

SILAS “OPTIMUS-PRIME” WILLIAMS SCHOLARSHIP

National Association of Buffalo Soldiers and Trooper Motorcycle Club™ – Aberdeen, Maryland Chapter

****Updated Deadlines****

**National Scholarship - 11:59 PM on February 6, 2026
Local Scholarship - 11:59 PM on April 30, 2026**

Announcing the 2026 National Association of Buffalo Soldiers and Trooper Motorcycle Club™ (NABSTMC™) – Aberdeen, Maryland Chapter’s yearly scholarship, named after our Chapter’s 1st President and Charter Member, Mr. **Silas “Optimus-Prime” Williams**.

A 2026 high school senior or **General Educational Development (GED)** recipient in Harford County Maryland and Cecil County Maryland could be awarded up to \$1,500.00. **Applicants must have a GPA of 2.0 or better** and be **attending post-secondary or vocational/trade school in the Fall of 2025**.

This year, the NABSTMC™ – Aberdeen, MD Chapter has two (2) different scholarships: 1) College/University and 2) Vocational/Trade School. The chapter will award **four (4) scholarships**:

- **One (1) \$1,500.00**
- **Two (2) \$1,000.00**
- **One (1) \$500.00**

The scholarship application and information detailing all eligibility requirements for the scholarship is attached to this package. Scholarship **applications must be submitted by the deadlines listed above** to the NABSTMC™ – Aberdeen, MD Chapter.

Email complete application packets to onyxbsmc@gmail.com. Incomplete scholarship application packages will not be considered and will not be returned. Please submit all questions by email.

Scholarship awardees will be notified by written correspondence on the results by **June 30, 2026**.

Wishing all applicants an awesome Senior Year!

National Association of Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers Motorcycle Club™ (NABSTM)™

<http://www.nabstmc.com/scholarship>

Vocational Scholarship Program

The **philosophy** of the National Association of Buffalo Soldiers and Troopers Motorcycle Club™ is:

- Honor the rich history of the 9th and 10th Cavalry of Buffalo Soldiers who served in the U.S. Army from 1866-1944
- Ride our motorcycles in which is referred to as our '*iron horse*'
- Proudly serve in our communities to display goodwill
- Support veterans and their families.
- Partner with charitable organizations
- Promote motorcycle safety.
- Uphold NABSTM™ traditions and values.

Organization Overview:

- NABSTM™ is organized into 5 Frontiers: Northeast, Southeast, Great Lakes, Central, and Western
- The organization spans 35 states, including Hawaii, plus an international Chapter in Germany
- Over 109 Chapters

Scholarship Application Guidelines

Submit your application to a local chapter. Each chapter may submit up to three (3) vocational scholarship application packets to its designated Frontier Scholarship Representative by the stated deadline.

- Submitted applications may qualify to compete at the Chapter, Frontier, and National levels.
- The Frontier winner will advance to an interview process conducted by the National Scholarship Committee.

Selected Frontier vocational scholarship winners will be interviewed and vetted by the National Scholarship Committee. Final vetting will determine the recipient of the NABSTM™ Vocational Scholarship Award. Scholarship funds will be mailed directly to the attending institution upon verification of enrollment and attendance in Spring 2026. If selected as the NABSTM™ National Vocational Scholarship Program winner, you must be available to receive your award at the NABSTM™ national convention in Tampa, Florida during the weekend of July 9 through 11, 2026.

Local chapters may choose to award scholarship funds **either directly to the student or to the school**, based on chapter discretion. This distinction is separate from Frontier and National-level awards, which are **mailed directly to the student's school** following enrollment verification.

