Mississippi Association of Supervisors

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MEMORANDUM

To: Mississippi County Employees

From: Derrick Surrette, MAS Executive Director

Date: **October 1, 2025**

Re: 2026 MAS County Employee Scholarship

The MAS 2026 County Employee Scholarship Program is now accepting applications from October 1, 2025 through February 1, 2026.

We ask for your assistance in sharing this opportunity widely within your county. To make this easier, MAS has prepared a **media kit** that includes:

- A press release template for local newspapers and websites
- A flyer to distribute digitally or post in county offices
- Scholarship application materials and instructions

Please circulate these materials and encourage eligible applicants to apply.

For questions, contact **Savanna McCafferty** at smccafferty@massup.org or 601.353.2741.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact Name Contact Title Contact Phone Contact Email Address

SAMPLE: [COUNTY NAME] OPENS APPLICATIONS FOR THE MAS 2026 COUNTY EMPLOYEE SCHOLARSHIP

CITY, MS – DATE – The [COUNTY NAME] Board of Supervisors announces that applications are now being accepted for the Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS) 2026 County Employee Scholarship Program.

The program awards \$500 scholarships to dependents of current or retired non-elected county employees.

Applications will be accepted from **October 1, 2025 through February 1, 2026**. Students must meet the eligibility requirements and submit a completed application packet, including a transcript, county verification letter, and an original essay.

For more information about eligibility and application instructions, visit www.mssupervisors.org/Scholarship-Program.

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors is a nonprofit support association for Mississippi's 82 counties. Since its inception in 1928, MAS has been committed to the improvement of county government across our state. MAS members have been instrumental in implementing efficient and effective grassroots government that serves the general welfare not only of the counties themselves, but of the entire state.



Accepting: October 1, 2025 - February 1, 2026

Who can Apply?

County employees, spouses, or family members of employees can apply. Must plan to attend college, community/Jr. college or trade school in Mississippi during Fall 2026.

A \$500 scholarship will be awarded to winning students.

Do I Qualify?

- Elibible Sponsor Required
- MS Resident
- Minimum of 2.5 GPA
- Submit complete application before February 1, 2026



Apply Now!

Visit our website at mssupervisors.org/
Scholarship-Program

Questions? Contact Us Below!





MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS 2026 COUNTY EMPLOYEE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

The Mississippi Association of Supervisors (MAS) County Employee Scholarship Program will award scholarships to Applicants in each Mississippi county meeting the eligibility requirements below. Counties will receive up to two \$500 scholarships based on the county's participation in the MAS Insurance Trust (property and casualty insurance) and the MS Association of Supervisors (MAS).

Instructions

- 1. <u>ALL</u> sections of this application must be completed and submitted with <u>each</u> of the required attachments. *Incomplete applications will be rejected.* Required documents include:
 - ✓ Completed 2026 County Employee Scholarship Application Form.
 - ✓ Letter or transcript on school letterhead clearly stating student's cumulative GPA. Transcript does not have to be official (sealed) but <u>must</u> state the GPA. Transcripts without GPA clearly stated will not be accepted.
 - ✓ Letter on county letterhead verifying the employment or retirement of Applicant's Sponsor (non-elected county employee or retired non-elected county employee).
 - ✓ Typed essay (up to 750 words): There are many different roles within county government: supervisor, clerk, sheriffs' deputy, road worker, tax assessor, etc. *Choose one county official or employee, and discuss the duties and responsibilities of that person.* Be specific, personal and creative. What does that person do in a typical day at work? How do they interact with other county offices? How does their job impact you personally, your family and your community?
- 2. Please type or print legibly in blue or black ink. You may attach additional sheets if space is needed.
- 3. Questions? Contact Savanna McCafferty at smccafferty@massup.org or call 601.353.2741.
- Deadline. Application packets must be <u>received</u> at the MAS Office no later than <u>4:00 p.m. February 1</u>, <u>2026</u>. <u>Late or incomplete submissions without confirmation will not be considered</u>.
 Submit completed application <u>with all attachments</u> to:

Apply Online: Visit our U.S. Mail: Attn: MAS Via Email:

member portal Scholarship Program 793 N smccafferty@massup.org
www.mas.users.membersuite. President St Jackson, MS 39202

Via Fax: (601) 353-2749

com/home

Eligibility Requirements. Applicant must meet <u>all</u> criteria listed below:

Applicant must identify an eligible Sponsor. "Sponsor" may be the Applicant, Applicant's spouse or family member (parent, stepparent, grandparent, step-grandparent, legal guardian, aunt, uncle, etc.) who is currently employed by or retired from Mississippi county government. <i>Elected county officials</i> (current or retired) are <u>not</u> eligible Sponsors.
Be a legal resident of the State of Mississippi.
Have a minimum GPA of 2.5 (on a 4.0 scale) and demonstrate community/civic involvement.
Applicant must attend an accredited Mississippi college, junior or community college, or university (public or private) or technical/trade school (an "Eligible School") for the Fall 2026 semester.
If awarded a scholarship, Applicant must sign a Statement of Intent to attend an Eligible School. Failure to sign the Statement of Intent before August 1, 2026 will result in forfeiture of scholarship.



