

MISS NORTH CAROLINA CLASS OF 2024 (MNCC 24) COMPETITION SCHOLARSHIP RULES

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MEMBERS OF THE MNCC 24 ARE PROVIDED BY THE NORTH CAROLINA EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND, INC. (NCESF), AN INDEPENDENT TAX-EXEMPT ORGANIZATION

- 1. Eligibility Period.** Scholarship funds earned by members of the MNCC 2024 must be used within a two-year period beginning on July 1, 2024, and ending on June 30, 2026, referred to as the “Eligibility Period.” Scholarships not claimed during the Eligibility Period will revert to the NCESF and used at the discretion of the NCESF Board.
- 2. Miss NC Exception.** Because Miss North Carolina may be required to withdraw from school for a period of time or take a one-year leave of absence from work following her selection, her Eligibility Period, which also begins on July 1, 2024 and ends June 30, 2026, may be extended up to one year ending June 30, 2027. Her request for an extension must be in writing, addressed to the NCESF Scholarship Chair, and postmarked no later than May 1, 2026.
- 3. Use of Scholarship Funds.** Scholarship funds may be used for: (i) current tuition charges, book expenses, school supplies and other educational fees incurred in a course of study at an accredited college, university, trade or technical school (collectively referred to as a “school”); (ii) reimbursement up to \$3500 for the purchase of a laptop computer (and related products); (iii) repayment of educational debt; and (iv) other expenses defined in Paragraph No. 7 below. Resolution of any question regarding use of scholarship funds shall be in the sole discretion of the NCESF.
- 4. Payment of Tuition and Fees.** Tuition and fee payments will be made directly to a school for the benefit of a scholarship recipient. The recipient must provide the NCESF Scholarship Chair an itemized statement of charges for the current term that includes the sums due, student identification number, and mailing address for the payment.
- 5. Payment of Educational Debt.**¹ Scholarship funds may be used to reduce student loan debt provided that: (i) the loan is not in default; (ii) the student has satisfactorily completed the course work for which the loan was made; (iii) the loan is from a lending institution or school; and (iv) the request for payment includes a copy of the promissory note and a current loan statement with the balance due, the account number and mailing address where the payment is to be sent.
- 6. Reimbursement for Books and Laptop Computer.** A scholarship recipient may request reimbursement for book expenses and school supplies, and up to \$3500 for the purchase of a laptop computer and related supplies. A request for reimbursement for these expenses must include an accounting together with the sales receipts.
- 7. Other Expenses.** NCESF may reimburse a scholarship recipient for the costs of: (i) application fees and admission examination costs for graduate and professional study; and (ii) professional development courses or seminars required by a licensing or regulatory board related to their business or profession. Requests for reimbursement under this paragraph shall include an explanation of the reimbursement requested and a receipt for the cost of the same. Resolution of any questions regarding use of scholarship funds under this paragraph shall be in the sole discretion of the NCESF.
- 8. In-Kind Scholarships.** The recipient of an in-kind scholarship from a school may accept the scholarship upon the terms and conditions prescribed by the sponsoring school. Neither the Miss North Carolina Organization, nor the NCESF, has any control over these scholarships other than to award them to the designated winner.
- 9. Receipt of Funds Earned.** A scholarship recipient will only receive from NCESF the amount of scholarship funds she earned in the 2024 MNC competition. Should a runner-up succeed to the title of Miss NC, or succeed to any place higher than where she originally finished in the 2024 competition, she may only receive from NCESF the initial sum of scholarships she earned.
- 10. Use of Local Pageant Scholarship Funds First.** A member of the Miss NC Class of 2024 must use all local scholarship funds prior to applying for her MNCC scholarship funds. The local organization’s executive director may notify the NCESF Scholarship Chair by email that local funds have been paid.

¹ Payment of scholarship funds to reduce qualified educational debt by a tax-exempt organization, and whether or not an IRS Form 1009 must be given to a scholarship recipient for whom payment has been made, has been the subject of discussion and differences of opinion. It is the intent of NCESF to allow use of funds for qualified educational debt unless it is definitively found that such payments are not permitted. In the latter case, payment of funds to reduce educational debt would be suspended and members of the Miss North Carolina Class of 2024 notified accordingly.

I. SUMMARY OF PAYMENT PROCESS FOR NCESF FOR PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS

- **Confirmation from the Local Pageant Executive Director that:**
 - A contestant has used all of her local pageant scholarship money. Email confirmation is preferred.
- **Payment of Current Tuition Charges:**
 - Submission of an itemized statement of account showing the amount of tuition and fees for the current term with student ID number and mailing address for the payment.
- **Reimbursement of Books and Computer Purchase:**
 - An accounting with sales receipts.
- **For educational debt:**
 - Copy of the Promissory Note; and
 - Current account statement with account number, balance due and mailing address for the payment.
- **Other Expenses or Costs:**
 - Written explanation of the expense; and
 - Receipt for the purchase

II. ANY DOCUMENTS OR CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING SCHOLARSHIPS MAY BE SENT BY U.S. MAIL, OR EMAIL, AS FOLLOWS:

McNeil Chestnut
NC Educational Scholarship Fund
PO Box 5263
Pinehurst, NC 28374
mchestnut@nc.rr.com

III. ANY CORRESPONDENCE OR DOCUMENTS REQUIRED TO BE PROVIDED BY THESE RULES MAY BE SCANNED INTO A PDF FORMAT AND EMAILED TO THE SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR. EMAILS WITH PDF DOCUMENTS ATTACHED ARE PREFERRED!

I acknowledge receipt of a copy of the 2024 MNC Competition Scholarship Rules which have been provided to me by the Miss North Carolina Organization and it is my responsibility to complete and sign a set of these rules and to return the same to the NCESF Scholarship Chair not later than the 2024 Miss North Carolina work week-end. I also understand that on or before August 1, 2024, I will receive a Notice of Scholarship Award and it is my responsibility to maintain a copy of this notice and these scholarship rules. I also understand that my failure to submit a request for payment of a scholarship within the Eligibility Period, and to include the documents required to claim a scholarship payment, will result in my failure to receive my scholarship. I have read and understand the Miss North Carolina Class of 2024 Scholarship Rules and I agree to abide by the same this ___ day of _____, 2024.

Candidate (Signature)

Title

Mailing Address:

Email Address:

School:

Telephone #:

School:

DOB:

PLEASE PRINT AND KEEP FOR YOUR RECORDS A COPY OF THE RULES AND TIMELY NOTIFY THE SCHOLARSHIP CHAIR OF ANY CHANGE IN YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION