



JOSEPH A McALINDEN DIVERS SCHOLARSHIP

Instructions and Application Form

Deadline: Open Enrollment

One mission of the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society (NMCRS) is to help eligible Sailors, Marines and their families achieve their academic goals by providing education grants and interest-free loans.

The Joseph A. McAlinden Divers Scholarship is offered specifically to Navy and Marine Divers and their eligible family members. The Benefactor, Mr. Joseph A. McAlinden, died on January 3, 1992. He was a native of New Jersey, and in his early years served in the Navy. He stated that the Navy was kind to him, and he made a bequest in his will to the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society to help Navy Divers with scholarship funds for the study/research of ocean agriculture. The McAlinden Scholarship provides financial assistance for full-time undergraduate and graduate students, as well as advanced diver training, certifications, and re-certifications.

The scholarship is need based, and ranges from \$500 up to \$3,000 per academic year, for the eligible student's education.

A new application must be completed each year. Receipt of an award in one year does not guarantee the recipient an award in subsequent years.

There is no deadline. Applicants may apply at any time during the academic year. The McAlinden Program provides financial support

- for full-time students in undergraduate/graduate studies, can only be used in a traditional classroom setting for: tuition, fees, books, supplies, room and board (on campus), and curriculum-required computers (a letter from the school required for the latter).
- for advanced diver training and certifications, we will accept a copy of the completion certification/license and a copy of the invoice from the institution the student attended.

No disbursements are authorized prior to successful completion of certification/qualification or license programs.

Disbursements for full time students will only be made to the educational institution, unless otherwise requested by the service member and approved by NMCRS.

ELIGIBILITY

1. **All awards are made on the basis of the applicant's financial need**, in accordance with policies established by the Society's Board of Directors.
2. An applicant must be either a
 - Certified Navy or Marine Corps diver on active duty or retired.
 - An unmarried child of an active duty or retired Navy or Marine Corps diver.
 - The spouse of a Navy or Marine Corps diver on active duty or retired.
3. The applicant must be:
 - Enrolled or accepted as a full-time undergraduate or graduate student in a traditional classroom setting at a post-secondary, technical, or vocational institution in a program of study in Oceanography, Ocean Agriculture, or Aquaculture. The school must be approved to participate in the U.S. Department of Education's Federal grant and loan programs; (school eligibility may be determined at <http://www.fafsa.ed.gov/fotw0910/fslookup.htm>).
 - Completing a Navy and/or Marine Corps accepted program for advanced diver training, qualification, certification or license
4. If the eligible service member will be discharged from the Navy or Marine Corps prior to the completion of the program, no scholarship will be awarded.

TERMS

- All applications received at NMCRS Headquarters will be evaluated for a scholarship.
- If received but incomplete (i.e., application and documentation unreadable, documentation not attached, blanks on form, etc.), the application may be returned as an incomplete submission.
- Disbursal may be made directly to the educational institution, the service member, or the student – as agreed by the Navy-Marine Corps Relief Society Education Program Director.

HOW TO APPLY

Complete the Eligibility Application Form at the back of this package, and attach appropriate **readable** copies of the documentation required to the application as follows:

- For the active duty applicant or child or spouse of active duty:
 - Certificate of service letter as a Navy or Marine Corps diver signed by the Commanding Officer and containing the active duty end of service date (EOS).
 - Child and Spouse eligibility will be determined from DEERS
- For a child or spouse of the retired service member:
 - Copy of DD214, or other proof of status as a diver.
 - Spouse and child eligibility will be determined from DEERS.

If the service member is deployed and unable to sign an Eligibility Application for a child or spouse, the service member's spouse may sign, provided a copy of a valid general **Power of Attorney** (POA) for the spouse is attached to the application.

Mail your completed form and all documentation to:

NMCRS Education Division
875 North Randolph Street, Suite 225
Arlington VA 22203-1767

Questions? Phone: (703) 696-4960 DSN: 426-4960 E-mail: education@nmcrs.org

FOR THOSE DETERMINED ELIGIBLE

Within one-two weeks, NMCRS Education Staff will mail eligible students a packet containing instructions for completing the following two forms:

- Family Financial Data Form (FFD Form)
- Grade Point Average Verification Form (GPA Form).

NOTE: These forms are only required for full time undergraduate and graduate students.

NOTIFICATION OF AWARDS

Full time student applicants who meet the criteria for a Josepha A McAlinden Divers Scholarship will be notified of their eligibility for a scholarship within three weeks of receipt of the FFD/GPA Forms. If the student will be attending a different school than that listed in the award Notification Letter, the student must inform the NMCRS Education Division either by letter or email at education@nmcrs.org. The NMCRS Education Staff will then recalculate the student's financial need based on expenses at the student's "new" school. For that reason, **a change of schools can result in the reduction or loss of eligibility for the scholarship.** In these cases, a second award letter will be issued.

DISBURSEMENT OF AWARDS

NMCRS Education Staff disburses awards directly to the school's financial aid office. Checks are made co-payable to both the student and the school, and will be mailed as soon as practicable. If the student will not be attending school during the next semester, he or she should contact NMCRS Education Division.

For those receiving the scholarship for reimbursement of approved advanced training, certification, qualification and licenses programs, checks may be issues directly to the training institution or the student, as agreed by the Director, NMCRS Education Programs.

OTHER SOURCES OF FINANCIAL AID

A list of other web sources is available on the Society's web site (www.nmcrs.org/education).

CONTACT INFORMATION

Before applying for or receiving NMCRS confirmation:

If you have questions before you mail the McAlinden Divers application, or before you receive the follow-on FFD/GPA Forms, contact the NMCRS Education Division by:

Phone: (703) 696- DSN 426-4960

Email: education@nmcrs.org

Web site: www.nmcrs.org/education

Address: 875 North Randolph Street Suite 225
Arlington VA 22203-1767

Hours: 8:00 AM through 4:00PM
Monday - Thursday



JOSEPH A McALINDEN DIVERS SCHOLARSHIP Eligibility Application

Deadline: Open Enrollment

**Please read the Instructions before completing this form. Print legibly, using black ink.
Both sides of this form must be completed.**

A. STUDENT: Complete items 1-13, sign and date at 14. Notify NMCRS immediately of any change of address!

1. Eligibility Category (check one):

- I am the active duty Navy or Marine Corps diver
- I am a retired Navy or Marine Corps diver
- I am an unmarried, child of a Navy or Marine Corps diver on active duty.
- I am an unmarried, child of a Navy or Marine Corps retired diver. (See Eligibility page).
- I am the spouse of a Navy or Marine Corps diver on active duty.
- I am the spouse of a Navy or Marine Corps retired diver.

2. SSN: ____ - ____ - ____

3. Name (Last/First/MI) _____

4. Address: (NOTE: Follow-up forms and information will be mailed to this address.)

5. Daytime phone: ____ - ____ - ____ 6. Work Phone: ____ - ____ - ____

7. Cell Phone: ____ - ____ - ____

8. Date of Birth (MM/DD/YYYY): ____/____/____

9. Email address: _____

10. Name of School/Institution I will be attending:

11. Please indicate your level of study beginning in August of the year you are applying for the scholarship.

- Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior Graduate

Advanced diving training/certification/qualification or license.

12. Major Course of Study (must be Oceanography, Ocean Agriculture or Aquaculture):

13. Student Certification:

I am/will be a full-time undergraduate or graduate student majoring in Oceanography, Ocean Agriculture or Aquaculture.

I am enrolled or have completed a Navy or Marine Corps approved course of instruction for advanced diving training/certification/ qualification or license.

The information above and documentation attached is complete and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsification of information or failure to provide the required documentation may result in the revocation of any loan awarded.

Signature: _____ Printed Name: _____

Date: _____

B. Service Member: If Service Member is not the student, complete items 15 through 29.

If Service Member is the student, complete items 17-21 and 24 and 29.

15. SSN: ____-____-_____

16. Name (Last, First, MI): _____

17. Branch of Service: USN USMC 18. Rank: _____

19. Pay Grade: _____

20. Marital Status: Married Single Parent Divorced Widowed

21. EAS (end of active service) date for Active Duty: _____

Retirement date for Retiree: _____

23. Address for receiving notification of award letters (mailed in mid-May):

24. Military Command Address:

25. Home phone: ____-____-_____ 26. Duty/Work phone: ____-____-_____

27. Cell phone: ____-____-_____

28. Email Address: _____

29. **Service Member Certification:** The student identified in Section A is my dependent. The above information is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that falsification of information or failure to provide documentation may result in the revocation of any scholarship award. (If spouse is signing for deployed service member, a copy of the Power of Attorney must be attached.) **I have attached a certificate of service letter from my commanding officer or a copy of my DD214.**

Printed Name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____

