



MINNESOTA SHERIFFS' ASSOCIATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TO: Statewide Law Enforcement Program Students
FROM: Jason Jacobson, Redwood County Sheriff
DATE: September 4, 2026
SUBJECT: **Minnesota Sheriffs' Association Scholarship Program**

Sheriff Jason Jacobson of Redwood County announced today the commencement of the Law Enforcement Scholarship Program for 2026. Sheriff Jacobson proudly announced that the MSA Board of Directors has established a scholarship fund for the awarding of up to 18 - \$2,000 scholarships for this year. These scholarships are due to the coordinated efforts of the 87 elected Sheriffs of the State of Minnesota.

The MSA gives special recognition to the financial needs of students attending the peace officer skills course or one of the two- or four-year law enforcement degree programs around the state. *"The MSA Board of Directors acknowledges the current challenges in recruiting and greatly appreciates the individuals who decide to serve others through a career in law enforcement. This is one way that we can support that honorable decision," said Deputy Director Brian Johnson.*

"We are extremely fortunate to have qualified local candidates willing to serve our communities. These scholarships demonstrate a strong commitment to the next generation of law enforcement," said Redwood County Sheriff Jacobson.

The MSA recognizes the importance of pre-entry training for people considering law enforcement as their career choice. The MSA also acknowledges that some students may need outside help in meeting the costs of such training, even though they excel academically.

The MSA Scholarship Committee, in making its selection of awards, intends to achieve representation from all geographical areas of the state. The scholarship deadline is November 30th, 2026. Awards will be announced on the MSA web page and on social media at the start of 2027. Application forms and a statement of procedures are available at the Redwood county sheriff's office. Scholarships are only available to students currently enrolled in one of the following three categories:

1. Mandated POST Skills Program
2. In their second year of a two-year law enforcement program.
3. In their third or fourth year of a four-year college criminal justice program.

To qualify, students must have completed at least one year of the two-year program or two years of a four-year program. Students meeting these criteria are invited to obtain a scholarship application form from their local sheriff's office or online at www.mnsheriffs.org.

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