



2026 Scholarship Application

In 1972, a group of Puerto Rican women founded the Washington, D.C. chapter of the National Conference of Puerto Rican Women (NACOPRW) to support the rights of women. This historic moment marked the birth of the NACOPRW, a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization seeking to promote the full participation of Puerto Rican and other Latina women in the social, economic and political life in the United States. Through the years, NACOPRW has been recognized for its involvement in the community and its support of women's education and leadership development. Chapters have been chartered in Chicago IL, Indiana, Miami FL, Milwaukee WI, New York NY, Northern Illinois, Philadelphia PA, and Southern California. The NACOPRW-SoCal chapter was chartered in October 1998 by the National Board. It was later approved as a 501c3 in the State of California in 2019 and is the only chapter in the West Coast. To learn more about our work and how to get involved visit us at www.nacoprwsocal.org.

SCHOLARSHIP 2026

NACOPRW-SoCal will award **scholarships of at least \$500**. Eligible students, NACOPRW-SoCal members, and past applicants may apply. Former NACOPRW-SoCal scholarship recipients are not eligible.

Minimum eligibility criteria:

- Female students enrolled (or will be in the upcoming academic year) in at least 6 semester units (8 quarter units) or more at an accredited college or university.
- Female students who recently received admission and have committed to a college or university in the fall.
- Minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 (4.0 scale) in 12 semester/16 quarter units or more at an accredited institution.
- Puerto Rican or other Latina heritage
- Southern California resident (San Diego, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino or Los Angeles Counties)
- Past applicants who did not receive a scholarship

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Follow all instructions herein.
- Complete the entire application.
- Do not attach documents other than those requested.
- Finalists will be asked to attend a virtual panel interview with the Scholarship Committee.

If interested, scholarship recipients will be invited to become active members of the NACOPRW-SoCal Chapter. They will also have the opportunity to participate in various events including a mentorship program and other chapter and national events. More information regarding membership and upcoming events will be provided upon selection.



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INSTRUCTIONS:

Fill out the application completely. If there are items that do not apply, please leave them blank. All applications and supporting documents may be submitted as an electronic submission in PDF format, with all documents included in one file. Please send to menubia@gmail.com, by **June 30, 2026 11:59pm PST**. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered. Submit questions or comments to menubia@gmail.com.

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Permanent Address: _____

Applicant Email: _____ Mobile: _____

CULTURAL HERITAGE:

1) Provide details regarding your heritage such as parental lineage, country, city, or town of origin.

Puerto Rican _____

Other Latina _____

EDUCATION:

Name of academic institution you are currently attending or will attend. _____

What major or field of study are you currently pursuing or will pursue? _____

2) Indicate your current academic level, and degree you are pursuing?

Freshmen year

Bachelor's Degree

Associate degree

Sophomore year

Masters Degree

Trade or Vocational Degree

Junior year

Doctorate

Senior year

Professional (J.D., M.D., etc.)

3) Which of the following best describes your current cumulative GPA? Specify the exact number next to the corresponding level.

3.0-3.3 _____ 3.4-3.7 _____ 3.8-4.0+ _____

Transfer students please provide cumulative GPA from transferring institution _____.



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4) Supporting Documents

- Proof of enrollment (at least 6 semester/8 quarter units) at an accredited institution of higher education. Transfer students, please provide documents for all colleges you attended. New admits, please provide an admission letter and proof of acceptance of that admission.
- Recent **unofficial** transcript from current educational institution showing a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA. Unofficial transcripts will be accepted if they include the following information: applicant name, name of educational institution, date, and current GPA.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:

5) Volunteer Community Service (current or during the past 12 months).

Name of the Organization _____

Briefly describe your role _____

Service Dates _____

Select which of the following best describes the **average weekly** number of hours you volunteer.

- 1-15 hours
- 16-25+ hours

6) Supporting Documents

- Provide verification on the organization either by submitting a **certificate of completion** with the organization's letterhead **or** providing the **name, address, telephone, and website of the organization including name and email of the supervisor or volunteer coordinator.**

7) Paid Work (current or during the past 12 months)

Name of Company or Organization _____

Briefly describe your role _____

Work from/to dates _____

Select which of the following best describes the **average weekly** number of hours you work.

- 1-15 hours
- 16-25 hours
- 26-35 hours
- 36-40+ hours



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8) Submit Resume – For all applicants, regardless of work history. May include professional, academic or volunteer work, and achievements.

ESSAY REQUIREMENTS:

9) Format and Specifications

- Titled essay 600 words maximum (include count) Double spaced
- Include your name on the essay 12 pt font size

10) Essay Prompt & Content

Write about the importance of your Puerto Rican/Latina heritage in any aspect of your life, past, current or future. Aspects of your life may include but are not limited to your education, family, community, future career, personal goals, pursuits, or challenges. Highlight the value of your culture to you and society. Also explain how your identity contributes to pursuing your goals.

**** A.I. use should be limited to checking for grammar and spelling. Any other use will result in disqualification of the entire application.***

INTERVIEW REQUIREMENTS:

Part of the application process will include participating in a video interview via Zoom with the selection committee. If you are selected for this part of the selection process, please note that the following factors will be considered in the decision-making process:

- 11)** Being on time Level of engagement Being prepared Effective use of time
- Answers questions fully
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Wishing you success & good luck,

NACOPRW-SoCal Scholarship Committee

Submit application, questions, or comments to menubia@gmail.com.

Application is due June 30, 2026.