

CENTRAL PANHANDLE MUTUAL AID DISTRICT

November 22, 2025

News Release

For Immediate Release

Contact: Missy Quinn
PO Box 403, Oshkosh, NE 69154
308-772-4010

CENTRAL PANHANDLE MUTUAL AID DISTRICT ESSAY CONTEST ENTRIES DUE

The Central Panhandle Mutual Aid District is sponsoring a scholarship essay contest for Nebraska high school seniors and college students based upon the topic “What are the benefits of having a Volunteer Fire Department in your Community.” Eligible applicants must be a permanent resident of one of the following communities; Oshkosh, Ellsworth, Lakeside, Lewellen, Lodgepole, Broadwater, Bridgeport, Bayard, Dalton, Gurley, Rackett, Northport, Lisco, Antioch or Alliance.

The winner will receive a \$500 scholarship to the accredited U.S. College of his or her choice. The essay must be type written and at least 500 words or more in length. Entries will be judged by members of the Central Panhandle Mutual Aid District and become the property of the organization.

For a scholarship application and a list of required criteria, please contact Missy Quinn at (308) 772- 4010. Entries must be received or postmarked by April 15, 2026, to be eligible for the contest.

Central Panhandle Mutual Aid District

The Central Panhandle Mutual Aid District (CPMAD) was formed in 1990 and consists of a collection of agencies at the federal, county, and local levels charged with suppressing fires that pose a threat to our communities, properties, homes and natural resources.

APPLICATION CRITERIA ~ REQUIRED:

1. Nebraska resident located within one of the following communities covered by the CPMAD: Oshkosh, Ellsworth, Lakeside, Lodgepole, Broadwater, Bridgeport, Bayard, Dalton, Gurley, Rackett, Northport, Lisco, Antioch and Alliance.
2. Full time senior high school student, or currently attending college.
3. Minimum Grade Point Average of 2.5
4. Acceptance into a college or trade school as a full time student.
5. Submit **two** (2) Letters of Recommendation (excluding immediate family members)
6. Submit a letter from the high school counselor verifying grade point average, class rank, and include the students' high school transcript. Substitute college transcripts if you are a current college student. Transcripts must verify enrollment for the upcoming year.
7. In 500 words or more (typed), address the following essay question:

“What are the benefits of having a Volunteer Fire Department in your community?”

AMOUNT: \$500

The winner will receive a \$500 scholarship to the college or trade school of his or her choice.

SELECTION OF RECIPIENT:

The recipient will be selected by members of the Central Panhandle Mutual Aid District based upon their answer provided in the essay question and application criteria.

TO REQUEST APPLICATION:

Contact: Missy Quinn
PO Box 403
Oshkosh, NE 69154
(308)772-4010 gmissy@hotmail.com

APPLICATION DEADLINE

April 15, 2026

SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO:

Missy Quinn
PO Box 403
Oshkosh, NE 69154

CENTRAL PANHANDLE MUTUAL AID DISTRICT

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The CPMAD does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, marital status, national origin, ancestry, veteran status or disability in the administration of its scholarship.

Omission of **any** criteria requirements will result in your application being discarded, please be sure to include all requested information.

Name:
(LAST) _____ (First) _____ (Middle) _____

CURRENT ADDRESS: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE () _____ () _____
(Home) (Work)

HIGH SCHOOL ATTENDED/ATTENDING _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

DATE OF HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION _____

GRADE POINT AVERAGE & CLASS RANK _____

SCHOOL ACTIVITIES & YEARS INVOLVED: Attach additional pages if necessary.

HONORS/AWARDS: Attach additional pages if necessary.

VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS: Attach additional pages if necessary.

COLLEGE ATTENDING OR APPLICATION MADE TO:

COLLEGE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ **STATE:** _____ **ZIP** _____

INTENDED PROGRAM OF STUDY: _____

DATE OF ENROLLMENT: _____

Please include a minimum 500 word essay addressing, “What are the benefits of having a Volunteer Fire Department in your Community?” Also include 2 letters of recommendation and verification from your school counselor of college enrollment, GPA, class rank and high school or college transcripts.

One \$500 scholarship will be awarded, all selections are final and the winner will be notified by phone.

(Signature)

(Date)

All scholarship applications become the property of the Central Panhandle Mutual Aid District. Special consideration will be given with family members involved with fire fighting and rescue, however, the scholarship is available to all qualified applicants.