

ZAH-MNE Scholarship fund

Information, criteria and eligible institutions

The MNE scholarship award will be a distribution of \$3,500 from the donations received and the investment earnings of the MNE funds of ZAH (Zoroastrian Association of Houston). The first award is anticipated to be given the week of March 21, 2017 or sometime in the first half of the 2017. For the first half of 2017 one award of \$3,500 will be made to one student, and, if possible, additional spot awards of approximately \$1,000 may be made to second place recipients later in the second half of 2017.

The MNE Scholarship program was approved by the EC of ZAH the week of August 16, 2016 to encourage and identify need based, community service based, and academics based achievers in the Zoroastrian community.

***COMPLETE APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT BOTH:
zah.mne.scholarship@gmail.com AND edulchikhliwala@gmail.com NO LATER THAN Feb 26, 2017. (Please see page 3 of 3)***

A “need based” academic scholarship fund has been established by Mr. Mike Nadirshaw Engineer in memory of his beloved parents, Nadirshaw and Homai Engineer, and his grandparents.

Eligibility Criteria

This fund will award scholarships to deserving Zoroastrian students to further their post-secondary education. To be eligible, students must demonstrate financial need. Other significant factors for this scholarship include:

- Academic performance
- Past service/involvement within the community
- Promise of future contribution to the Zoroastrian community

The student:

- Must have at least one parent (living or deceased) who is a Zoroastrian citizen of the world,
- Should be a member (or become a 2017 member) of the ZAH or other local Zoroastrian association.
- Should participate in Zoroastrian activities and prayers to the extent reasonably possible. (This is based upon the honor system. Nobody will keep a log.)

- This scholarship will be awarded to student(s) who have academic credentials, have demonstrated a desire to succeed, but more importantly have demonstrated a verifiable financial need.

Eligible Institutions

The education must be at any accredited University, College, Community College, or accredited vocational or IT or advanced technology related institute with credible certifications. A lesser-known organization should have a proven record for good employment prospects. Proof of admission or applications to institutions with all relevant documents must be presented.

Educational institutions will be given preference in the following locations (presented in order of preference):

- Greater Houston TX area including College Station TX
- Any location in Texas or Louisiana
- Anywhere in North America

Recipients are strongly encouraged to keep in touch with ZAH at least every six months and repay the ZAH MNE Need Based Scholarship Fund in monthly installments shortly after starting a full time job or business. The recipient shall decide the amount of monthly repayments to ZAH.

Summary Of Selection Criteria

- The applicant should be enrolled in an accredited college, community college or vocational program OR is going to be enrolled in a post high school program within twelve months from the date when the scholarship application is sent out.
- Applicants must be a ZAH member or become a ZAH or local Zoroastrian Association member.
- Applicants must be financially needy Zoroastrian students pursuing a college degree or a trade or vocational school program.
- This scholarship will be awarded to student(s) who have demonstrated a verifiable financial need.
- Percentage weightings for scholarship evaluation will be: 60% financial need, 20% academic, 20% local Zoroastrian community participation.
- The committee may request additional information, which in its opinion is necessary for the selection of candidates.
- Committee decisions for awarding scholarships will be final.

Checklist For Applicants

- Completed Application form, signed by applicant and Witnessed by an Adult ZAH member or local Zoroastrian association member in good standing.
- High School/College Transcripts, and other relevant documents.
- Three reference letters from community members who are very familiar with the student's character and interactions with academics and community service. They shall not be close relatives of the applicant.
- **Reference letters should be mailed directly to same emails as the applications.**

Privacy

Information in the applications will be kept within the committee. Once the scholarship winner is declared, all other applications will be destroyed unless the applicant wishes that the application package be kept on file for some future spot award in 2017 or 2018. The winner's application will be kept on file until graduation.

Please email complete applications and attachments by Feb 26 2017 to:
zah.mne.scholarship@gmail.com and edulchikhliwala@gmail.com

Dear Applicants:

- 1. Please double-check your application and ALL attachments, & supporting documents. Incomplete applications may cause you to miss the deadlines and your application may not be evaluated.**
- 2. Please confirm that you meet the criteria listed on Page 1 of 3.**