



association of
ALASKA
school boards

**Win a
\$1,500
Scholarship!**

AASB's 35th Annual June Nelson Memorial Scholarship Competition



The **Association of Alaska School Boards** proudly presents the June Nelson Memorial Scholarship, honoring a true champion of Alaskan education. This competition offers up to **fifteen scholarships of \$1,500** each for **high school seniors and returning college sophomores** pursuing their **post-secondary education** goals – college, trade or vocational school.

Funded by the generous contributions of Alaska's school board members and administrators, this scholarship supports the next generation of Alaskan leaders. Don't miss out—apply today and invest in your future!

Essay Prompt

Who or what in your educational or life experience has influenced your direction in life?

1st year applicants, apply here:

airtable.com/app50oHyVxfsHGz7b/pagQxMC5UtGzTZu4m/form

Returning winners from 2024 apply here:

airtable.com/app50oHyVxfsHGz7b/pageDFs4M0ZnOtj4p/form

Application Submission Deadline:

Friday, April 10, 2026, 5:00 pm AKST



Scan for More Info

*If you have any questions or difficulties, please call
(907) 463-1660 or email us at aasb@aasb.org.*

June Nelson Memorial Scholarship Guidelines



1. **Up to fifteen \$1,500 AASB Scholarships** will be awarded this 2025-26 school year.
2. **Qualifications**
 - a. The student must be graduating from high school in Alaska this school year.
 - b. The student must be accepted as a full-time student by either a business, trade, or college institution/program.
 - c. Only students graduating from AASB's member school districts will be considered for the scholarship award. Students attending private schools are not considered.
3. **Application** – The student shall complete and submit the following to AASB by using the online application:
 - a. Student and school information
 - b. Response to the essay question up to 750 words in length
 - c. Student Activities
 - d. Copy of your high school transcript with cumulative GPA
 - e. Acceptance letter from a business, trade, or college institution.* If you haven't been formally accepted at the time of applying, you may submit your application package to AASB without the acceptance letter but don't forget to submit it by **April 10, 2026**.
 - f. Two letters of recommendation, one from a community member and one from a teacher.
 - g. SAT or ACT scores

*Acceptance letters: If the student does not receive an acceptance letter from their institution of choice, one from another school or housing agreement (anything that shows the student has been accepted) will suffice.

Six-Trait Writing Rubric

Readers scoring the application will use the Six-Trait writing rubric. This rubric identifies and evaluates six traits or characteristics of effective writing on a six-point scale. The rubric is designed to provide a consistent scoring method based on recognized traits of effective writing.

Descriptions of the Traits

- **Idea/Content:** This trait addresses the writer's theme along with the supporting details that develop and enrich the theme. Ideas should be clear, complete, and well-developed.
- **Organization:** This trait addresses the structure of a piece of writing, including the thread of central meaning and the patterns that hold the piece together. A well-thought-out order of ideas should be apparent with a consciously planned opening and closing.
- **Voice:** The type of voice will vary according to the purpose and type of piece, but it should be appropriately formal or casual, distant or intimate, depending on the audience and purpose.
- **Word Choice:** This trait reflects the writer's use of specific words and phrases to convey the intended message in an interesting, precise, and natural way appropriate to the audience and purpose.

June Nelson Memorial Scholarship Guidelines



Six-Trait Writing Rubric *(Continued)*

- *Sentence Fluency*: This trait addresses the rhythm and flow of language. The sentence structure should be strong and varied.
- *Conventions*: This trait addresses the mechanics of writing, spelling, capitalization, punctuation, and paragraph breaks. It also includes proper format.

Application Scoring

In addition to the points earned for the essay, there are three (3) additional areas for which scholarship reviewers can award the application points.

Unique Circumstances: Committee members may take into consideration things like the remoteness of the students' home/school district, a student's family situation, learning disabilities, work, illness, or other hardships. There is no hard and fast rule. It is also entirely possible that a student does not require unique circumstances. Maximum points: 15

Student Activities: Provide information on the following activities that you have been involved in during high school. This includes: Community Involvement, Extra-Curricular Activities or Cultural Activities and Family Traditions. Maximum points: 30

Letters of Recommendation: Students must submit two letters of recommendation, one from a community member and one from a teacher. Points are awarded based on the inclusion of the letters, NOT on the content of the letters. Maximum points: 5