



2008 - 2009 Scholarship Application Deadline: June 30, 2008

General Information and Instructions

PURPOSE

The purpose of the *MANA del Norte* Scholarship is to assist Hispanic women from northern New Mexico in continuing and/or completing their post-secondary education. The philosophy of the founding members of *MANA del Norte* was to focus on the non-traditional student, such as single heads of household, re-entry women, and first-generation college bound. Although this criterion is not exclusive in awarding scholarships, *MANA del Norte* strongly endorses this philosophy. Scholarships are awarded based on financial need, strength of personal statement, and letters of recommendation.

APPLICATION ELIGIBILITY

Applicant must be enrolled or plan to be enrolled, by the beginning of the 2008 - 2009 academic year, in an accredited college or university in New Mexico. If an applicant has been accepted to an accredited college or university outside New Mexico, her application will be considered **if** she meets all other eligibility requirements. Both undergraduate and graduate students are eligible to apply.

Applicant must be enrolled or plan to be enrolled at least half-time. For purposes of *MANA del Norte's* application criteria, "half-time enrollment" means at least six (6) credit hours for undergraduate students, as well as graduate students.

Applicant must be a resident of one of the following northern New Mexico counties: Rio Arriba, Taos, Los Alamos, Mora, Santa Fe, or San Miguel. Information addressing this eligibility requirement (i.e., brief description of your family heritage/background and connection to northern New Mexico), **must** be addressed in the Applicant's Personal Statement.

MANA del Norte is part of MANA's national community of informed Latina activists working to:

Create a better life for all Latinos

*Achieve full and equal participation of Latinas in our country's political, social, educational, and economic domains
Enhance and enrich the quality of life in our country through the active sharing of our Latina/Latino heritage and value*

2008 – 2009 APPLICATION PACKET

The following documents **must** be included in your packet at the time of submission. The documents **must** be completed per attached instructions.

Scholarship Application

Financial Needs Statement

Personal Statement

Three Letters of Recommendation

Official transcript in a sealed envelope (unofficial transcript will not be accepted)

2007 Federal Income Tax Return or a statement indicating why no tax return is available

APPLICATION DEADLINE

Your application packet must be submitted to MANA del Norte's Scholarship Committee and postmarked no later than **June 30, 2008**.

SELECTION

A Scholarship Committee, composed of MANA Del Norte members, review the application packets and evaluate them for accuracy, completion and timely submission.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

This year, ten (10), \$1,000 *MANA del Norte* Scholarships will be awarded. Applicants selected for a scholarship will be notified of their award by August 15, 2008.

On September 27, 2008 (tentative date), the selected applicants will receive their scholarship awards and will be honored at the *MANA del Norte Scholarship Banquet held in Santa Fe during the National Hispanic Heritage Month*.

The scholarship awards will be made payable to the selected applicants upon receipt of a **Proof of Enrollment** for the Fall 2008 semester.

Scholarship Application 2008 - 2009

Submit application and supporting documents postmarked no later than June 30, 2008 to:

MANA del Norte Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 9236
Santa Fe, NM 87504

PLEASE TYPE (or print clearly)

Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Age _____

Address: _____ Zip Code: _____ County: _____

Email Address : _____

Home Telephone: () _____ Cell phone: () _____

Work Telephone: () _____

I am enrolled or plan to be enrolled in the following NM (or other) post-secondary institution for Fall 2008 semester:

Degree Currently Sought:

Certificate: _____ Associate: _____ Bachelors: _____ Masters: _____

Major(s): _____ Minor(s): _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____

Have you attended other community or four-year colleges within the last 2 years?

If yes, please list where and when: _____

Have you previously been awarded a MANA del Norte scholarship? ____NO ____YES

If yes, when? _____ (You are eligible to reapply)

Are you a current (previous) member of MANA del Norte? _____

If yes, date of membership? _____

Are you a current (previous) Hermanita? _____

If yes, date of membership? _____

Signature of Applicant

Date

Financial Needs Statement 2008 - 2009

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PLEASE TYPE (or print clearly)

1. Were you employed or had some source of taxable income in 2007?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, include a copy of your 2007 federal income tax return.

If no tax return is available, please explain why.

2. Were you claimed by your parents/guardian as an exemption for the 2007 tax year?

Yes _____ No _____

If yes, include a copy of parents'/guardian's 2007 federal income tax return.

