MPA Foundation 2026
Community College
Annual Journalism Scholarship Application

Application and support material must be submitted electronically on or before
Sunday, Nov. 15, 2026 at 5 P.M

To qualify, the student must:

- Be a Michigan resident or eligible for in-state tuition.
- Be a current, community college student in Michigan, graduating no earlier than May, 2026.
- Have substantial experience as a collegiate or community news media staffer as shown by a portfolio submitted with the nomination materials.
- Be currently enrolled in at least one journalism course or provide a transcript (official OR unofficial) showing previous enrollment in journalism courses.
- Demonstrate an interest in and potential for pursuing a career in community journalism through work as a reporter, editor, digital and/or photojournalist at a Michigan media outlet, including campus publications.

The application must include:

- The completed application page.
- A current resume.
- A transcript (official or unofficial; former preferred.)
- 2 samples of the applicant's journalistic work.
- A 500 word essay that:
  1. Explains how the applicant views his/her future in community journalism.
  2. Details previous and current experience in community journalism/campus media.
  3. Explains why the applicant is deserving of the scholarship as evidenced by their work in journalism.
- Three letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a journalism faculty member and/or publication adviser. All letters must include the sender's contact information. Do not submit letters from current students or family members (Suggested: teachers, advisors, newspapers/internships.)
- A current, professional looking head and shoulders color photo to be used in the announcement brochure and other promotional materials (300dpi resolution).

Michigan Press Association Foundation
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MPA Foundation Community College Journalism Scholarship Application

Name: _____

☐ Freshman (1st Year) Expected Graduation Date: _____
☐ Sophomore (2nd Year)

Journalism GPA (if applicable): _____ Overall GPA: _____

Community College: _____

Home Address: _____

_____

Campus Address: _____

_____

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Name: Advisor/Journalism Instructor/Department Chair

_____

_____

_____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Application checklist. Submit all materials together:

- ☐ Completed application
- ☐ Resume
- ☐ Transcript
- ☐ 2 samples of journalistic work
- ☐ 500 word essay
- ☐ 3 letters of recommendation
- ☐ Professional headshot

Past MPA Foundation Scholarship Winners include...

John Bebow (Western Michigan University, 1989)

CEO/Publisher Bridge Michigan and The Center for Michigan



Katrese Stafford (Eastern Michigan University, 2011)

Associate Press



Nora Naughton (Eastern Michigan University, 2015)

Senior Reporter, Autos at Insider, Inc.



MPA MICHIGAN PRESS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

Supporting quality community journalism.

NEW Student Member Category

Annual dues: $10

This membership category is designed for students at a Michigan community college who are interested in a career in media. Proof of college attendance (student ID or a letter from a faculty member) is required. Receive the E-Bulletin, Weekly Briefings, discounted registration fees and networking with publishers and editors.

https://michiganpress.org/mpa-membership/student-membership/

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