



**Michigan Horse Council
Scholarship Information**
www.michiganhorsecouncil.com

Instruction Sheet

1. Review the eligibility requirements and **confirm your membership with the MHC or an MHC member organization**. If you are not a current member of MHC or MHC member organization, please submit your membership to the respective organization. A list of MHC member organizations can be found on the MHC website under “Membership”.
 - a. Scholarship can be applied for by someone graduating high school, attending technical program, achieving a bachelors, graduate, or professional degree.
 - b. Applicants will be notified via the email provided on the application in early January regarding the status of the application.
 - c. Scholarship recipients will be awarded at the Annual Michigan Horse Expo. Attendance is not required to receive the scholarship but is encouraged.
 - d. If applicants are not selected for the scholarship, they are encouraged to apply again the following year.
2. Fill out and sign the official MHC Scholarship Application Form (found on MHC web site).
3. Character reference letter must be from the following: (1) equine, (1) volunteer, (1) academic. **Multiple letters that contain the same school / college / letterhead are not acceptable**. They must come from three different organizations, and each must represent one of the categories above. All letters must be labeled with which category they represent.
4. All must be completed and submitted with materials through the MHC website...
 - a. The completed scholarship form / application
 - b. The response to Part 3 of the scholarship form
 - c. Your 250-word essay
 - d. Scholarship checklist (signed/dated)
 - e. Official Transcripts (high school / college) **through October or most recent available**.
 - f. Three-character reference letters (labeled as stated in #4, above)
 - g. MHC individual membership application and check (if applicable) – (You can get an individual membership if you are not part of a member organization.)

Materials must be electronically submitted no later than December 31. Please inform the people who are writing your letters of recommendation or sending transcripts of this deadline. All materials must be completed with the submission of your application through the MHC website. Separate documentation **will not** be accepted.



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Application Tips

The MHC scholarships are awarded evaluated based on the following criteria:

- Scholastic / Academic achievement
- Equine involvement
- Volunteer service
- Potential of success
- Potential for future involvement in horse industry
- Financial need

Please make sure to include these elements when writing your 250-word statement. Also ask character references to include these elements in their letters.

Make sure that your scholarship application is complete and that you have addressed all questions.

Make sure that you have included official high school transcripts and college transcripts if you are currently attending. Please have your transcripts sent to your home and include them with your completed packet. Transcripts should either be sealed in original envelopes or contain high school or college official seal. Do not have transcripts sent directly to MHC.

Make sure your character reference letters are from the three categories requested (equine, volunteer, academic). Do not obtain all three letters from your school/college/4-H group/ equine club. We are looking for three separate sources of letters. Example: a letter from a teacher, a letter from a 4-H leader, a letter from a community volunteer organization. If this is not possible, please be prepared to explain this in your 250-word written essay.

All character reference letters must be typed and contain an original signature. Unsigned letters will be considered incomplete. Please have all your character reference letters sent to your home and include them in your completed packet to MHC. **Do not have them sent directly to MHC.**

All scholarship applications must be submitted electronically by December 31, no exceptions!