

2025 National Ocean Scholarship Program

What is the National Ocean Scholarship Program?

As part of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB) program's continuing effort to recognize individual achievement, the NOSB offers the National Ocean Scholarship Program. This scholarship program is to provide tuition assistance for NOSB students who have an interest in pursuing an ocean or environmental science-related major in the first year of their post-high school education.

Criteria for the National Ocean Scholarship Program

All applicants for the National Ocean Scholarship Program must meet the following requirements:

- Participate in the National Ocean Sciences Bowl at least once during high school career;
- Pursue a career goal in an ocean science or environmental science related field;
- Demonstrate academic success and integrity throughout their high school career; and
- Be scheduled to graduate high school in the Spring of 2025.

Application Process for the National Ocean Scholarship Program

Qualified students are required to complete this Google Form application and submit the following supporting materials by email (PDFs preferred):

TWO (2) required essays (see details below)

- TWO (2) letters of recommendation (one must be from an academic source such as a teacher or a coach)
- ONE (1) piece of media, with a written description, that highlights your experience with the NOSB (see details below)
- Proof of admission to an institution of higher learning (if available currently)

ALL components of a complete application must be submitted by EOD June 2, 2025 to be considered. *NOTE: Students must complete this application form AND email their essays, media piece, and proof of admission in ONE email to Melissa Brodeur, NOSB Program Manager, at mbrodeur@ucar.edu. The two letters of recommendation may be emailed to Melissa Brodeur by the student or the providing individuals. Any applications with missing materials as of June 2nd will NOT be accepted or reviewed.**

Decisions will be made by the end of July 2025, and all applicants will be contacted regardless if they are chosen to receive funding. An outside review team of educators, university scientists, and marine science professionals will evaluate all applications. Selection will be based on evaluation of recommendation letters, essays, media piece description, and overall expressed interest in ocean and environmental science. Funding is dependent upon attending an institution of higher learning.

If there are any questions regarding the criteria or instructions listed above, please contact Melissa Brodeur at 303-497-2654 or email mbrodeur@ucar.edu.

Details on Essay Questions for the National Ocean Scholar Program Application

Part I. Below are two (2) essay topics for the National Ocean Scholar Program. Please choose one (1) of the topics and write an essay of 600 words or less.

- A. The first Ocean Literacy Principle states that “the Earth has one big ocean with many features.” Choose one oceanic feature and explain its significance to current societal impacts and our understanding of the ocean.

*The Ocean Literacy Pamphlet can be found online at:
http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/education/literacy/ocean_literacy.pdf*

- B. Take a position on one of the current challenges in ocean management (your choice) and write a persuasive argument to convince others to take this position.

Part II. Please answer the following question in 400 words or less.

Describe an experience that sparked your interest in the National Ocean Sciences Bowl. Explain how your interest in ocean sciences and participation in NOSB may lead to a future career in the ocean sciences or a related field. Be sure to include any information about planned college coursework (or other activities) relevant to your career choice.

Details on Media Submission for the National Ocean Scholar Program Application

Please submit ONE (1) piece of media, with a written description (250 words or less), that highlights your experience with the NOSB (your individual or team preparation, your regional competition, or your interest in ocean and/or environmental science as a result of your NOSB participation). The piece of media can include artwork, a photograph, video, website or social media post, print or online news story, or blog post. Please ensure the media you submit is something created by you/your team members or references you/your NOSB team.