

## **USMC The Basic School 2-81 Memorial Scholarship**

Dear Applicant,

This scholarship was established by The Basic School class 2-81 (TBS 2-81) to recognize and honor colleagues who have given their lives in service to this nation. Commissioned in 1980, many members of this class had long and illustrious USMC or civilian careers, and this scholarship is an opportunity for them, and for all who attended TBS 2-81, to give back. The goal of this scholarship is to recognize and reward high school students enrolled in USMC Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps. This letter serves as the announcement for The Basic School class 2-81 Memorial Scholarship, to be awarded in the spring of **2026**.

The TBS 2-81 Memorial Scholarship is a needs-based product that has a maximum value of \$2000.00. In 2025, there are three scholarships available. Applications are limited to MCJROTC cadets in their senior year of high school who have participated in MCJROTC for a minimum of two years and must be active in MCJROTC during their senior year. Applicants may be pursuing an education at either a two-year or four-year college, vocational school, or other advanced learning opportunity at an institute that is eligible for American Opportunity Credit.

### Program Guidelines & Priorities:

- Applicants must be a United States citizen or legal permanent resident, unmarried, without dependents, and not pregnant.
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0 (unweighted), an A average in MCJROTC, and be in the top 50% of their senior class.
- Applicants must demonstrate a financial need by providing documentation of family adjusted gross income.
- Applicants must provide four letters of support: two letters from teachers/faculty members; one letter from either the principal or guidance counselor; and one letter from a member of the community (not a family member). JROTC SMI/MI do NOT provide letters of support.)
- Application must be received by 1 March, 2026. Late applications are not accepted.
- Mail one copy of a completed application package to:  
Basic School class 2-81 Memorial Scholarship  
1412 S. Coates Road  
Sioux Falls, SD 57105
- All applications will be reviewed and the recipient(s) will be selected by a committee. Individuals may be asked to participate in a Facetime/Zoom interview. The scholarship will be awarded during April-May, 2026.
- Applications in Microsoft Word document format may be requested electronically at JROTCLeadershipAdvantage@gmail.com.
- Please submit any questions to the same email address.
- See 'Additional Information' at the conclusion of this package for detailed instructions.

## Basic School class 2-81 Academic Scholarship

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address

Street: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Telephone Number: ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: Month \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative Grade Point Average (unweighted GPA): \_\_\_\_\_ (On a 4.0 scale)

Class rank: \_\_\_\_\_

*Attach proof of GPA and class rank. Your most recent school transcript is required.*

Name and address of high school attending: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Expected date of graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

**A. List any high school academic honors, awards, and membership activities (Do NOT include JROTC extra-curricular activities, sports, and other high school extra-curriculars here, they will be listed in subsequent entries).**

\_\_\_\_\_

**B. List any JROTC and/or other high school extra-curricular activities (include your JROTC drill, marksmanship, raider, and cyber teams and/or other high school sports, band, and other extra-curricular activities here).**

\_\_\_\_\_

**C. List any community service activities, both school-related volunteer activities and non-school sponsored community service (examples include church, local food bank, etc.)**

\_\_\_\_\_

**D.** List your work experience/position held:

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**E.** If you have applied and been accepted to a college, please list the school's name and provide evidence of acceptance.

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*If you have not yet been accepted, list those schools you have applied to and are awaiting determination.*

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**F.** What is your intended college major, or area of interest?

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**G.** Have you taken the ACT or SAT exam? If yes, please provide a copy of your score.

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**H.** Have you been disciplined by your school administration for any reason in the last two years? If so, please explain.

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**I.** Financial Need

List number of family members: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Gross Annual Income from your latest Income Tax Form #1040 Line #22: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(Recipients are asked to verify annual household income by supplying pg. 1 of their 2025 IRS Income Tax Form)

Name of parent(s) or legal guardian(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
(Include the parent or legal guardian address if different than your own.)

Home phone of parent/legal guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Work phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please submit an essay addressing the following:

Describe your specific educational goals and career plans and why the chosen field is meaningful to you. After obtaining a degree/certification, what does success look like to you? Include information in your essay about a and b, below:

- a. Have you had any obstacles or special challenges in schoolwork, extracurricular activities, or life in general? How did you overcome these challenges?
- b. What is your most meaningful achievement to date? How does this achievement relate to your field of study and future goals?

Before submitting your essay, make sure it meets the following:

- a. It must be typewritten.
- b. Your essay should contain content that responds to the writing prompt.
- c. Your essay should show evidence that time and thought went into the response.
- d. Your essay should be grammatically sound with no spelling errors.

### Signatures

I affirm that all of the information provided by me in this application is accurate. I also affirm that I am a United States citizen; unmarried without dependents and not pregnant; have good moral character; and will not be more than 23 years old on July 1, 2026.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Senior Marine Corps JROTC Instructor Validation

I affirm that the applicant's information on this form, **relative to JROTC activities**, is accurate:

SMI/MI Signature \_\_\_\_\_

SMI/MI Phone # \_\_\_\_\_

### STATEMENT OF SUPPORT BY GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

I hereby affirm that this application meets the criteria set forth by this scholarship program and that I support this application.

Name of guidance counselor: \_\_\_\_\_

High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact information (email and phone): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Guidance Counselor: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Additional Information

Provide letters of recommendation from **two** high school faculty members (excluding JROTC SMI/MI). Each faculty member must place his/her letter in a sealed envelope and sign his/her name across the envelope seal.

Provide a letter of recommendation from **either the school principal or your guidance counselor**. The letter must be placed in a sealed envelope and signed across the seal.

Provide a letter of recommendation from an adult outside of school who has known you for three or more years and who is not a relative. This individual must indicate their name and relationship to the applicant. Place the letter in a sealed envelope and sign his/her name across the seal.

All letters of recommendation must include contact information from the individual providing the letter.

Official high school transcript. If the high school uses a weighted GPA, a separate document must be included showing the computation of an unweighted GPA.

Provide a copy of your letter of acceptance at the college/university/community college which you will attend. (This may be provided after this application is sent.)

Provide a copy of ACT or SAT scores, unless the score is recorded on official transcript.

### Application checklist for the student:

\_\_\_\_\_ Completed application form

\_\_\_\_\_ Essay

\_\_\_\_\_ Four Letters of recommendation (faculty x 2, counselor or principal, other adult)

\_\_\_\_\_ High School transcript (with GPA, class standing)

\_\_\_\_\_ ACT or SAT score

Questions may be directed to [JROTCLeadershipAdvantage@gmail.com](mailto:JROTCLeadershipAdvantage@gmail.com)

Mail completed package to:  
Basic School class 2-81 Academic Scholarship  
1412 S. Coates Rd  
Sioux Falls, South Dakota, 57105