The Minnesota Association of Townships (MAT) is awarding $2,000 scholarships to up to five juniors currently attending a Minnesota public, private, or parochial high school, or a home study program, that plan to further their education at a college, university, or vocational school.

Applicants must complete an application form and submit it along with a written essay using critical thinking discussing this year’s topic on Promoting Township Government. The question is: Representation of people and ideas is the hallmark of government in the United State. No level of government is as close to its constituents as the township. Today’s townships face several challenges, including decreasing populations, annexation pressures from cities, declining interest in public service, growing demands from constituents, and a distrust of government. **Considering these challenges, what do you see as the future role of townships in local government?**

Essays must be between 450 and 500 words, typed and double spaced.

- Applicants should not name themselves, their school, their town or city, or their local officials in or on the essay.
- Each essay will be judged by an independent panel based upon originality, knowledge of subject matter in relationship conference theme, and supporting statements, as well as correct spelling and punctuation.
- Applicants must be a high school junior to apply.

Along with the completed application and written essay, students must submit:

- A current high school transcript
- A letter of recommendation from a high school teacher or counselor
- All items must be submitted in one envelope postmarked by June 1, 2023, and mailed to:
  Minnesota Association of Townships Scholarship Program, P.O. Box 267, St. Michael, MN  55376,
  Incomplete applications or applications postmarked after June 1st, will not be accepted.

Winners will be notified in writing in September 2023 and will be invited to attend the MAT annual conference in December 2023 in St. Cloud, MN. Scholarship awards will be paid to the appropriate financial aid office upon receipt of verification of enrollment at a college, university, or technical school.

**APPLICANT INFORMATION**

Name ___________________________ Date of Birth _______________ Home telephone (__)__________
Address __________________________________________ Email ________________________________
City ___________ State _____ Zip Code _______ County ________________________________
Do you live in a Township? ______ If yes, Township Name ______________________________
High School Presently Attending _______________________________________________________
Parent’s names _____________________________________________________________________
Hobbies or activities of interest _______________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________________
Future goals ________________________________________________________________________
Any other comments you care to make about yourself? ___________________________________
__________________________________________________________________________________

**Research Tips:**
- Visit our website, [www.mntownships.org](http://www.mntownships.org)
- Ask a township officer
- If you do research on the web or in your local library – be sure to look for ‘Minnesota (or MN) townships’ so you are finding relevant information.