

2026 GSA SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION SHEET

The Guam Society of America (GSA), Inc.'s Scholarship program provides annual scholarships to current and prospective college students as an integral part of supporting and sponsoring educational, Chamorro cultural, and social programs for those motivated to improve society by enhancing their future through a college education.

The scholarships are for students pursuing their first undergraduate degree only. The Guam Society of America, Inc. intends to award the following 2026 scholarships:

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| ❖ Brigida Lizama College Scholarship \$1,500* | ❖ College Student Scholarship \$1,000** |
| ❖ Brigida Lizama High School Scholarship \$1,500* | ❖ High School Student Scholarship \$1,000** |
| ❖ College Student Scholarship \$1,000 ** | ❖ High School Student Scholarship \$1,000** |

*To be eligible for the Brigida Lizama Scholarship categories, applicants must have been a Guam Society member in 2025 and completed twenty-four (24) volunteer hours supporting the goals and activities of The Guam Society of America, Inc. These hours must be documented, reviewed, and verified by the Guam Society Committee Chairperson for the event the applicant supported.

***Additionally, for the other categories, the Society encourages applicants to submit volunteer hours for Guam Society events. This is not a requirement like the Brigida Lizama categories; however, submission of volunteer hours will strengthen submissions when reviewed by the selection panel. Note that there is not a set number of hours for these categories, applicants may submit volunteer hours as served against Guam Society events they volunteered for.*

If you have any questions regarding the service hour requirement, don't hesitate to get in touch with the Scholarship Committee Chairperson, **Laurie Manibusan, at scholarship@guamsocietyinc.org or by text at (805) 835-7072.**

Scholarships will be awarded based on academic achievement and potential, character, leadership, social awareness, career goals, perseverance, and public service/community involvement.

Essays submitted as part of the scholarship application packet will be evaluated, and overall results will be based on established scoring criteria. Criteria and scoring for the application and essay include, but are not limited to: completeness of the application; response to the essay question, including clarity, research, grammar, and creativity.



Please send inquiries or questions to the Scholarship Committee Chairperson, Laurie Manibusan, at scholarship@guamsocietyinc.org or text (805) 835-7072.

THE GUAM SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Active Student Membership (\$10) – pay online via Guam Society website at www.guamsocietyinc.org/membership

- If applying for the Brigida Lizama Scholarship, the applicant must have: Completed 24 volunteer hours that directly support the Guam Society of America, or be a member of the Guam Society of America in 2025-2026 as a student member or part of a family membership. Email membership@guamsocietyinc.org to verify your 2025-2026 membership status.

- Minimum GPA requirements:**
 -  High School Students - 2.0 (Cumulative)
 -  College Students - 2.5 (Cumulative)
 -  GED - score of 450

- High School/GED Applicants:**
 -  High school transcript
 -  Diploma (if available)
 -  College/School acceptance letter

- College Applicants:**
 -  Current transcript
 -  Copy of High School diploma

- GED Applicants:**
 -  GED certificate with score
 -  College/school acceptance letter

- Recommendations from any of the following:**
 -  Teachers/professors/school administrators (i.e. counselors, advisors, coaches, etc.) to Community and/or religious leaders
 -  Volunteer and/or non-profit organization leaders

- Essay** – Typed, Double-spaced in Microsoft Word format (APA format)

- Student Resume**

Applicant Photo – in JPG/JPEG or BMP format (photo may be used on the Guam Society website, notices of scholarship selection, and other Society announcements and media)

Completed application

The checklist above is a tool to help ensure your packet is complete and ready for submission. Applicants are advised to ensure that all application forms are completed correctly and include all the pertinent information requested – application forms are part of the screening criteria and selection process – in other words, ensure you have, at a minimum, what is listed on this checklist above.

Application Deadline: 11:59 PM EST, Saturday, May 30, 2026

No extensions will be accepted

THE GUAM SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.

