 2023 and April 15, 2023.
- Sealed applications will be forwarded to a non-voting administrator, where they will be kept confidential and redacted by that administrator.
- Applications will be blindly reviewed by the Scholarship Committee and the final awards will be determined by point system.
- Winners will be notified on or within five business days of July 1, 2023.

Please mail or email completed applications to:

Scholarship Committee - Confidential
c/o VB Group Marketing & Event Resources
Virginia Motorcoach Association
PO Box 344, Palatine, IL 60056
Phone: 908-750-4538
Email: shannon@vbgmarketing.com



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Scoring

All applications will be sent, sealed, to a staff member who will redact all identifying information on the application, from questions 2 – 11 plus signature. Transcripts will also be redacted of personally identify data. The staff member will then return the redacted applications, identified by an application number only, to the judges for scoring.

Judges are selected by the board of directors, namely as the scholarship committee members and the executive director team, totaling six judges.

Scoring will be based on a point system as follows:

One point will be awarded per each 1/10th of GPA scored above 3.0. Where applicable, applicant should submit GPA using a weighted scale. GPA scores with scores in the 1/100ths may be rounded to the nearest 1/10th. (Example: 3.42 GPA would be rounded down to 3.40, while 3.46 GPA may be rounded up to 3.5. The point value would be valued at five points for the 3.4 score, or six points for the 3.5 score.) Student should present actual GPA, and the committee will round the scores appropriately.

The scale below demonstrates the point value of student's scores

	Unweighted	Points	Weighted	Points
A+	4.3	14	5.3	24
A	4.0	11	5.0	21
A-	3.7	8	4.7	18
B+	3.3	4	4.3	14
B	3.0	1	4.0	11
B-	2.7	0	3.7	8
C+	2.3	0	3.3	4
C	2.0	0	3.0	1
C-	1.7	0	2.7	0
D+	1.3	0	2.3	0
D	1.0	0	2.0	0
F	0	0	0	0

(Source: Crimson Education GPA Calculator – (<https://www.crimsoneducation.org/us/blog/test-prep/unweighted-vs-weighted-gpa/>))

One point per applicant will be awarded for each qualifying extracurricular and community activity provided, per year participated during applicant's high school or higher education school (as applicable) attendance period. Qualifying activities will be determined by judges based on actual separate activities.

Essay questions are subjective to the reader. Therefore, each essay question (degree plan and why, goals and objectives, and career plans) will be graded on a scale of 1 to 5 (1 being least, 5 being most) by each judge based on their opinion on the thoughtfulness and comprehensiveness of each response, and the judges' scores will be averaged for a total average point value per essay question, per applicant. A maximum of 2,500 characters will be permitted per essay question.



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2023 VMA Estes-Counselman Scholarship Application Form

(All fields must be filled in for applicant to be considered for award. Please use N/A if not applicable.)

1. Choose which type of VMA Company you are applying from:
_____ Operator company that owns or operates tours or motorcoaches (employee or dependent child)
_____ Associate company that does not own or operate tours or motorcoaches (employee or dependent child)
2. VMA Member Organization Name: _____
3. Date of Member's Full-Time Employment with Member Organization: _____
If you are a dependent of a VMA Member organization employee, please let us know the name of the VMA member employee by answering questions 4 and 5 below. If you are an employee, please indicate "self".
4. First and Last Name of member employee: _____
5. Work email address of member employee: _____
6. Scholarship Applicant Name: _____
7. Scholarship Applicant Street Address: _____
City, State, Zip Code: _____
8. Scholarship Applicant Phone Number: _____
9. Scholarship Applicant Email Address: _____
10. Name of College, Trade, or Professional School where accepted: _____
11. If current high school student, anticipated date of graduation (mm/dd/yyyy): _____
12. What is your cumulative GPA? Utilize weighted scale if applicable: _____
13. Extracurricular Activities: (Include sports, clubs, offices held in school.) – Indicate the number of years participated in each activity. If you are applying as a high school student, indicate high school period participation. If you are applying as a higher education student, indicate higher education period participation.

14. Community Activities: (Include church and community activities.) - Indicate the number of years participated in each activity (if you are applying as a high school student, indicate high school period participation. If you are applying as a higher education student, indicate higher education period participation.

Applicant's Signature/Date: _____

By signing this document, applicant declares that all information provided on this application is true and correct to the best of his or her knowledge. Applicant acknowledges that any willful dishonesty or attempt to influence judges may render this application null and void. DEVIATION FROM INSTRUCTIONS MAY RESULT IN DISQUALIFICATION.



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Scholarship Applicant's Name: _____

Essay: What are your plans, goals, and objectives in post-secondary school, and what are your career plans after completing your college, trade, or professional program? Please type. Be clear and concise. Maximum of 2,500 characters are permitted.

What is your degree plan and why did you choose this plan?

Goals and Objectives:

Career Plans after College, Trade, or Professional Program