



NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

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**SEMIFINALISTS IN THE 2020
NATIONAL MERIT® SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
September 11, 2019 Announcement**

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Note to editors: Semifinalists in your state are listed alphabetically by city and high school following this press release.

This material is prepared solely for news media to announce the names of Semifinalists; its use for any other purpose is prohibited.

Caution: Using numbers of Semifinalists to compare high schools, educational systems, or states will result in erroneous conclusions. The National Merit® Scholarship Program honors individual students who show exceptional academic ability and potential for success in rigorous college studies. The program does not measure the quality or effectiveness of education within a school, system, or state. For more information about the competition, please visit NMSC's website at www.nationalmerit.org.

Semifinalists in the 2020 National Merit® Scholarship Program

(Evanston, Illinois) Today officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 65th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth more than \$31 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship® award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. Over 90 percent of the Semifinalists are expected to attain Finalist standing, and about half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar® title.

NMSC, a not-for-profit organization that operates without government assistance, was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by approximately 400 business organizations and higher education institutions that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.

Steps in the 2020 Competition

Over 1.5 million juniors in about 21,000 high schools entered the 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program by taking the 2018 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT[®]), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. The nationwide pool of Semifinalists, representing less than one percent of U.S. high school seniors, includes the highest-scoring entrants in each state. The number of Semifinalists in a state is proportional to the state's percentage of the national total of graduating seniors.

To become a Finalist, the Semifinalist and a high school official must submit a detailed scholarship application, in which they provide information about the Semifinalist's academic record, participation in school and community activities, demonstrated leadership abilities, employment, and honors and awards received. A Semifinalist must have an outstanding academic record throughout high school, be endorsed and recommended by a high school official, write an essay, and earn SAT[®] or ACT[®] scores that confirm the student's earlier performance on the qualifying test.

From the approximately 16,000 Semifinalists, about 15,000 are expected to advance to the Finalist level, and in February they will be notified of this designation. All National Merit Scholarship winners will be selected from this group of Finalists. Merit Scholar designees are selected on the basis of their skills, accomplishments, and potential for success in rigorous college studies, without regard to gender, race, ethnic origin, or religious preference.

National Merit Scholarships

Three types of National Merit Scholarships will be offered in the spring of 2020. Every Finalist will compete for one of 2,500 National Merit[®] \$2500 Scholarships that will be awarded on a state-representational basis. About 1,000 corporate-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards will be provided by approximately 220 corporations and business organizations for Finalists who meet their specified criteria, such as children of the grantor's employees or residents of communities where sponsor plants or offices are located. In addition, about 180 colleges and universities are expected to finance some 4,100 college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards for Finalists who will attend the sponsor institution.

National Merit Scholarship winners of 2020 will be announced in four nationwide news releases beginning in April and concluding in July. These scholarship recipients will join more than 345,000 other distinguished young people who have earned the Merit Scholar title.

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Semifinalists: 2020 National Merit Scholarship Program

SANDPOINT
HOMESCHOOL
740 Leyendecker, Joeli G.

SUN VALLEY
THE COMMUNITY SCHOOL
000 Hagenbuch, John S.
450 Kopplin, Ella S.

IDAHO

BOISE

BOISE H. S.
000 Anderson, Eli Z.
000 Basingthwaite, Ethan
000 Coulam, Brynne
000 Harbison, Zane J.
000 Hinchman, Hallie K.
000 Lafrades, Lauren J.
000 Mouli, Jayanth
000 Naidu, Siddharth R.
000 Wieber, Peter J.

BORAH H. S.
843 Early, Isabelle
803 Huskey, Nathan
900 McClain-Sims, William
000 Messerly, Mitchell
302 Sloan, Carson

CAPITAL H. S.
999 Fox, Aiden
303 Jacobson, Joshua
450 Morenas, Benjamin
303 Orenstein, Aaron
461 Player, Grant
459 Probst, Calvin

CENTENNIAL H. S.
628 Rieth, Noah S.
204 Romans, Nicholas K.
821 Tidwell, Katie

BISHOP KELLY H. S.
461 Durcan, Elsa M.
160 Hormaechea, Avery M.
204 Nelson, Beau W.

ONE STONE
300 Wright, Basil T.

SAGE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
121 Borkowski, Benjamin
832 Britschgi, Andras W.
999 Elias, Julene

TIMBERLINE H. S.
455 Chae, Jeonghyun
163 Dillingham, Blaine
000 Feeley, Moly
303 Kwak, Minjun
200 Magalsky, Aaron
904 McKay, Sophia
999 Min, Ellen
833 Rocklein, Jonah R.
450 Smith, Malia
700 Warner, Sage

CALDWELL

CALDWELL H. S.
950 Hawkins, Avery R.

COEUR D'ALENE

COEUR D'ALENE
CHARTER ACADEMY
430 Bloodgood, Emma J.
451 Cheeley, Lucas
628 McCaughan, Dylan

COEUR D'ALENE H. S.
162 Nethercott, Kristen N.

LAKE CITY H. S.
950 Garey, Alexander M.
742 Magnus, Karina J.

DEARY

DEARY H. S.
999 Proctor, Matteya A.

EAGLE

EAGLE H. S.
000 Butler, Spencer D.
000 Deckers, Samuel L.
000 Larson, Austin J.

FILER

FILER H. S.
628 Andersen, Evelyn

HAILEY

WOOD RIVER H. S.
907 Simon, Zoe R.

IDAHO FALLS

COMPASS ACADEMY
162 Medvedeva, Victoria P.

HILLCREST H. S.
120 Ho, Vincent L.

IDAHO FALLS H. S.
451 Springman, Heath F.

SKYLINE H. S.
830 Stosich, Corbyn A.

THUNDER RIDGE H. S.
450 Spencer, Vivian

MERIDIAN

COLE VALLEY CHRISTIAN H. S.
302 Vander Stelt, Devin R.

MERIDIAN TECHNICAL
CHARTER H. S.
999 Anderson, Rafe
628 Bodell, Beckett
459 Fairbanks, Mitchell

RENAISSANCE H. S.
000 Christensen, Emory A.
000 Cluff, Zachary B.
000 Kendrick, Trevor C.
000 Simison, Ethan
000 Viele, Lucas E.

ROCKY MOUNTAIN H. S.
000 Barningham, Carson D.
000 Burbach, Connor J.
000 Palmer, Donald C.

MIDDLETON

MIDDLETON H. S.
999 Myers, Anna M.

MOSCOW

HOMESCHOOL
300 Ownbey, Israel I.

LOGOS SCHOOL
773 Rauch, Judah M.
300 Vis, Cameron W.
723 Wilson, Rory D.

MOSCOW H. S.
300 Charit, Abhinaba
843 Conway, Dalton
303 Craig, James
742 Wang, Jieyan

NAMPA

LIBERTY CHARTER H. S.
630 Grace, Vitek

POCATELLO

CENTURY H. S.
742 Crosby, Wells G.
903 Heft, Riley
843 Yik, William J.

POST FALLS

POST FALLS H. S.
999 Carpenter, Ali B.

REXBURG

MADISON H. S.
999 Garner, Carney
833 Miles, Melanie E.

RUPERT

MINICO H. S.
742 Lindemood, Evan N.