

Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund (NSRC Fund)

2019 Minnesota

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

The [Nisei Student Relocation Commemorative Fund \(NSRC Fund\)](#) is a national scholarship program for students from underserved Southeast Asian communities pursuing a higher education. Every year, the scholarship fund travels to a different city. This is the third time that Minneapolis/Saint Paul has hosted the scholarship fund.

When can I submit an application?

The application period for 2019 begins on October 1, 2018 and closes on March 1, 2019.

How does the NSRC Fund work?

The National NSRC is the main fund-raising organization while the local Chapter recruits and identifies qualified students, encourage these students to apply, evaluates applications, and awards scholarships at a ceremony held in May, 2019. Evaluators will be assessing the students' past and current accomplishments and future needs. Scholarship awards range from \$1,000 to \$2,000. Winners will be publicly announced in mid-April 2019. An award ceremony will be held in May 2019. Winners are not required to attend but are encouraged to if they can.

Who is eligible to apply?

In 2019, a total of \$55,000 will be awarded to scholarship recipients. Historically, the NSRC Fund gives scholarships to students from Southeast Asian communities pursuing a higher education. Given the thriving Somali community in the Twin Cities, the National Board has allocated \$5,000 out of the \$55,000 to be awarded to scholarship recipients from the Somali community. Here's the breakdown:

Southeast Asian Community Fund Eligibility - \$50,000 total:

Any graduating high school senior who was born in or who has a parent who was born in Cambodia, Thailand, Laos, Myanmar or Vietnam and plans to continue their education may submit an application.

Eligible applicants must:

- Currently live and attend high school in Minnesota.
- Graduate from high school in the 2018-19 academic year and start college or other higher education program within two years.
- Be a U.S. Citizen or Legal Permanent Resident

Somali Community Fund Eligibility - \$5,000 total:

Any graduating high school senior who was born in or who has a parent who was born in Somali and plans to continue their education may submit an application. Eligible applicants must:

- Currently live and attend high school in Minnesota.
- Graduate from high school in the 2018-19 academic year and start college or other higher education program within two years.
- Be a U.S. Citizen or Legal Permanent Resident

Do applications need to be in English?

Yes, we only accept applications in English. If you need help finding someone to translate your application into English, please contact us and we will do our best to connect you to a community resource.

Where can I apply online?

Interested students can apply online at <http://bit.ly/NSRCF19>. This application is for both the Southeast Asian Community and Somali Community. Questions? Please email the Local Awards Committee at nsrcfund2019mn@gmail.com.

What does a completed application consist of?

A completed application consists of the following:

- Application Form
- Personal Essay
- At least one letter of reference
- An official school transcript

What should be in the reference letter?

The reference letter should address the following:

- How long you have known the applicant and in what role;
- The applicant's character;
- The applicant's potential to succeed in college, community college, vocational or technical school;
- Any other information that would be helpful to the Committee in making its decision.

Completed reference letters in PDF format can be uploaded directly into the online scholarship application. If there are issues with uploading the letters into the application, letters can be emailed to nsrcfund2019mn@gmail.com or mailed to the address below:

NSRCF Local Awards Committee
c/o Tiffany Xiong, Co-Chair
820 127th Ave NE
Blaine, MN 55434

What are the selection criteria?

Scholarship awards will be based on academic achievement; extracurricular activities in school or community; work experience; educational, career and personal goals; financial need; and potential to succeed in education after high school.

Can I still apply if I'm planning on attending a two-year college?

Yes, higher education is defined as attendance to an accredited vocational, trade, or cosmetology school or two- or four-year college or university.

Will I be given the scholarship award money at the award ceremony?

No, scholarship award money is NOT given at the awards ceremony held in May 2019. After the award ceremony, scholarship recipients will be contacted by a national Board of Director member of The Nisei

Student Relocation Commemorative Fund (NSRCF), who is responsible for disbursing the award money to recipients.

Do I have to use the scholarship award money on tuition only?

No. The scholarship award money can be used for anything education-related including textbooks, school supplies, technology equipment, housing costs, and tuition. Awards are valid for two academic years following its issuance.

How many scholarship awards will be awarded?

In total, the NSRC Fund will award \$55,000 in grants in 2019. We hope to fund a diverse pool of Southeast Asian and Somali students pursuing a variety of education programs. Scholarship awards will range from \$1,000 to \$2,000. The exact number of awards will depend on the quantity and quality of applications we receive.

Who reviews my application?

The Local Awards Scholarship Committee made up of Asian American and Somali community members will be reviewing applications, selecting scholarship recipients, and notifying recipients.

When will scholarship recipients will be announced?

Scholarship recipients will be publicly announced in mid-April 2019.

Who do I contact if I have questions?

Send questions to nsrcfund2019mn@gmail.com