Requirements:

- Applicant is a graduating high school senior or GED recipient (Fall 2025 - Summer 2026), planning to attend a vocational or trade school.
- Completed application. Exclude the general info/instructions pages.
- Unofficial high school transcript, homeschool transcript, or GED transcript. Minimum scores: 2.0 GPA or PASS
- A one-page maximum letter of recommendation from:
 - A Teacher, guidance counselor, school administrator, employer, mentor, or other adult familiar with your interests, work, art, or community service accomplishments. **The letter should come from someone who is not an immediate or extended family member.**
- Letter of acceptance to a vocational or trade School.
- Signed release form with parent's signature if under 18.
- A 4-minute minimum to 7-minute maximum **unlisted YouTube video link**. See the guidelines below for more information.
- Your full name, vocational or trade school student ID number (if available), and the address of the vocational or trade school business office.
- Photo Submission. This photo will be used for official purposes. Ensure the image is clear, well-lit, and appropriately framed in a neutral background. Please ensure your photo meets the following requirements:
 - Attire: Business casual OR representing your vocation/trade.
 - Size: Standard thumbnail dimensions - 1280 x 720 pixels
 - Format: Photo must be embedded directly into the PDF application.

Video Instructions:

Important: Do not talk about the NABSTMCTM in your video. In your 4–7-minute video include:

- Introduce yourself
- Your family background
- How you give back to your community
- Your proudest accomplishments to date
- Certificate, license, or training you are working toward and why you chose it.
- How NABSTMCTM vocational scholarship funds will help.
- Answer the question:

What lesson(s) from the history of the Buffalo Soldiers can you apply to your vocational journey?

- Optional: If you already have experience in your chosen field, show or describe the skills you've learned.

National Association of Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers Motorcycle Club™
(NABSTMC)™
2026 Vocational Scholarship Program Application

Application Deadline: February 6, 2026

National Association of Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers™ MC Local Chapter Name: _____

Scholarship Representative Contact Information: _____

Student First Name:		Last Name:	
Address:			
City:		State:	
Zip Code:		Email:	
Home Phone:		Cell Phone:	
Date of Birth:		Parent Phone:	

Academic Information:

High School Name:		City / State	
Graduation or GED Date:			

Vocational /Trade or Certificate School Information: (If you have not finalized your school choice, provide your first- choice school.):

Business Office Name:	City and State:
Address:	Zip Code:

Vocational/Trade School Certificate or Training you are seeking:

Anticipated Graduation or Completion Date:		Student ID#:
Share your unlisted YouTube link here:		

Applicant Service, Extracurricular Activities, and Work Experience:

Use this space to list your volunteer service, extracurricular activities, internship, or work experience. **Do not attach a resume in lieu of completing this form. It will not be reviewed.** Duplicate this page if you have additional experience to share.

Description			
Total Hours or Average Hours per week:		Are you still participating? (yes/no)	
Start Date:		End Date:	
Position Held:			
Description			
Total Hours or Average Hours per week:		Are you still participating? (yes/no)	
Start Date:		End Date:	
Position Held:			
Description			
Total Hours or Average Hours per week:		Are you still participating? (yes/no)	
Start Date:		End Date:	
Position Held:			
Description:			

Terms & Conditions:

I, _____, certify, to the best of my knowledge, that the information on this application is complete and accurate. Falsification of any information will cause my disqualification from the scholarship competition.

- (1) It is my responsibility to make sure the application process is complete, the video link is working, and the entire application packet is sent or scanned to the National Association of Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers Motorcycle Club™ Chapter (locate at www.nabstmc.com) closest to my home by the deadline. If not, the application will be disqualified from the scholarship competition.
- (2) This application, upon receipt, becomes the property of the program sponsor.

I, _____, agree that, if selected as an award winner of the National Association of Buffalo Soldiers & Troopers Motorcycle Club™ Vocational Scholarship Program, the program sponsor or its agents may use my name and likeness and any other information or materials provided in connection with this program for purposes of news, publicity, and advertising in all media, including but not limited to print and electronic media, press releases, internet, websites, and video media.

To comply with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, I hereby grant permission for school officials to release secondary school records and other academic information, if necessary.

If you are under 18, your parent or guardian must also agree to these Terms and Conditions.

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Parent or Guardian Signature (if applicable): _____

A local Chapter Scholarship Representative must acknowledge this application with a signature. This representative will be your first point of contact during the scholarship season.

Chapter Scholarship Rep. Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Applicants: If you are unable to contact a local chapter scholarship program representative, please email the Frontier or National representative listed on the following page. In your email explain how you tried to contact your local chapter representative.