



Rice County Sheriff's Office

Jesse J. Thomas, Sheriff
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Sheriffs' scholarships for students pursuing law enforcement available

Rice County Sheriff Jesse Thomas today announced the 2023 Law Enforcement Scholarship Program.

The Minnesota Sheriffs' Association Board of Directors established the scholarship fund and will award up to 20 - \$2,000 scholarships later this year. These scholarships are due to the coordinated efforts of the 87 Minnesota sheriffs.

MSA members give special recognition to the financial needs of students attending the peace officer skills course, or one of the two- or four-year law enforcement degree colleges.

"The Board of Directors feels peace officers in our democratic society have complex duties to perform," said Thomas.

MSA recognizes the importance of pre-entry training for people considering law enforcement as a career. It also recognizes some students need outside help in meeting the costs of such training, even though they excel academically.

The Scholarship Committee, in making the awards, intends to achieve representation from all geographical areas of the state. Scholarship awards will be announced by Dec. 29.

Scholarships are only available to students currently enrolled in one of the following:

1. Mandated POST Skills Program
2. In their second year of a two-year law enforcement program.
3. In their third or fourth year of a four-year college criminal justice program.

In order to qualify, students must have completed at least one year of the two-year program or two years of a four-year program.

Students meeting these criteria are invited to obtain a scholarship application form and a statement of procedures from the Rice County Sheriff's Office or online at [bit.ly/MSA Scholarship App-Policy](https://bit.ly/MSA_Scholarship_App-Policy). The deadline to submit an application to the Rice County Sheriff's Office is 4 p.m. Friday, Nov. 17, 2023.

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