If you were claimed by your parent(s)/guardian(s) and also filed on your own,
please include a copy of your return as well a copy of your parents'/guardian's return.

3. Have you been granted/or are you receiving, educational financial assistance from any other source?

Yes _____ No _____ **If yes, please list all sources and amounts:**

Source: _____ Amount: _____

Source: _____ Amount: _____

Source: _____ Amount: _____

4. Are you presently employed? Yes _____ No _____

If yes, anticipated salary for 2008: \$ _____

5. Number of people living in the household _____

6. Anticipated **total household income** for 2008: \$ _____

7. Anticipated **total household expenses** for 2008: \$ _____

8. Please describe (**on a separate sheet**) any special circumstances that may impact your financial ability to pursue a college education.

Applicant's Personal Statement 2008 - 2009

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Santa Fe, NM 87504

Please include your Name and Address on the top part of your typed Personal Statement

Statements should be limited to two typed pages, and must be included in your application packet submitted no later than the established deadline. The Personal Statement is a critical piece of the application. It is an opportunity for you to present yourself and your goals to the Scholarship Committee. Please ensure that your Personal Statement is thorough (addresses all areas listed below) and well written.

Your **Personal Statement** should provide the Scholarship Committee with the following information:

1. A brief description of your family heritage/background and connection to northern New Mexico
2. The reason (s) you decided to attend college
3. Your educational goals
4. Your career goals
5. Any demonstrated achievement in reaching your goals (i.e. already completed some college credits)
6. Volunteer involvement in your community, children's school, church, etc.
7. Any other information that you feel should be considered in support of your application for a *MANA del Norte* Scholarship.

MANA del Norte Instructions for Letters of Recommendation 2008 - 2009

Please provide a copy of these instructions to the persons you have requested letters of recommendation from.

A scholarship applicant must provide three (3) letters of recommendation from individuals (excluding relatives or Scholarship Committee members) who know you well and can judge your professional and/or academic ability and motivation for success. We encourage you to seek letters from personal, professional and educational acquaintances (for example: community and church leaders, teachers, school officials, employers, volunteer site supervisors).

The following points must be addressed in the letters of recommendation:

1. Name, profession/title, address and telephone number of person making recommendation.
2. Capacity in which you have observed the applicant and the length of time you have known her.
3. Your evaluation of the applicant's past academic, employment, or volunteer record.
4. Your judgment of the applicant's ability to undertake and complete her education.
5. Your evaluation of the applicant's career potential.
6. Any other information about the applicant that you believe would assist the Scholarship Committee in their decision.

Each recommendation letter must be **provided directly to the applicant** in a sealed envelope, with the signature of the person making the recommendation written across the back flap of the envelope.

The three (3) letters of recommendation must be submitted with the application packet, postmarked no later than **June 30, 2008**, so they must be provided to the applicant with sufficient time to ensure timely submission.

All information submitted will be kept confidential and will be known only to members of MANA del Norte's Scholarship Committee.

Thank you for helping a Hispanic woman continue her education.

Applicant's Checklist 2008 - 2009

Submit application and supporting documents postmarked no later than June 30, 2008 to:

MANA del Norte Scholarship Committee
 P.O. Box 9236
 Santa Fe, NM 87504

Please use the following checklist to ensure that your application is complete, signed, and that all required documentation is attached. Enclose this completed document in your application packet.

	(APPLICANT)	(For MDN use)
Are all of the following documents in your packet?		
Application Packet Checklist	_____	_____
Scholarship Application	_____	_____
Personal Statement	_____	_____
Financial Needs Statement	_____	_____
2007 Federal Income Tax return(s) [or statement explaining reason return(s) not available]	_____	_____
Three Letters of Recommendation (sealed & signed on back of envelope)	_____	_____
Official Transcript in sealed envelope (unofficial transcript will not be accepted)	_____	_____
Are all blanks completed?	_____	_____
Did you answer every question?	_____	_____
Did you sign and date the Scholarship Application?	_____	_____

For MDN Committee - Date application packet postmarked _____

Verified by: _____

Comments: _____

NOTE: To avoid disqualification, applicant must submit all requested documentation.

**For additional information, please contact the Scholarship Committee Chair:
 Dolores E. Roybal, deroybal@hotmail.com or phone 505.577.0352**