

PHILOSOPHY

Many of the current leaders of the convenience store industry got their start at the store level. Through hard work and commitment to learning, these individuals followed the career paths of the industry to positions of senior leadership.

The NACS Scholarship Program was created to recognize and support industry employees who demonstrate the potential and the determination to someday hold positions of senior leadership in the industry. These scholarships help develop future retail leaders by providing them with \$3,000 toward tuition costs of undergraduate or community college education. Each recipient will also receive a stipend to attend the 2018 NACS Show in Las Vegas at the Las Vegas Convention Center on October 7-10, where they will be recognized during a special evening ceremony and given the first-hand opportunity to learn more about exciting career paths in the industry.

The NACS Scholarship is in memory of Jim Yates, founder of E-Z Mart Stores, former NACS Chairman of the Board and a pioneer and national leader in the industry. It is also in memory of David Erickson, former CEO of Erickson Oil Products Inc., and is made possible by a donation from Altria Group Distribution Company.

This scholarship is sponsored by the NACS Foundation located at 1600 Duke Street, Suite 700, Alexandria, Va. 22314, the education and charitable affiliate of NACS.

ELIGIBILITY

Employees that work for a NACS Retail Member company and are enrolled in/or will be enrolled in the fall of 2018 academic study are eligible to apply for a NACS Scholarship. The applicant must be a current employee and continue to work for the nominating company throughout the scholarship period.

AWARDS

There will be up to 11 NACS Scholarships awarded for one-year terms. Scholarship recipients may re-apply each year, for up to four years, if they continue to meet the eligibility requirements. The scholarships will be applied to education expenses at any accredited, non-profit college or university in the United States. Recipients may transfer from one college to another and retain the award. Recipient must continue to work for the nominating company throughout the scholarship period.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To be considered for a scholarship, a candidate must complete an official NACS Scholarship Program application, which consists of the following three (3) parts:

1. **Applicant Data and Questionnaire**
2. **Applicant Essay** (two pages, maximum)
3. **Nomination Form**, to be completed by a supervisory employee / senior official within the company

Applications must be received by Friday, June 1, 2018.

SELECTION OF WINNERS

NACS Scholarship winners are people in the industry who clearly demonstrate dedication to achieving excellence in retailing, strong leadership skills, potential for future growth as a leader, and persistence in the pursuit of education.

Applications will be reviewed by NACS staff members and winners will be selected based on the above criteria.

RESPONSIBILITY OF RECIPIENTS

Scholarship recipients must enroll as full or part-time undergraduate college students in the fall of 2018 and continue to be in school for the entire academic year (2018-19) without interruption, barring illness, emergency, or military service. Scholarship recipients are responsible for making certain that their scholarship checks are delivered to the proper office at their college or university.

Recipient must continue to work for the nominating company throughout the scholarship period else the scholarship be revoked.

PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

Two separate scholarship checks will be mailed to the recipient's home address, **only made payable to the scholarship recipient's college or university**. The first award payment will be issued in August for \$1,500 and the second payment of \$1,500 will be distributed in December. (For colleges on the semester system, the checks are for one half of the award.)

QUESTIONS

Contact Stephanie Sikorski by email at ssikorski@convenience.org or phone at (703) 518-4231. To learn more about the program, or to print an application, go to convenience.org/NACSScholarship.

ALL APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE PARTS 1 and 2

1. Complete all pages of this application as directed.
2. Have a senior company official complete the Nomination Form and include it with the application.
3. Send your completed scholarship application to the NACS Foundation by **Friday, June 1, 2018**

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICANT INFORMATION:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
Home Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Phone: _____
Email Address: _____

EMPLOYER INFORMATION

Company Name: _____
Company Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
Company Phone: _____ Company Fax: _____
Applicant's Position/Title: _____
Hire Date: _____

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY:

List your past three work experiences, beginning with the most recent. (If more space is needed, you may continue on a separate page, using the same format as below. Be sure to include your name and attach it to your application.)

Employer's Name	Years	Hours/Week	Position Held

Questions?

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ACTIVITIES, COMMUNITY SERVICE, AWARDS:

List and describe your extracurricular activities, in and outside of school. Include information on service organizations and/or community projects you have been involved in and any awards you have received. (If more space is needed, you may continue on a separate page, using the same format as below. Be sure to include your name and attach it to your application.)

