



NACS Foundation  
**Future  
Fund**

## 2025-2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

### PHILOSOPHY

The NACS Foundation unifies and builds on NACS members' philanthropic priorities—amplifying the industry's power to propel tomorrow's industry leaders, in neighborhoods of all sizes, across America and beyond.

The convenience and fuel retailing industry has been built and sustained from individuals from all walks of life—many of our convenience industry leaders started their careers at the store level. Through hard work and commitment to learning, these employees followed career paths to senior leadership positions.

Since 1994, the NACS Foundation Future Fund's scholarship program has been providing convenience and fuel retailers a way to retain, reward, and develop the next generation of industry innovators within their companies. These scholarships help develop future retail leaders by providing them with \$3,000 toward tuition costs at undergraduate or community college institutions. Each recipient will also receive a stipend to attend the 2025 NACS Show in Chicago at the McCormick Place Convention Center, October 14-17, where they will be recognized during a special evening ceremony and given the first-hand opportunity to learn more about exciting career paths in the industry.

The NACS Foundation scholarship honors industry icon Jim Yates, founder of E-Z Mart Stores, former NACS Chairman of the Board, and a pioneer in the industry. In 1999, Altria Distribution Group's donation expanded the scholarship to honor David Erickson, former CEO of Erickson Oil Products.

Powered in part by the generosity of



At KDP, we are committed to being an essential partner for both our retailers and the NACS Foundation. We are proud to support the Future Fund and contribute to creating greater support and opportunities for individuals across the industry

We also extend our gratitude to NACS employees whose contributions further strengthen the Future Fund, enabling us to empower more students and industry leaders each year.

*The NACS Foundation, a 501(c)3, which serves as a point of centralization and catalyzation - amplifying the reach, resonance, and impact of our supplier and convenience and fuel retail members' tremendous charitable efforts.*

### FUTURE FUND

The Future Fund, one of the NACS Foundation's five signature program areas, propels tomorrow's industry leaders. Through this program, the NACS Foundation invests in future leaders through scholarship and internship programs offered to c-store member employees and their children.

### ELIGIBILITY

Employees that work for a NACS Retail Member company and are enrolled in/or will be enrolled in fall 2025 academic studies are eligible to apply for a scholarship. The applicant must be a current employee and continue to work for the nominating convenience retail company throughout the scholarship period (academic year: 2025-26).

### AWARDS

There will be up to 16 NACS Foundation Scholarships awarded for one-year terms. Scholarship recipients may re-apply each year, for up to four years, if they continue to meet the eligibility requirements. The scholarships will be applied to tuition at any accredited, non-profit college or university in the United States. Recipients may transfer from one college to another and retain the award. Recipient must continue to work for the nominating company throughout the scholarship period.

### APPLICATION SUBMISSION

To be considered for a scholarship, a candidate must complete an official NACS Foundation Future Fund application, which consists of the following three (3) parts:

1. Applicant Data and Questionnaire
2. Applicant Video Essay (4 minute, maximum)
3. Nomination Form, to be completed by a supervisory employee / senior official within the company

**Applications must be received by Friday, June 13, 2025.**

### SELECTION OF WINNERS

NACS Foundation Scholarship winners are people in the industry who clearly demonstrate dedication to achieving excellence in retailing, strong leadership skills, potential for future growth as a leader, and persistence in the pursuit of education.

Applications will be reviewed by NACS staff members and winners will be selected based on the above criteria.

### RESPONSIBILITY OF RECIPIENTS

Scholarship recipients must enroll as full undergraduate college students in the fall 2025 and continue to be in school for the entire academic year (2025-26) without interruption, barring illness, emergency, or military service. Recipients are responsible for ensuring the scholarship checks are delivered to the correct office at their college or university.

To be eligible for a NACS Foundation scholarship award, the recipient must remain an employee of the NACS member company for the entire period of the award.

### PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Two separate scholarship checks will be mailed to the recipient's home address, only made payable to the scholarship recipient's college or university for tuition-related expenses. The first award payment will be issued in August for \$1,500 and the second payment of \$1,500 will be distributed in December. (For colleges on the semester system, the checks are for one half of the award.)

### QUESTIONS

Reach out to the NACS Foundation team by email at [support@conveniencecares.org](mailto:support@conveniencecares.org). To learn more about the program, or to print an application, go to [conveniencecares.org/future-fund](https://conveniencecares.org/future-fund)





# 2025-2026 Scholarship Application

## Part 1 - Applicant Data & Questionnaire

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### ALL APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE PARTS 1 AND 2

1. Complete all pages of this application as directed.
  2. Have a senior company official complete the Nomination Form on page 6 and include it with the application.
  3. Send your completed scholarship application to the NACS Foundation by mail or email on or before **Friday, June 13, 2025**.
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### SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT INFORMATION

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_  
State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

### EMPLOYER INFORMATION

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Company Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Company Fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
Hire Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

List your past three work experiences, beginning with the most recent. (If more space is needed, you may continue on a separate page, using the same format as below. Be sure to include your name and attach it to your application.)

EMPLOYER'S NAME	YEARS WHEN EMPLOYED	HOURS/WEEK	POSITION HELD



# 2025-2026 Scholarship Application

## Part 1 - Applicant Data & Questionnaire

### ACTIVITIES, COMMUNITY SERVICE, AWARDS:

List and describe your extracurricular activities, in and outside of school. Include information on service organizations and/or community projects you have been involved in and any awards you have received. (If more space is needed, you may continue on a separate page, using the same format as below. Be sure to include your name and attach it to your application.)

