

Program Administration

To assure complete impartiality in selection of winners and to maintain a high level of professionalism, the program is administered by International Scholarship and Tuition Services, Inc. (ISTS), a firm that specializes in managing sponsored scholarship programs.

Checking the Status of Your Application

To check the status of your application, return to: <https://aim.applyists.net/mira> and log into your account using your e-mail address (user ID) and password. You may also call ISTS to check the status at 615.320.3149.

Questions

For additional information regarding the scholarship program, contact:
Michigan Retailers Association Scholarship Program
c/o ISTS
P.O. Box 23737
Nashville TN 37202-3737
Phone 615.320.3149 or Fax 615.320.3151
E-mail: contactus@applyists.com (*please include name of the scholarship program or sponsor*).



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e-mail: mra@retailers.com • Fax: 517.372.1303
www.retailers.com • www.retailersmutual.com
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MIRA 2012 SCHOLARSHIPS



2012 / 2013 Scholarships
Application deadline is April 2, 2012



*Scholarship Program Established
by the Michigan Retailers
Foundation to benefit members
and their employees.*

Apply online:
www.retailers.com



Philosophy

The Michigan Retailers Association Scholarship Program was established through the Michigan Retailers Foundation to achieve a number of highly desirable objectives. First, it recognizes and aids deserving students who are eligible based on their own or their parents' employment with firms that are members of the Michigan Retailers Association. The scholarships assist the winners and their parents with college expenses. The scholarships also indirectly aid the colleges attended by the scholarship winners. For those Michigan Retailers Association members who wish to award their own scholarships, the scholarship program serves as the vehicle through which that is accomplished.

The philosophy of the Michigan Retailers Association Scholarship Program differs from traditional scholarship programs that reward only the highest level of academic achievement. Michigan Retailers Association scholarships will be awarded to deserving students whose academic credentials fall within an average to above-average range. In general, average and above-average credentials are, for high school seniors, those that rank a student in the top half of their senior class. Standardized test scores should be at least 18 for the ACT Composite or, for the SAT combined Critical Reading and Math scores, at least 850. Students enrolled in college should present college GPAs that range from 2.50 to 4.00 on a 4.00 scale, in addition to having the proper high school credentials. Consideration also is given for extra curricular activities, including, but not limited to, part-time retail employment.

Eligibility

Those eligible to apply are high school seniors and college freshmen, sophomores, and juniors who are:

1) Dependent sons and daughters of owners of MRA member businesses, or of full-time employees of Michigan Retailers Association member firms. The parent-employee must have been employed by a Michigan Retailers Association member firm for at least one year as of January 1 of the year in which the scholarships are awarded.

2) Part-time employees of MRA member businesses who are full-time students. Part-time employees must have been employed by a Michigan Retailers Association member firm for at least six months as of January 1 of the year in which the scholarships are awarded.

If you need to verify Michigan Retailers Association member status, please call Michigan Retailers at 800.366.3699.

Note: The applicants or the parents of applicants must still be employed by a Michigan Retailers Association member firm at the time the winners are selected in April.

Scholarship Awards

We expect to award at least 30 scholarships this year in amounts of \$1,000 for four-year colleges and \$500 for community colleges or training institutes (187 have been awarded in the past five years). These awards are for one year and are not based on financial need. Applicants may apply each year they are eligible. There is a new competition for these awards each year. Winning a scholarship one year does not necessarily mean that a recipient will win a scholarship the following year. The scholarships will be applied to educational expenses at accredited, nonprofit colleges, universities, or approved educational and professional training institutes in the United States. A student may change colleges and retain the award.

Winner Selection

An independent selection committee made up of educators will select the winners during the month of April. In selecting the winners, the committee evaluates the applicants' academic records, test scores and extracurricular activities, including, but not limited to, retail employment. The committee will not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, religion or national origin. Applicants are ranked largely on the basis of the qualifications described above. All applicants will be notified of the results of the competition in May.

Payment of Funds

Checks will be mailed to each recipient's mailing address and will be made payable to the institution only. Checks will be issued in August and December. Recipient responsibilities include enrolling as full-time undergraduates in the fall of the year in which the scholarships are awarded and continuing in school for the entire academic year without interruption, barring illness, emergency or military service. Scholarship recipients are responsible for delivering their scholarship checks to the proper office at their institution.