

2026 David E. West Memorial Scholarship

Instructions

Deadline: Tuesday, April 1, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.

General Information:

The David West Memorial Scholarship is a \$1,000 scholarship awarded to an outstanding collegiate journalist, attending one of the four colleges/universities located in Mercer County and who has demonstrated an interest in their student newspaper or news site.

The scholarship honors the memory of David E. West, a former Rhodes Scholar and long-time editor of the Trenton Times. During his lengthy career at the Times, David served as suburban editor, assistant city editor, assistant managing editor, managing editor and executive editor. He retired in 1975 and passed away in 1986. As part of her Will, his wife, Florence Block West, asked that the scholarship be established upon her death. Mrs. West died in 2013.

This scholarship is open to all journalism majors and/or staff members of news publications at one of the four college/universities in Mercer County (Princeton University, Rider University, The College of New Jersey and Mercer County Community College).

Students who received any New Jersey Press Foundation scholarship in 2025 are not eligible for the 2026 West Scholarship.

Applicants must deliver, via email, a copy of the application form and all attachments (see below) to parbitell@njpa.org by Tuesday, April 1, 2026 at 3 p.m.

The scholarship recipient will be announced in early April.

Application Requirements:

Submit all of these items, in a single email, as attachments.

1. The application form, complete with all information requested. PDF preferred.
2. A copy of your academic transcript(s) for all college course work completed through December 2025. PDF preferred.
3. Three samples of journalistic writing that either appeared in any newspaper or were completed as class assignments. For articles that appeared in print, we prefer PDFs of the pages. For class assignments, Microsoft Word-compatible documents or PDFs are preferred.
4. A statement of your interest in a journalism career, written as an autobiographical sketch describing your journalistic skills and achievements (500 words or less). Word-compatible or PDF preferred.

Email complete application to parbitell@njpa.org

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Application

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Personal Information

Name _____ Name of School _____
Your campus / school year mailing address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip code _____
Cell phone or other college phone _____ E-mail _____
Home address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip code _____
Home Phone _____

Academic Information

Year in school (*Fr., So., Jr.*) _____ Anticipated year of graduation _____
Undergraduate college major(s) _____
Are you enrolled in a journalism minor program? _____ Yes _____ No
Other minors _____

Journalism Experience (*You may attach a résumé or an expanded list if you need more space to write.*)

High school newspaper experience
Staff positions held _____ Honors / awards received _____
College school newspaper experience
Staff positions held _____ Honors / awards received _____
Other newspaper experience
Positions held _____ Honors / awards received _____

Statement and Permission

I agree that, if selected, New Jersey Press Foundation may use my statements and likeness in its promotional literature, in print and on the Internet. I have read the program instruction sheet that lists the attachments required for a complete application.

Signed _____ Date _____
Student ID Number _____