



2026 Navin Narayan Scholarship Application Instructions

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About the Navin Narayan Scholarship

Both a Rhodes Scholar and a Harvard graduate, Navin Narayan was a high-achieving student as well as a dedicated, compassionate, and innovative American Red Cross volunteer. Navin served many roles in the American Red Cross, including National Youth Council Chair. Tragically, at the age of 23, Navin succumbed to cancer. Since 2001, the National Youth Council has continued Navin Narayan's legacy of **volunteerism** and academic excellence by awarding the Navin Narayan College Scholarship to two high school seniors who embody his principles. This scholarship is a one-time award of \$1,000 paid directly to two recipients upon proof of matriculation.

General Information

Application and two letters of recommendation are due April 12, 2026, at 11:59 PM EST. Applications received after this deadline will not be considered. There are no exceptions. The applicant is responsible for applying through the [submission form](#) and sharing the link to the [recommendation form](#). Two letters of recommendation must be received to be considered for the scholarship.

The recipients of the \$1,000 Navin Narayan Scholarship will be notified by May 15, 2026.

Eligibility:

- Active, registered volunteer with a Volunteer Connection account for 2 years as of March 1, 2026.



- Current high school senior graduating in 2026.
- Planning to matriculate into a 4-year college or university in Fall 2026.

Part I and II: Background and Student Application Questions

All applicants must apply through the [submission form](#). You will need to submit your most recent academic transcript, honors and awards, American Red Cross and non-American Red Cross involvement, extracurricular activities, and work experience with descriptions and dates of involvement.

Part III: Essay Questions

1. Navin Narayan was deeply passionate about public service and excelled in academia. Please describe the importance of scholarship and public service in your life, and how the Red Cross has guided your passion for both learning and serving others. (250 words max)
2. The transition from high school to college is a tough one, which raises the question of how and where to devote one's time and resources. Please describe your goals for continued involvement to be a youth changemaker with the American Red Cross upon matriculation. (250 words max)
3. Share your Red Cross story. Describe an experience that conveys how the American Red Cross either drew you to volunteer or makes you proud to be a volunteer. (500 words max)

Part IV: Recommendations

Two recommendation letters are required.

1. The High School Recommendation should be completed by an adult employee of your high school.
2. The Red Cross Recommendation should be completed by the regional Red Cross staff person or adult who has worked most closely with you.

Both recommendations are due by April 12, 2026, at 11:59 PM EST. Please note that only two recommendations will be considered.

Future Role as Scholarship Recipient

The recipients of the 2026 Navin Narayan Scholarship will be requested to:



**American
Red Cross**

Youth & Young Adults

- Participate in future calls to talk about the scholarship application experience and how the Red Cross has impacted them.
- Fill out a biannual form with updates on their Red Cross involvement for all years in university.