2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS AND INFORMATION

1. Eligibility:

- a. Applicants must be Guam Society of America, Inc. members or become members before submitting a scholarship application. Membership is the FIRST requirement for applying for a Guam Society scholarship. Non-member students may become members by joining at guamsocietyinc.org/membership-signup. The current student membership cost is \$10.00. If the membership verification process finds that this requirement has not been fulfilled, the application will not be considered.
- b. Applicants must be a high school graduate (or graduating in the current year), have a GED, or be pursuing undergraduate studies.
- c. Applicants must have the following minimum grade point average (GPA):
 - i. High School Students - 2.0 (Cumulative)
 - ii. College Students - 2.5 (Cumulative)
 - iii. GED Students; minimum score of 450

2. Application:

- a. You must complete the application in its entirety. Incomplete applications will not be considered. Applications submitted without all required documents and the essay will be considered INCOMPLETE and will not be reviewed by the selection committee.
- b. Use of N/A for questions as not applicable to the applicant/scholarship type is acceptable. c. Follow all instructions for completing and submitting the application.

3. Deadline: Completed applications with all required documentation must be received by the Guam Society of America Scholarship Committee via email (scholarship@guamsocietyinc.org) by 11:59 PM, Eastern Standard Time, Saturday, May 30, 2026.

NOTE: All applications and required documents must be emailed. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that their application is emailed with enough time for receipt by the Scholarship Committee on or before the application deadline. No extension requests will be accepted. Email date/time stamps will determine whether the submission meets the deadline. If you have any questions, please contact the Guam Society Scholarship Committee Chairperson, Laurie Manibusan via email at scholarship@guamsocietyinc.org or text at (805) 835-7072.

Documents to include with the Guam Society of America, Inc. 2026 Scholarship Application Form are as follows:

High School Applicants:

1. High school transcript
2. Copy of High School diploma (if available)
3. College acceptance letter (you may provide more than one)
4. Essay (Microsoft Word format - double-spaced, typed)
5. Letters of Recommendation from any of the following:
 - a. Teachers
 - b. School Administrators (i.e., Counselors, Advisors, Coaches, etc.)
 - c. Community Leaders
 - d. Religious Leaders
 - e. Volunteer and/or Non-Profit Organization Leaders
7. Student Resume
8. Applicant photo (Please submit it in JPG/JPEG format)
9. Volunteer hours form (if applying for Brigida Lizama Scholarship)

College Student Applicants:

1. Copy of High school diploma or GED certificate
2. Current transcript
3. Essay (Microsoft Word format - double-space, typed)
4. Applicant photo (Please submit it in .JPG/JPEG or .BMP format)
5. Recommendations from any of the following:
 - a. Teachers
 - b. School Administrators (i.e. Counselors, Advisors, Coaches, etc.)
 - c. Community Leaders
 - d. Religious Leaders
 - e. Volunteer and/or Non-Profit Organization Leaders
6. Resume
7. Applicant photo (Please submit it in .JPG/JPEG format)
8. Volunteer hours form (if applying for Brigida Lizama Scholarship)

GED Student Applicants:

1. Copy of high school transcript (if available)
2. Copy of GED Certificate with GED Test Score
3. College Acceptance Letter (you may provide more than one)
4. Essay (Microsoft Word format - double-spaced, typed)

5. Applicant Photo (Please submit in .JPG/JPEG or .BMP format)
6. Recommendations from any of the following:
 - a. Teachers
 - b. School Administrators (i.e., Counselors, Advisors, Coaches, etc.)
 - c. Community Leaders
 - d. Religious Leaders
 - e. Volunteer and/or Non-Profit Organization Leaders
7. Resume
8. Applicant photo (Please submit it in JPG/JPEG format)
9. Volunteer hours form (if applying for Brigida Lizama Scholarship)

**THE GUAM SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
2025 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM**

Application(s) must be completed and received no later than 11:59 pm EST on Saturday, May 30, 2026. Please complete this form legibly – applications are a key part of the scholarship award's evaluation and selection process. Spell out acronyms for organizations, awards, and similar terms the first time they are used/listed. You may add pages if your response does not have enough space.