A sample Statement of Intent is available on the MAS website at www.mssupervisors.org.



MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF SUPERVISORS 2026 COUNTY EMPLOYEE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

	Section 1: Gen All cells in this	neral Intor section are requ			
Applicant's Full Name:		Gender: County:			
Mailing Address:					
City:	State:	Zip:	Cell:		
Email address:					
Have you previously applied for	or the MAS County Emp	oloyee Scholar	ship? □ No □ Ye	s, When?	
Were you previously awarded	an MAS County Emplo	yee Scholarshi	p? 🗆 No 🗆 Yes, V	When?	
	Section 2: Spot				
Sponsor:			County:		
Title/Department:		Relationsh	Relationship to Student:		
Status? Currently Employed Retired Retirement Date: *Must provide letter from the County verifying employment/retirement of Sponsor.					
Cumulative GPA (current school): Must provide proof of GPA on school letterhead/trans					
School you plan to attend in F	all 2026:				
☐ Currently Enrolled ☐ Ac	cepted, not Enrolled	☐ Applied	d, not Accepted	☐ Will Apply	
<u>S</u>	ection 4: Commu	nity/Civic I	nvolvement		
Please list all school clubs, spo employment experience (attac			ity activities, volur	nteer projects, and/c	
Initial each statement, sign an	Section 5: Affirm	ations and	<u>Signature</u>		
The information contai		accurate and co	mplete to the best of	f my knowledge.	
The attached essay is n	=	alastad saumti -	.fficial		
I hereby affirm that I an If I am awarded a schol	n not a dependent of an e larship, I understand I mu	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		ressing my intention t	
=	ol by August 1, 2026, or fo ruary 1, 2026. Application	=	•	e considered	
Deduine to upply is reb	ταστή 1, 2020. Αρριικάτιοι	is received ujter	that date will hot b	e considered.	
 Signature of Applicant			 Date		

2026 MAS County Employee Scholarship Online Application Process

Step 1: Creating a Student Account

If you have applied for the scholarship prior to this year and you have <u>not</u> received an award, you already have an account set up. Please contact Savanna McCafferty for your login information.

- 1. Visit the MAS Portal at https://mas.users.membersuite.com/home.
- 2. In the top right corner, click "Sign up/Join."
 - If you are a MAS member (or have attended applied before), sign in normally If you do not know your password, please email smccafferty@massup.org to reset it.
 - If you are a county employee or student who as never signed in, please Sign up & Join to get started.
- 3. Provide information for all fields.
- 4. Once done, click "Next" in the bottom right corner.
- 5. Type a password that meets requirements
- 6. Choose an individual type between **County Employee** or **Student**
- 7. Please provide a phone number, mailing address, and email so we can contact you regarding your application status.
- 8. Finish questions and click "Next."
- 9. "I am affiliated with" will be the applicant's resident county
- 10. "Enter Organization Role" will be Sponsors title or Student
- 11. Once done, click "Next."
- 12. No action needed for General Communication Settings, so select "Next."

Congratulations! You now have a MAS account!

Step 2: Apply for the County Employee Scholarship

- 1. After MAS account is created, make sure to login.
- 2. Click "Community" from the menu at the top.
- 3. From the dropdown menu, choose "Competitions," then click "View Open Competitions."
- 4. Locate and click on "2026 MAS County Employee Scholarship."
- 5. Read the scholarship description very carefully.
- 6. Click "Enter Now."
- 7. The entry type will be "2026 Student/Dependent" then select next.
- 8. The entry name should be the student's full name.
- 9. Upload all required documents which include:
 - MAS Scholarship Application
 - Letter on school letterhead or unofficial transcript proving GPA.
 - Letter on county letterhead verifying sponsor's employment (or retirement) from the county. Letter should be signed by Sponsor's supervisor, human resources clerk or other person of authority.
 - Your typed essay.
 - Additional pages listing community/civic involvement (if needed).
- 10. Provide information for all text fields marked with a red star.
- 11. Click "Next."
- 12. Review all the provided information carefully.
- 13. Finally, click "Submit."

You've completed the online scholarship application process. Good luck!