



Providing support and fostering a spirit of caring, cooperation, and fellowship in the workplace.

SMEA COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2026

The Save Mart Employee Association (SMEA) is proud to support the educational goals of its members and their families through the SMEA Scholarship Program. This program is designed to assist students pursuing college, trade school, certification programs, and other career-focused educational opportunities.

Scholarships are available to eligible high school seniors, college students, and trade school students pursuing higher education or professional training. Awards are competitive and based on financial need, academic effort, leadership, community involvement, and overall application quality.

To better recognize outstanding applicants, SMEA has introduced a tiered scholarship structure that allows larger awards to students who demonstrate exceptional achievement, leadership, and dedication to their educational goals.

Scholarship Award Levels

- **SMEA Excellence Scholarship** – 2 awards of \$2,000
- **SMEA Leadership Scholarship** – 4 awards of \$1,000
- **SMEA Rising Star Scholarship** – 14 awards of \$500

REQUIREMENTS: All applicants must be current SMEA members, dependent family members of an SMEA member, or spouses of an SMEA member. Scholarship recipients are selected based on the information provided in the application and evaluation by the SMEA Scholarship Committee. In place of a written essay, applicants will be required to participate in a phone interview at the discretion of the committee.

Applicants are required to submit all of the following:

- Completed SMEA Scholarship Application (*all requested information must be provided at the time of submission*)
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5, The Scholarship Committee values determination, educational goals, leadership potential, and financial need more than perfect grades alone.
- Current transcript (*Unofficial transcripts may be submitted with the application; however, official transcripts will be required before scholarship funds are awarded.*)
- Proof of current enrollment in college or trade school prior to receiving scholarship funds
- Current letter of recommendation from an instructor, advisor, employer, or similar reference
- Completed scholarship interview via phone (*A phone interview will be conducted at by the SMEA Scholarship Committee.*)

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Please print clearly. Completed application must be post-marked no later than Saturday, August 1, 2026.
This application is also available on our website at www.mysmea.com

Mail Completed Application to:

Save Mart Employee Association
2937 Veneman Ave, Ste. A115
Modesto, CA 95356

If you have any further questions, please contact SMEA at 209-872-1090. Thank you for your interest and we look forward to your participation!



SMEA Scholarship Application 2026

Before completing this application, please be sure to read the cover page for all requirements. Please submit the ***completed*** application with all necessary supporting documents as early as possible. The application must be post-marked no later than **Saturday, August 1, 2026**

APPLICANT INFORMATION (REQUIRED)

NAME: Last _____ First _____ Middle _____

Phone (home) _____ (cell) _____

E-mail Address _____

ADDRESS: Street/Apt. _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

DATE OF BIRTH: Month _____ Day _____ Year _____

CURRENT SCHOOL DATA (REQUIRED)

Students must include official or unofficial school transcript showing cumulative GPA. (See cover pg.)

Name of School _____ Graduation Date _____

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Cumulative GPA _____ Grade Level _____

Major or field of Study (*include current, intended, or undeclared*): _____

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY: If you are currently in high school, please provide the name(s) of school(s) you are applying to, or planning to attend. If selected, you must supply proof of enrollment in order to process award.

Name of School _____

Name of School _____

SCHOLARSHIP INTERVIEW (REQUIRED)

You will be required to participate in a brief telephone interview, which should take approximately 30 minutes.

Please provide a phone number, email address for interview scheduling, and your preferred availability for a call between August 1st and August 7th. While we will make every effort to accommodate your availability, exact interview times cannot be guaranteed. Applicants are expected to be available during the timeframes they provide. Applications may be considered incomplete if the interview is not completed within the designated timeframe.

Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Preferred Availability: _____



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SCHOOL ACTIVITIES (OPTIONAL)

List all school activities in which you have participated during the past **two** years (e.g., student government, community activities, sports, band, etc.)

_____	Dates _____	Hours/Week _____
_____	Dates _____	Hours/Week _____
_____	Dates _____	Hours/Week _____
_____	Dates _____	Hours/Week _____

FINANCIAL INFORMATION (REQUIRED)

If you're a dependent of a SMEA member (age 23 or under), what is the approximate annual household income of your parents (**must be provided and accurate**): \$ _____

If you're older than 23, what is your CURRENT approximate annual household income? \$ _____

Are your parents: Married Divorced Separated Other: _____

List your work experience(s) during the past two years. Indicate dates and hours worked.

_____	Dates _____	Hours/Week _____
_____	Dates _____	Hours/Week _____

NOTE: All financial and personal information submitted will be kept confidential and used solely for scholarship review purposes. You may be required to show proof of dependency.

SMEA MEMBER INFORMATION (REQUIRED) (must include Employee ID #)

Is the applicant a SMEA member: Yes No SMEA Members Employee ID# _____
(required)

If you're not the SMEA member, what is your relationship to the member: _____

Are you a dependent of the SMEA member? Yes No

Can the SMEA member claim you on their tax returns? Yes No



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HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION (REQUIRED) List the names of your dependent household family members in the chart below. If you are a dependent, include siblings, parents and others your parents support. If you are not a dependent of your parents, include your spouse, children, or others you support.

Household Dependent Family Info			
Applicants Full Name	Age	Relationship to Applicant	College Student/High School Student

***NOTE: Both SMEA members and their dependents are eligible to apply for a SMEA Scholarship.**

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS (OPTIONAL)

Check here if you are in a “special needs program” or “individualized education program”
If you checked this box, please explain your current educational program below

Check here if you have unique and special circumstances to consider for a GPA under 2.5
If you checked this box, please explain your unique and special circumstances below



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CERTIFICATION (REQUIRED)

By signing below, I acknowledge that all of the information on this form is true and complete to the best of my knowledge. If asked by SMEA, I agree to give proof of the information that I have given on this application. I realize that if I am unable to give proof when asked, I will not be considered for a scholarship.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian is needed if applicant is a minor (under age 18).

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

This application for a scholarship becomes complete and valid only when you return the completed and signed scholarship application, a current transcript, and a letter of recommendation. Scholarship applications received become the property of SMEA and will not be returned.

Application deadline is **Saturday, August 1, 2026**. Only selected recipients will be notified.

RETURN COMPLETED APPLICATION TO: **Save Mart Employee Association**
2937 Veneman Ave, Ste. A115
Modesto, CA 95356

SMEA Scholarship Application Checklist*:

- Completed SMEA Scholarship Application (all information must be provided)
- Copy of your current transcript showing cumulative GPA. Unofficial transcripts may be submitted with the application; however, scholarship recipients will be required to provide an official transcript before scholarship funds are distributed.
- Copy of current proof of registration or enrollment status. Scholarship recipients will also be required to provide proof of college or trade school enrollment along with a valid student identification number in order to process scholarship awards.
- Current letter of recommendation from an instructor, advisor, employer, or other professional reference.

*All information and documentation submitted must be true and accurate. Scholarships may be revoked and/or repayment may be required if any information provided on the application or to the Scholarship Committee is determined to be false or misleading.

*Applicants will be contacted by the SMEA Scholarship Committee for a brief telephone interview following the August 1st application deadline. Interview dates and times will be provided by email. Applicants are expected to be available at the scheduled interview time, and failure to participate may result in an incomplete application.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Scholarship awards may be issued directly to the student upon verification of enrollment.

Application deadline is Saturday, August 1, 2026.