



Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of California

2018 – 2019 Scholarship Application Instructions

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION

All application materials must be submitted by 11:59 PM on Thursday March 1, 2018.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

There will be three awards: one \$5000 scholarship, one \$3000 scholarship and one \$2000 scholarship.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

1. Scholarship applicants must be high school seniors in the 2017 - 2018 academic year.
2. Scholarship applicants must be either a member of the California Mayflower Society or have a relative (parent, grandparent, great-grandparent, aunt, uncle, grand-aunt, grand-uncle, great-grand-aunt, great-grand-uncle) who is a living, current, active member of the California Mayflower Society.

There are NO restrictions regarding the *state of residence* of the California Society member or of the scholarship applicant.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

1. Download and save this file and the Scholarship Application Form.
 - Save both of these files before you begin filling out the Scholarship Application. If you do not, the information you insert may not save properly.
 - Name your Scholarship Application file as: “your first name-last name-scholarship” (For example: “John-Doe-Scholarship”)
2. Fill out the Scholarship Application Form by typing directly into each line of the form.
3. Double check that you have provided all the requested information, then save the Scholarship Application Form.
4. As explained below, write a letter and an essay about exploring your Mayflower ancestry.
 - **Part I - The Letter:** Write a letter from one of your Mayflower ancestors to his or her family as if the family were still in England or in Holland. In your letter, describe your experience (as your ancestor) as a member of the colony in Plymouth. Discuss the way the *Mayflower Compact* affected your life in the colony in America.
 - To prepare for writing your letter, find out what is known about your Mayflower ancestor by visiting this website: <http://www.mayflowerhistory.com/mayflower-passenger-list/>.

- You can read the *Mayflower Compact* and study its significance at <http://www.landofthebrave.info/mayflower-compact.htm>. The *Mayflower Compact* is also included on our state society website at: <http://camayflower.org/index.php/mayflower-compact/>
 - Write the letter in your own words. If you choose to use any text from the above sources or from any other external sources, use quotation marks and credit your source. Quote nothing longer than one sentence.
- **Part 2 – The Essay:** Write a personal essay of no more than 500 words that describes how exploring the experience of your Mayflower ancestor and studying the *Mayflower Compact* have influenced your own personal values and your own future plans.
 - Use 14 pt Times New Roman type for your letter and essay.

5. After you have completed and proofread your letter and essay, copy and paste them into the appropriate sections at the bottom of the Scholarship Application Form. Keep the letter and essay in 14 pt. Times New Roman type.

6. Save and print your Scholarship Application Form that includes your letter to your Mayflower ancestor and your personal essay. You must submit this form TWICE: once electronically as an email and again via the United States Postal Service (USPS) as a mail package.

7. Assemble the additional required application materials that you will send with the mail package:
- i. Obtain a photocopy of your high school transcript that includes your first semester senior year grades, your GPA and, if available, your class rank.
 - ii. Take either the ACT or the SAT test, including the writing sample. Make sure you take the test early enough to obtain your results by March 1, 2018. If the results of your test are sent to you online, print out a copy for this application. If the test results are mailed to you, obtain a photocopy of the results.
 - iii. Ask one of your teachers who knows your academic work well to write a letter of recommendation for you. Have them give you their letter in a sealed envelope that they have signed across the seal.
 - iv. Ask a person who is not a family member who knows you well to write a character reference letter for you. Have them give you their letter in a sealed envelope that they have signed across the seal.

SUBMIT YOUR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION MATERIALS

A. Send the **electronic version** of your submission in an email to: skj1707@gmail.com

- In the subject line of the email, write *your name* and “*California Mayflower Scholarship*”
- As an attachment, send your completed Scholarship Application Form that includes your letter to your Mayflower ancestor and your personal essay. (Do NOT email your test scores, grades or recommendations).

B. Send the **mail version** (the complete hardcopy application package) of your submission via the United States Postal Service (USPS) to:
Scholarship Secretary

California Mayflower Society
1707 Pauline Way
Petaluma CA 94954

Your complete application package will include these five items:

1. Your Scholarship Application form with the letter from your Mayflower ancestor and your personal essay inserted
2. Your high school transcript
3. A photocopy of your SAT or ACT test results (as they were sent to you)
4. Your signed letter of recommendation in a sealed envelope
5. Your signed character reference letter in a sealed envelope

DEADLINE

Application materials must be sent electronically and postmarked by 11:59 PM on Thursday, March 1, 2018. Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.

CONFIRMATION

Applicants will receive an email confirming receipt of their materials.

EVALUATION

Applications will be reviewed by a Scholarship Committee that consists of at least three California Mayflower Society members drawn from different colonies in different parts of the state.

EVALUATION CRITERIA

(100-points maximum)

- Mayflower Ancestor Letter and Personal Essay: possible 50 points
- High School Transcript: possible 15 points
- High School Activities and Awards: possible 8 points
- Community Service and Employment: possible 7 points
- ACT/SAT scores: possible 5 points
- Academic Letter of Recommendation: possible 5 points
- Character Reference Letter: possible 5 points
- Application form – completeness: possible 5 points

NOTIFICATION

Scholarship recipients will be notified by phone with a confirming letter; all other applicants will receive a letter.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Scholarship winners will be announced publicly at the June 2018 meeting of the California Mayflower Society Board of Assistants. They will also be introduced in the 2018 summer issue of the *California Quarterly Journal*.

DISBURSEMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

The winning recipients will receive an *Enrollment Confirmation and Payout Request Form* with the letter confirming their scholarship award. After enrolling in first semester classes, each

recipient must send via email this form along with a digital copy/scan of a computer printout of the recipient's class schedule to the California Mayflower Scholarship Secretary at skj1707@gmail.com.

As soon as the Scholarship Secretary receives this form, she will forward it to the California Mayflower Society Treasurer, who will in turn send the funds to the recipient.

OPTIONAL GAP YEAR

Scholarship recipients may choose to take a gap year between high school graduation and college; however 2018-2019 scholarship recipients must enroll in a post-secondary program no later than Fall of 2019.

QUESTIONS

If you have questions, email the Scholarship Secretary, Sally Johnson, at skj1707@gmail.com.