

Scholarship Endowment Fund

Pony Of the Americas Club, Inc.

2026 POAC Scholarship Application

Application is available online:
www.poac.org

Submission deadline is April 15, 2026.

The Pony Of the Americas Club, Inc. awards scholarships annually to outstanding youth members. Scholarships are perpetuated by memorial funds, endowments, state club and chapter donations, individual donations, and POAC special events. Scholarship amounts vary annually depending on available funds. All applications will be reviewed by the scholarship committee.

To qualify, an applicant must be:

- a graduating high school senior
- a CURRENT member of the POAC
- actively showing POAs

The POAC will recognize scholarship recipients at the National Congress Show in July.

*Applications must be received by or postmarked on or before **April 15, 2026.***

Checklist

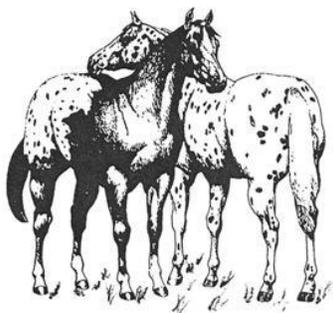
- Completed Application
- Essay of Involvement with POAs
- Summary of Educational Goals
- Official High School Transcript
- 3 Letters of Recommendation

General Information

- Open to any graduating high school senior who is a current 2026 member of the POAC (family or youth membership) and who is actively showing POAs at the state, regional, and/or national level.
- Applications are to be typed or printed legibly. Essay and summary of educational goals must be typed. It is to the applicant's advantage to submit a complete, neat, legible, and informative application.
- Selection will be based on POAC activities, school and community activities, scholastic achievement, and information provided in the essay and in the summary of educational goals.
- Letters of recommendation are required from 1) a POA member, 2) a teacher, and 3) another person of the applicant's choice. Recommendation letters cannot be from a relative of the applicant. *The person writing each letter of recommendation should mail or email it directly to the POAC Scholarship Chair.*
- Applicants must complete, sign, and return the application and supporting materials to Michelle Payne, POAC Scholarship Chair. *All application materials must be received by, or postmarked on or before, April 15, 2026*

Mail or email completed application and supporting materials to:

Michelle Payne, POAC Scholarship Chair, 2126 East County Road 9, Milford, IL 60953
Email: POAC.Scholarship@gmail.com Questions? Text to 217-898-7565



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Please type or print legibly. Attach additional sheets if needed.

Full Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Are you a U.S. citizen? Yes: _____ No: _____

Name of Parent(s)/Guardian(s): _____ Phone: _____

_____ Phone: _____

High School Information

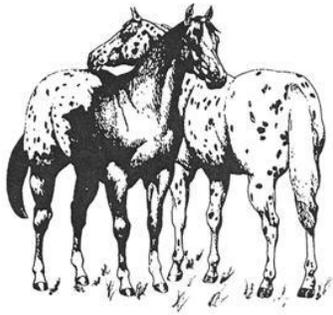
Date of Graduation: _____

Please list all high schools attended (most recent first):

Name of School(s)	Dates Attended	Location
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High School Achievements

1. Please list all honors and awards earned in high school.
2. Please list any clubs involved in and/or offices held, along with the dates.
3. Please list any extracurricular activities and the dates.
4. Include anything else you would like to add about your high school years, including any notable community activities.



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Full Name: _____

College Information

Career goal(s): _____

List accredited colleges, trade schools, or certification programs to which you have applied or are applying (in order of preference):

1. _____ 2. _____
3. _____ 4. _____

POA Information

Are you or your immediate family current **state** POA members? Yes: ____ No: ____ How long? _____

State: _____

What state club activities have you been involved in? _____

Are you or your immediate family current **national** POA members? Yes: ____ No: ____ How long? _____

What national club activities have you been involved in? _____

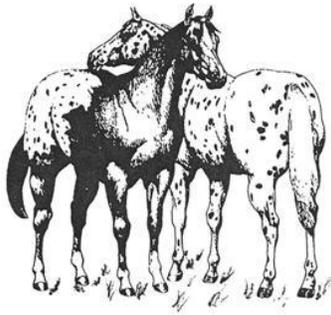
Do you or your family currently own and/or show POAs? Yes: ____ No: ____

List additional POA activities at the local, state, or national level, 4-H, etc. (e.g., approved shows, trail rides, etc.).

Name of pony/ponies: _____

Type of event, date, location: _____

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____



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Additional Requirements

Essay and summary of educational goals must be typed, double-spaced, and use Times New Roman 12 pt. font.

- 1. Essay.** Write a 300-word essay about you and your involvement with POAs and the POAC. The essay should include, but is not limited to, how long you have been involved with the POAC and what you have gained or learned during that time. You may include how your parents encouraged you, but please do not include information about your parents' involvement with the POAC.
- 2. Summary of Educational Goals.** Write a brief summary (150 words or fewer) about why you want to continue your education.
- 3. Official High School Transcript.**
- 4. Three Letters of Recommendation.** Letters of recommendation from 1) a POA member, 2) a teacher, and 3) a person of the applicant's choice. Recommendation letters cannot be from a relative. The person completing each letter of recommendation should mail or email it directly to Michelle Payne, POAC Scholarship Chair.

Address: 2126 East County Road 9, Milford, IL 60953 OR Email: POAC.Scholarship@gmail.com

POAC Scholarship Scoring

These are the criteria on which your application will be scored.

- POAC Participation**.....30 points _____
Involvement at the state (5 points), regional (10points), and/or national (15 points) level
- POA Essay**.....20 points _____
Should include, but is not limited to, how long you have been involved with POAs and what you have gained or learned from your involvement
- Educational Goals**.....20 points _____
A brief summary about why you want to continue your education
- School Achievements**.....20 points _____
Grades, extracurricular and/or community activities
- Letters of Recommendation**.....20 points _____
Required from 1) a POA member, 2) a teacher, and 3) another person of your choice
- Application**.....20 points _____
Neat, complete, attention to grammar, spelling, etc.

Total out of possible 130: _____