

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Process

Winning a National Merit Scholarship involves a long process. The following explains how the system works:

Program Entry

In October, more than one million U.S. high school eleventh grade students who take the PSAT/NMSQT and meet other eligibility requirements enter the Merit Scholarships.

Commended Students

In late September of the senior year, approximately 35,000 of the high scoring participants receive Letters of Commendation, but these students will not continue in the Merit Scholarships.

Semifinalists

In mid-September of the senior year, approximately 15,000 eligible participants with the highest scores in each of the 50 states are notified that they are Semifinalists. The National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) provides scholarship applications and materials explaining what must be done for Semifinalists to advance in the competition for Merit Scholarships.

Finalists

In February of the senior year, NMSC notifies Semifinalists who have been named Finalists, by meeting academic and other requirements.

High School Achievements Four Year History

Class of:		2019	2020	2021	2022
BHS	Finalists	0	1	0	1
	Semifinalists	0	1	0	1
	Commended Students	2	3	0	6
LHHS	Finalists	0	0	0	0
	Semifinalists	0	0	0	0
	Commended Students	3	4	4	7
PHS	Finalists	5	0	2	1
	Semifinalists	5	0	2	1
	Commended Students	6	11	11	7
RHS	Finalists	3	3	2	2
	Semifinalists	3	3	2	2
	Commended Students	5	13	9	11