

Nick Naum Scholarship Application: Criteria & Guidelines 2026-2027

Thank you for your interest in applying for the Nick Naum Scholarship.

The Nick Naum Scholarship provides assistance to parishioners who attend St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church and/or to members of Nick Naum's Family.

The Scholarship Fund was established with money bequeathed to St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church by longtime parishioner and past parish council member, Nicholas Naum. Nick was a valued and respected member of our St. John Chrysostom family. He was instrumental in the organization of the Gregory E. Costa Golf Classic and was involved in many committees and fund-raising events. The church was an integral part of his life and he wanted to give back to his brothers and sisters in Christ.
May Nick's Memory be Eternal!

Eligibility Criteria

To be considered for the scholarship, applicants must:

- (a) Be a pledged parishioner or child of a pledged parishioner at St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church **OR** be a member of Nick Naum's family, **AND**
- (b) be a college student or high school senior with GPA of 3.0 or higher (unweighted) (*REAPPLICANTS from the previous year are required to maintain a GPA greater than 2.8*), **AND**
- (c) be accepted for full time enrollment (minimum of 12 credits) to attend an accredited: trade school, two or four-year college or university, post-baccalaureate program

Selection Process

The Scholarship committee will consider these criteria in making their selection, in order of greatest importance:

- (a) Participation in St. John Chrysostom Albanian Orthodox Church
- (b) Academic achievement & essay content
- (c) Statement of educational goals and career objectives

Award, Duration, and Required Documents

The scholarship is an *annual* award of \$2,000 per recipient, paid in full at the beginning of the academic year by September 1st, with proof of full-time enrollment at college/university. Applicants are able to reapply for the scholarship for up to 4 years.

Required documents for this application include:

1. The completed application/reapplication form, including essay
2. Letter of acceptance (for those entering college) or proof of payment for enrollment as a full-time student
3. Transcript (unofficial transcripts accepted)
4. Resume (optional)

Guidelines

Please read carefully to ensure that you properly complete the below application:

1. There is no requirement for letters of recommendation, so please kindly do *not* submit any with your application.
2. If there are any questions regarding this application, please direct them to Carolyn Dardaris (carolyndar@comcast.net), who will address them with the rest of the scholarship committee and respond to you as soon as possible. Questions will be accepted up until 5 days prior to the application's due date.
3. If any aspects of this application are incomplete, without inquiries submitted to Carolyn, the application is subject to be voided if the incomplete details are not assumable by the committee or answerable by Donna Dimitri.
4. The scholarship committee reserves the right to refer to Donna Dimitri, Chairperson, regarding the applicant's attendance to, and participation in, liturgy and church-related events at St John's.
5. If you are a previous scholarship recipient, you are only required to complete sections A, B, and E of the application. All other first-time and returning applicants are expected to complete the entire application.
6. There is to be no use of ChatGPT or other AI software to complete this application, particularly the essay portion. Please note the scholarship committee will be monitoring application responses and essays for the use of AI writing tools and reserves the right to disqualify a candidate based on proven use of AI.

Completed applications must be received, including all required documents listed above, via email to chairperson@stjcaoc.org by Sunday June 7, 2026. Please submit in PDF format. All applicants will be notified of their status by Sunday June 21, 2026. Scholarships will be presented to the recipients on Sunday July 26, 2026 following the Divine Liturgy.

The scholarship committee, consisting of the below individuals, looks forward to reviewing your application and potentially rewarding you with the Nick Naum Scholarship.

God bless you and good luck,

Michelle (Dardaris) Bassett, Diane Coraluzzi, Michele Coraluzzi, Carolyn Dardaris, Nicole (Pappas) Ferrara, Caroline Fiss, Kevin Fiss, & Sandi Fiss