I am applying for the following scholarship: (Please check one category)

- Brigida Lizama College Student - \$1,500 (I was a 2025-2026 Guam Society member and completed 24 volunteer hours)
- Brigida Lizama High School Student - \$1,500 (I was a 2025-2026 Guam Society member and completed 24 volunteer hours)
- College Student - \$1,000 (there will be two scholarships awarded for this category)
- High School Student - \$1,000 (there will be two scholarships awarded for this category)

Applicant Information:

Last name, First Name, Middle Initial	
Mailing Address	
Email Address	
Phone number	
Date of Birth	
Place of Residence	

Village (Home on Guam)	
Father's Name & Village	
Mother's Name & Village	
High School Attended/Dates	
College/University Attended/Dates	
Year Graduated GED Year Obtained GED Score	
College/University currently enrolled, or to be enrolled	
Address of College/University	
Admissions Address	
Admissions Phone number	
Are you taking College Courses now	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
If yes, how many units?	
How many unites have you completed?	
What is your major or proposed major in college or university?	
When do you plan to graduate?	
What are your future goals	
How have you contributed to your community? (Please provide as much information as possible)	

List any Community, Academic and Athletic Achievements, Awards, Honors and Recognitions received (Note: Copies of these awards/achievements may be requested:

Community Awards	
Academic and Atheletic Achievements	
Awards	
Honors and Recognition received	

List Community Services, Activities, and Organizations you are or have been involved in (include contact person, their title, and phone number for verification purposes):

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Year Graduated GED Year Obtained GED Score	
College/University currently enrolled, or to be enrolled	

How did you hear about the Guam Society of America, Inc. Scholarship Program?	
Would you be interested in Volunteering?	

Is there anything else you would like the scholarship committee to know in considering your application?

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The information above is true, correct, and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant's/Student's Signature

Date

Parent's/Legal Guardian's Signature (if under age 18)

Date

THE GUAM SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION ESSAY

Submit a double-spaced, typed essay (no more than four pages or 1200 words or less) / APA Format on the following topics:

Essay Topic

As a U.S. territory, Guam's economic development is influenced by federal laws and policies over which it has limited control. Evaluate one federal policy that significantly impacts Guam's economy and propose policy changes or advocacy strategies that could improve economic outcomes for the island.

Your essay is an essential part of your application and the consideration for awards.

❖ Please be sure to include your essay with your application form. If not submitted, your application will be considered incomplete.

❖ Additional instructions: APA-formatted

- Include a Title / Cover Page for your essay (see example attached)
- Include the title of your essay on the first page
- Include page numbers and your first initial and last name (lower case) on each page of your essay (place in the upper right corner of the page)
- Spell out acronyms or abbreviations for the first time used
- Check your document for word count and ensure to run spell/grammar check - Use Times New Roman, Font Size 12 when typing your essay
- Essay submission must be in Microsoft Word format
- Provide sources for essay content and confirm that essay content has not been generated by an Artificial Intelligence (AI) system or process and is submitted as the applicant's original work.



**THE GUAM SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION ESSAY**

SAMPLE TITLE PAGE

Title of Your Essay

Subtitle (if applicable)

2026 GSA Scholarship Application

Full Name

Email Address

Phone Number

**THE GUAM SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
VOLUNTEER/COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS FORM**

For those applying for a Brigida Lizama Scholarship, please use this form to record your service hours.

Applicant's Name	
Volunteer /Community Service hours completed	
Where did you complete the Volunteer/Community Service and Dates	
What Guam Society event or activity did you support or participated in?	
Dates participated	
Provide details on what you did to support the Guam Society event or activity	

I hereby certify that the statements above are true and correct.

Applicant Signature

Event Coordinator/Chairperson Information only:

Name of Chairperon/Event Coordinator	
Committee	
Phone Number	
Email	