



NEW YORK SCHOOLS INSURANCE RECIPROCAL

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THE PAUL JENSEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP 2026 APPLICATION FORM

I. CRITERIA

This scholarship, one in the amount of \$5,000, and other for \$3,000, will be awarded to a student who has demonstrated an inspired imagination and creative aesthetic in his or her school career, and who is seeking an opportunity to attend college. The scholarship is in memory of Paul Jensen, a marketing representative for NYSIR, who passed away in 2006. Paul was a resourceful and inventive man who used, found and collected objects to improvise solutions to everyday problems. He was a wood artist, craftsman and enthusiastic amateur boatwright.

Please attach an essay, written by the student, not to exceed 650 words, that addresses the following topics:

- How the student has designed or adapted an existing design for a specific purpose.
- How this design or adaptation was accomplished; and
- What impact this design has had on the student or others.

This scholarship is awarded to a student who has demonstrated resourcefulness and ingenuity to overcome a puzzling obstacle they have encountered in their life, with strong consideration given to designs which utilize commonly available or repurposed items. For example, unable to find commercially available tools which met his needs, Paul Jensen built boats in bottles using instruments he designed and constructed himself from materials left over from other projects. Schematics or drawing are not required but may be attached to the essay to help explain the design or adaptation. Be Practical. Be Creative. Be Original.

II. THIS APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE THURSDAY, APRIL 2, 2026

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY & SEE SUBMISSION GUIDELINE CHANGES ON PAGE 2:

Application form must be fully completed and emailed to Krystel Allen at [**kallen@nysir.org**](mailto:kallen@nysir.org) with supporting documents, if required.

IMPORTANT: As a condition of the receipt of a scholarship, consent must be given to NYSIR for the use of the scholarship winner's name, photograph and a story about the scholarship winner in NYSIR advertisements.

III. MUST BE COMPLETED BY STUDENT:

Student's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Name of High School: _____

Name of School District: _____

Guidance Counselor's Name (Print & Sign)

Guidance Counselor's Phone Number

Student's Name

Parent/Guardian Name & Phone Number

Submission Guidelines

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY

1. Please email all submissions to kallen@nysir.org. If you are unable to email your application, please contact Krystal Allen at 516-393-2320.
2. Please submit your applications in the formats of pdfs or word documents ONLY. DO NOT include links or files such as google docs, dropbox, sharepoint, one drive etc. Your submissions will not be able to be viewed via these links on our system.
3. The application submission deadline is Thursday, April 2nd, 2026. Applications received after the due date will NOT be accepted.
4. All supporting documents must be legible and able to read/view clearly.
5. It is **REQUIRED** that your Guidance Counselor and Parent/Guardian sign the application. Make sure to include their contact information.
6. Please note that **ONLY** the winners of the scholarships are contacted in May.