

To be completed by NIAAA

NAME: _____ STATE _____ SECTION: _____ MALE ☐ FEMALE ☐

2026 National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association Scholar/Essay Application

Purpose of Scholarship:

In accordance with National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association's (NIAAA) purpose to promote, facilitate, and increase the knowledge and understanding of the vital role of interscholastic athletics in the educational system, this scholarship program will foster and acknowledge the partnership between the NIAAA and secondary education. The scholarships will recognize the distinguished scholastic, leadership, and citizenship attributes of high school student athletes, and the importance of high school athletics in each student's life.

Criteria:

1. Applicant must be a Senior
2. Applicant must have achieved at least one (1) of the following:
 - (A) minimum of B+ average;
 - (B) Ranked in the top 25% of class;
 - (C) ACT score of 24 or an SAT score of 1100 (Math and Reading)
3. Applicant must have participated in two sports for at least two years in each sport
4. Applicant must have earned at least one varsity letter in each of two sports
5. Applicant must complete attached scholar/essay application
6. Applicant must have a letter of recommendation from the high school athletic administrator/director
7. School athletic director must be an NIAAA member and a member of their respective state athletic administrators association
8. The principal or athletic director must sign the application to ensure that the academic information submitted is accurate
9. All hard copy materials must be postmarked or electronic materials sent to the NIAAA State Liaison in your respective state by your state's deadline. Select your state at the bottom of the website Scholarship Page to view your state's deadline and liaison information.

Scholarship Awards:

State Winners - The Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors will honor (3) males and (3) females. One male and one female will be selected to advance to the Section and receive \$2000 and a plaque recognizing them as the state winners. The other finalists will receive \$1500 and a certificate.

NIAAA Section Winners - one male and one female will each receive a \$2,000 scholarship and a plaque recognizing them as section winners

National Winners - one male and one female will each receive a \$4,000 scholarship and a glass etching recognizing them as national winners

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION – (PLEASE TYPE or PRINT CLEARLY)

Legal Name _____ Cell Phone _____ Male ☐ Female ☐

Home Address _____
Street Address City State Zip

Email Address _____ Home Phone _____

Father's Full Name _____ Living / Deceased _____

Email Address _____ Cell Phone _____

Home Address _____
(if not same as above) Street Address City State Zip

Mother's Full Name _____ Living / Deceased _____

Email Address _____ Cell Phone _____

High School _____

Principal or Athletic Director signature _____

Print Principal/Athletic Director Name _____

Athletic Director's NIAAA Member# _____

Name _____ Name _____

Email _____ Email _____

Class Rank _____ out of _____ students in senior class (if schools ranks)

GPA _____ on a _____ Scale

ACT/SAT Score _____

Graduation Date _____

Briefly describe scholastic distinctions or honors received during high school:

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ATHLETIC PARTICIPATION: High School Sports Grades 9-12

Sport	Years	Letters	Honors

LEADERSHIP: (10 points)

School Organization Participation/Leadership Positions:

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Community Organization Participation/Leadership Positions:

Community Service/Volunteer Service:

Citizenship: (15 points)

Please read the excerpt below “The Code for Living,” from the book, *Winning More Than the Game*, authorship attributed to “Athletes for a Better World.”

The Code – Life Principles Learned Through Sports

Because I am a role model and have the opportunity and responsibility to make a difference in the lives of others, I commit to this Code. I will take responsibility and appropriate actions when I fail to live up to it.

1) As an Individual:

- I will develop my skills to the best of my ability and give my best effort in practice and competition.
- I will compete within the spirit and letter of the rules of my sport.
- I will respect the dignity of every human being and will not be abusive or dehumanizing of anyone either as an athlete or as a fan.

2) As a Member of a Team:

- I will place team goals ahead of personal goals.
- I will be a positive influence on the relationships on the team.
- I will follow the team rules established by the coach.

3) As a Member of Society:

- I will display caring and honorable behavior off the field and be a positive influence in my community and world.
- I will give of my time, skills, and money as I am able for the betterment of my community and world.

Briefly detail a unique personal reflection that focuses on one of the three parts of the above code. Your response may involve yourself, another individual(s), or an experience during your high school career.

ESSAY: (30 points)

On one 8.5"x11" single spaced 12 point Tahoma or Geneva style font please address the following statement:

“HOW HIGH SCHOOL ATHLETICS HAS IMPACTED MY LIFE.”

Please forward all materials to the Heidi Schmidt at HSchmidt@hartfordschools.org or a hard copy application and essay to Heidi Schmidt, c/o SMSA, 280 Huyshope Ave, Hartford Ct. 06106 The application must be postmarked or electronic copy received No Later than February 6, 2026.