



Miss Minnesota's Teen Scholarship Competition Scholarship Rules and Regulations

Scholarships for contestants competing in the Miss Minnesota's Teen Scholarship Competition (MMNTSC) are funded through the Minnesota Educational Scholarship Fund Inc., referred to in the rules as the MESFI

EACH CONTESTANT SHOULD BE AWARE OF THE FOLLOWING RULES FOR 2023-2024:

1. Scholarship funds must be used within a five (5) year period. This period starts on June 14, 2024, and runs through June 14, 2029. All scholarship funds, or any portion thereof, not used within the aforementioned period will revert back to the Scholarship Fund. All scholarship paperwork must be applied for and paid out your freshman year of college or it will be forfeited.
2. Scholarship funds may be applied **for tuition** incurred in a course of study at an accredited college, university, or technical school and for payment of an outstanding loan as provided in paragraph 3 below. They may also be used toward private high school tuition. **Scholarship funds may not, as a rule, be used for room and board, books, supplies, fees, or equipment.** Payment for current tuition will be made directly to the college, university, or technical school for the benefit of a contestant. **Funds are never paid directly to a contestant.** Priority will be given to current tuition charges over educational debt.
3. Because it is the intent of the MMNTSC to encourage young women to continue and further their education, the MESFI will only pay outstanding loan obligations provided the contestant has satisfactorily completed the coursework for which the loan was obtained. In all cases, requests must include a current bill from a bona fide third-party lending institution as recognized by the US Department of Education showing a repayment address, student account number and amount due, a copy of the promissory note showing that the contestant is the primary payer of the obligation and an official transcript showing completion of the coursework. The MMNTSP will disburse funds only for current tuition fees and to the lender. **Again, funds are never paid directly to a contestant. A 1099 form will be submitted to the contestant when payment is made for an outstanding loan.**
4. Requests for computer or musical equipment will be recommended only if the college or university states in writing that it is a mandatory requirement for the contestant to complete the coursework. The contestant may be reimbursed for this expense provided the contestant submits a letter from the school stating the mandatory requirements and a list of the course requirements. There will, however, be a \$2000 cap on computer equipment, and this type of expense will be reimbursed only once. Computer software is not a reimbursable item. The original bill of sale must be submitted as well as the original credit card receipt or a copy of the canceled check. All credit card accounts, and banking accounts must be in the name of the contestant to be considered.
5. **No cash settlement will be made to any recipient.**

6. To receive your scholarship funds, you must provide a letter stating that you are a student at a college or university, a transcript listing the courses that you are taking, and the amount of your tuition. You must attach to this letter a statement of your account for that semester, and a listing of the courses in which you enrolled. Contestants must maintain at least 12 credit hours as a full-time student. This documentation must be submitted to the MESFI, and a check will be made payable to the respective school only. **An itemized statement in duplicate must accompany this letter.**
7. If for any reason of academic ineligibility, or for reasons of disciplinary action resulting in your ineligibility to attend school, all scholarship funds, or any unused portion thereof, shall be returned to MESFI.
8. The winner of a scholarship from a college, university, or other institute may accept such scholarships upon the terms as prescribed by the college, university or institute offering. Neither the MMNTSP, nor the MESFI has any control over these scholarships, other than to award them to the designated winner if she chooses to accept the same.
9. These scholarship rules set forth at the state level do not necessarily apply to your local scholarship. Your local pageant committee should have already given you a copy of their scholarship rules, and you should have already signed a copy of their rules indicating your understanding and receipt of those rules.
10. If you withdraw from a class for which MESFI monies have been paid, and if any cash refund or credit is made, then those monies shall be returned to MESFI. If a refund is made because the scholarship winner did not take or complete a course, those scholarship funds shall be returned to the MESFI and held for the contestant until such time as she issues proper documentation in a reapplication for scholarship monies.
11. A scholarship recipient will receive only the amount of scholarships that she is awarded during the Miss Minnesota's Teen Scholarship Competition. Should a runner-up succeed to the title of Miss Minnesota's Teen or succeed to any place higher than she originally finished according to the decision of the judges of the Miss Minnesota's Teen Competition, she is still eligible to receive the amount of scholarship money awarded to her during the Miss Minnesota's Teen Competition.
12. MESFI reserves the right to condition payment upon verification of use and authenticity. If an award recipient should die, then any unused portion of her award shall be returned to the MESFI.
13. A Certificate of Award will be issued to each award recipient designating the amount of scholarship awarded and incorporating these rules therein July 31, 2024. The Certificate of Award form must be submitted to the MESFI along with the proper information from the recipient's school before any scholarship money is paid.
14. **A scholarship recipient must use all the scholarship money that she won through her local competition prior to applying for the scholarship money that she won at the Miss Minnesota's Teen Competition.** When all her local competition scholarship money has been paid, then her local competition organization's director must send a letter to the MESFI, certifying that the award recipient has used all her local competition scholarship money. Along with the letter, an official receipt from the college or university and a copy of the local competition organization's cancelled check must be submitted to the MESFI.

15. The following information must be submitted to the MESFI before it will pay any scholarship money:
- Properly executed Certificate of Award Letter of Educational Scholarship.
 - Letter from recipient's local competition director stating that the recipient has used all of the scholarship money that she won at the local pageant.
 - Copy of the local competition organizations cancelled scholarship payment check.
 - Official Transcript from the college or university.
 - Current Transcript from College/University must have the following:
 - Stating that she is a student in that school.
 - Stating that she is in good academic standing.
 - Stating that she is a full-time student.
 - Stating the total amount of tuition due for the current semester or quarter.
 - Contains an itemized statement of account IN DUPLICATE of the amount of her tuition for the current semester or quarter.

Mail all correspondence and scholarship requests to:

Minnesota Educational Scholarship Fund Inc.
MMNT Competition
Attn: Gina Cavanagh
44768 Mosquito Heights Road
Perham, MN 56573

MISS MINNESOTA'S TEEN SCHOLARSHIP RULES SIGNATURE PAGE

**MISS MINNESOTA SCHOLARSHIP ORGANIZATION
SCHOLARSHIP RULES SIGNATURE PAGE**

**Digitally sign below and upload THIS PAGE ONLY to website by April 6, 2024
Local Director Signature also required**

I have received a copy of the foregoing "Scholarship Rules and Regulations," which was distributed at the 2024 Miss Minnesota's Teen contestant orientation meeting. It is my responsibility to maintain this information. I understand that on or about July 31, 2024, I will receive my Certificate of Award of Educational Scholarship and that the MMNTSC will not distribute a duplicate Certificate of Award of Educational Scholarship to me. I further understand that my failure to submit the required documentation as set forth in paragraph 15 above will result in my failure to receive my scholarship. I have read and I understand the foregoing Scholarship Rules and Regulations and I agree to abide by the same.

Note: Scholarship is contingent upon availability of funds in any given year.

MESFI RESERVES THE RIGHT TO AMEND AND/OR MODIFY THE FOREGOING SCHOLARSHIP RULES AND REGULATIONS AT ANY TIME WITHOUT NOTICE.

Signature of Contestant and Local Title Date

By signing my name below, I have reviewed the Miss Minnesota's Outstanding Teen Scholarship Competition Rules and Regulations with the above-named contestant.

Signature of Contestant's Parent/Legal Guardian Date

Signature of Contestant's Local Director Date

It is the contestant's obligation to determine whether the scholarship, in whole or part, is includable in gross taxable income, regardless of whether a Form 1099 has been issued by the Minnesota Educational Scholarship Fund Inc. Contestants are encouraged to consult a tax advisor regarding the taxability of the scholarship payments.