Activity	Position/Office	Hours/Week	Awards/Honors

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION: *(Applicant must have diploma or GED)*

High School Name: _____ City: _____ State: _____
 Year of High School Graduation: _____ School Phone Number: _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION: *(Include at the very minimum College and/or High School GPA)*

College GPA	High School GPA	ACT-Composite	SAT-Math	SAT-Verbal

COLLEGE INFORMATION:

In the fall I plan to attend _____ with a major in _____
 In the fall I will be a college: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

Questions?

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APPLICANT QUESTIONS:

Please answer the following four (4) questions to the best of your ability in as much detail as possible. This information will help the scholarship selection committee get to know you on a personal level and will assist them in making a final award decision. (If more space is needed, you may continue on a separate page, using the same format as below. Be sure to include your name and attach it to your application.)

1.) How has your current position in the convenience and fuel retailing industry influenced your dedication to excellence both personally and professionally?

2.) What do you think the convenience and fuel retailing industry will be like in the next 10 years?

3.) If you could change one thing about convenience stores, or our industry, what would you change and why?

4.) How will the study of your major contribute to your immediate and long range career plans?

Questions? C

ontact Stephanie Sikorski by email at ssikorski@convenience.org or phone at (703) 518-4231.

ESSAY:

Write an essay that describes how the NACS Scholarship can help you achieve your career objectives. If you intend on pursuing a career in the convenience and fuel industry, be sure to include how you hope to reach that goal.

Directions: Write an essay that is no more than two pages, double-spaced (one page single-spaced) in length when formatted with normal 11-point font and one-inch margins. Please include your name on the page and attach the essay with your completed application. [Essays must be typed; handwritten essays are not allowed.](#)

Questions?

Contact Stephanie Sikorski by email at ssikorski@convenience.org or phone at (703) 518-4231.

NOMINATOR INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Please complete the following two (2) pages and submit this form to nominate a candidate for a NACS Scholarship.
2. This form must be filled out by a company official (store manager, supervisor, regional/central office staff).
3. Applicants without a Nomination Form will not be considered.
4. Nomination Forms must be sent with the application by **Friday, June 1, 2018**
5. If any additional space is needed, please attach a separate sheet of paper.
6. Please do not submit any extra materials above the required.

Please note that we ask these questions to learn about the unique qualifications of each candidate. Brief one or two sentence answers to the following questions often fail to represent candidates in their best light. Please consider this when responding in order to give your candidate the best possible chance for selection.

Name of Candidate: _____

Name of Nominator: _____ Title: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

1.) Describe how your nominee demonstrates leadership and dedication to convenience retailing at the store level.

2.) What do you believe the candidate will do in the future to continue demonstrating their dedication to excellence, both personally and professionally in their educational pursuits?

Questions?

Contact Stephanie Sikorski by email at ssikorski@convenience.org or phone at (703) 518-4231.

3.) Why does your nominee deserve a NACS Scholarship?

As a representative of my company, I hereby nominate _____
for full consideration as a candidate for the NACS Scholarship Program. I fully believe that he/she is qualified
for this award and certify that the information in this application is accurate.

If this nominee is selected as a NACS Scholarship winner, my company agrees to:

- 1.) Release the employee on regular paid time to attend the 2018 NACS Show in Las Vegas, October 7-10.
- 2.) Structure time with the employee to discuss career paths and future growth opportunities that exist in the convenience and fuel retailing industry.

Nominator's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Questions?

Contact Stephanie Sikorski by email at ssikorski@convenience.org or phone at (703) 518-4231.

APPLICATION CHECK LIST:

- Applicant Data & Questionnaire Nomination Form Essay

Complete application packets (Applicant Data & Questionnaire, Essay and Nomination Form) must be received by the NACS Foundation on or before Friday, June 1, 2018.

Mail completed scholarship application packets to:
NACS Foundation
c/o Stephanie Sikorski, NACS Scholarship Program
1600 Duke Street, Suite 700
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Questions? Contact Stephanie Sikorski by email at ssikorski@convenience.org or phone at (703) 518-4231.

CERTIFICATION

I certify, to the best of my knowledge, that the information on this application is complete and accurate. Falsification of any information will cause my disqualification from the NACS Scholarship Program competition.

I understand that it is my responsibility to make sure that this application is completed and mailed or faxed by the required postmarked deadline listed on the application. Furthermore, I understand that if my application is not complete, or if I do not submit my application by the postmarked deadline, I may be disqualified from the scholarship competition and will not be considered for a NACS Scholarship.

This application, upon receipt, becomes the property of the NACS Foundation.

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____