ACTIVITY	POSITION/OFFICE	HOURS/WEEK	AWARDS/HONORS

### HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION: *(Applicant must have diploma or GED)*

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

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

Year of High School Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_ School Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

### ACADEMIC INFORMATION:

*(Include at the very minimum College and/or High School GPA)*

COLLEGE GPA	HIGH SCHOOL GPA	ACT-COMPOSITE	SAT-MATH	SAT-VERBAL

### COLLEGE INFORMATION:

In the fall I plan to attend \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ with a major in \_\_\_\_\_

In the fall I will be a college:  Freshman  Sophomore  Junior  Senior

University Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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



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# 2025-2026 Scholarship Application

## Part 1 - Applicant Data & Questionnaire

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### **APPLICANT QUESTIONS:**

Please answer the following three (3) questions to the best of your ability in as much detail as possible. This information will help the scholarship selection committee get to know you on a personal level and will assist them in making a final award decision. (If more space is needed, you may continue on a separate page, using the same format as below. Be sure to include your name and attach it to your application.)

1. How has your current position in the convenience and fuel retailing industry influenced your dedication to excellence both personally and professionally?

2. How do you think the convenience and fuel retailing industry will change in the next 10 years?

3. If you could change one thing about convenience stores, or our industry, what would you change and why?

Questions?  
Reach out to the  
NACS Foundation team at  
[support@conveniencecares.org](mailto:support@conveniencecares.org).



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# 2025-2026 Scholarship Application

## Part 2 - Video Essay

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### **VIDEO SUBMISSION: SHARE YOUR STORY (REQUIRED)**

Create a video essay (no more than 4 minutes in length) that tells us about your background, interests, experiences, or talents that will help us get to know you better. Share your story, including your college and career goals, and explain how the NACS Foundation Future Fund scholarship will help you achieve them. If you plan to pursue a career in the convenience and fuel retailing industry, describe how this scholarship can support that path. Finally, tell us what this scholarship means to you and how it will make a difference in your life.

Video Submission Instructions:

- Upload your video to a platform such as YouTube, Dropbox, or Google Drive.
- Provide a shareable link in the designated space on the application form.
- Ensure the link has the appropriate access permissions so the scholarship selection committee can view your submission.

Questions?  
Reach out to the  
NACS Foundation team at  
[support@conveniencecares.org](mailto:support@conveniencecares.org).



# 2025-2026 Scholarship Application

## Part 3 - Nomination Form

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### NOMINATOR/COMPANY OFFICIAL INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Please complete the following two (2) pages and submit this form to nominate a candidate for a NACS Foundation Future Fund scholarship.
2. This form must be filled out by a company official (store manager, supervisor, regional/central/HQ office staff).
3. Applicants without a Nomination Form will not be considered.
4. Nomination Forms must be sent with the application by **Friday, June 13, 2025**.
5. If any additional space is needed, please attach a separate sheet of paper.
6. Please do not submit any extra materials above the required.

Please note that we ask these questions to learn about the unique qualifications of each candidate. Brief one or two sentence answers to the following questions often fail to represent candidates in their best light. Please consider this when responding in order to give your candidate the best possible chance for selection.

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Name of Candidate: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Nominator: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Describe how the scholarship nominee demonstrates leadership and dedication to convenience retailing at the store level.

2. What do you believe the candidate will do in the future to continue demonstrating their dedication to excellence, both personally and professionally, in their educational pursuits?

3. Why does your nominee deserve a NACS Foundation Future Fund scholarship?



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## 2025-2026 Scholarship Application

### Part 3 - Nomination Form

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As a representative of my company, I hereby nominate \_\_\_\_\_  
for full consideration as a candidate for the NACS Foundation Future Fund scholarship.  
I fully believe that he/she is qualified for this award and certify that the information  
in this application is accurate. If this nominee is selected as a scholarship winner, my  
company agrees to:

1. Release the employee on regular paid time to attend the 2025 NACS Show  
([www.nacsshow.com](http://www.nacsshow.com)) in Chicago, October 14-17.
2. Structure time with the employee to discuss career paths and future growth  
opportunities that exist in the convenience and fuel retailing industry.

Nominator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_



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# 2025-2026 Scholarship Application Application Checklist & Certification

## APPLICATION CHECK LIST:

- Application Data and Questionnaire
- Essay
- Nomination Form

**COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKETS (APPLICANT DATA & QUESTIONNAIRE, ESSAY AND NOMINATION FORM) MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE NACS FOUNDATION ON OR BEFORE WFRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2025.**

Email completed scholarship application packet to:  
**NACS Foundation at [support@conveniencecares.org](mailto:support@conveniencecares.org)**

OR

Mail completed scholarship application packet to:  
**NACS Foundation  
c/o Kevin O’Connell  
NACS Foundation Scholarship Program  
1600 Duke Street, Suite 700  
Alexandria, VA 22314**

## QUESTIONS?

Contact the NACS Foundation team at [support@conveniencecares.org](mailto:support@conveniencecares.org) or contact Kevin O’Connell at [koconnell@convenience.org](mailto:koconnell@convenience.org). To learn more about the NACS Foundation Scholarship, or to print an application, go to [conveniencecares.org/future-fund](http://conveniencecares.org/future-fund)

## CERTIFICATION

I certify, to the best of my knowledge, that the information on this application is complete and accurate. Falsification of any information will cause my disqualification from the NACS Foundation Future Fund scholarship competition.

I understand that it is my responsibility to make sure that this application is completed and mailed or emailed by the required postmarked deadline listed on the application. Furthermore, I understand that if my application is not complete, or if I do not submit my application by the postmarked deadline, I may be disqualified from the scholarship competition and will not be considered for a NACS Foundation Scholarship.

This application, upon receipt, becomes the property of the NACS Foundation.

Applicant's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you hear about this opportunity? \_\_\_\_\_