SJSU | SCHOOL OF JOURNALISM AND MASS COMMUNICATIONS

JMC Scholarships 2026 – FAQs

Applications open November 18, 2026 | Deadline: December 4, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.

APPLYING

1. When can I apply?

Applications for the 2026–2027 JMC scholarships open Wednesday, November 18, 2026, through the SJSU Scholarship Portal.

2. How do I apply?

Visit the SJSU Scholarship Portal at https://sjsu.scholarships.ngwebsolutions.com/ and sign in with your SJSU credentials. The JMC scholarship application should appear on your student dashboard. Complete and submit the application by Friday, December 4, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.

3. If I miss the deadline, can I still apply?

No.

4. Do I need to submit a separate application for each scholarship?

No. JMC is using one centralized application. Submit the JMC application once to be considered for every scholarship for which you may meet the eligibility requirements. You do not need to identify or apply for individual scholarships separately.

5. How does the application system determine which scholarships I may qualify for?

The system uses your application responses and information in university records to identify potential matches. The matching process helps identify scholarships for which you may be eligible; it does not make the final award decisions. The JMC faculty review committee makes the final selections.

6. What information will the application ask me to provide?

The application asks about your areas of interest, extracurricular activities, leadership experience, and other relevant information. It also includes a general essay question and sections for writing, creative samples, and a portfolio.

7. What is the essay prompt?

“Describe your academic background, professional goals, and financial need, and explain how this scholarship will support your plans for a career related to your major.”

8. What should I submit for the Writing or Creative Samples section?

You may submit writing samples or, if it is more applicable to your experience, at least three design or creative samples. Samples should demonstrate your ability to develop engaging visual content, communicate ideas effectively, and create work for diverse audiences and media platforms. Examples may include graphic design, campaign materials, social media content, or other relevant creative projects.

9. Is a portfolio required?

Not necessarily. The application asks whether you have a portfolio demonstrating your devotion or dedication to journalism, layout, and design. Select Yes or No. If you select Yes, an upload field will appear.

10. What if my area of interest is not listed?

Select “Other/NA” and use the field provided to specify your area of interest.

ELIGIBILITY AND SCHOLARSHIPS

10. Who is eligible to apply?

Eligibility requirements vary by scholarship. Individual awards may have specific requirements related to a student’s major, area of interest, academic background, activities, or other criteria. The application and university records are used to identify potential matches. **Scholarships are only awarded to currently enrolled JMC majors and minors.**

11. I am a graduate student. Can I apply?

Yes. Some JMC scholarships are intended for graduate students. Eligibility requirements vary by award.

12. I am an SJSU Online student. Can I apply?

Yes. Applications are open to online students as well.

13. How many scholarships are available, and how much are they worth?

We have 34 available awards this semester of varying fund amounts. Scholarship award details are on the administrative backend; students will not have access.

AFTER YOU APPLY

14. When will applications be reviewed?

The JMC scholarship review period is December 7–11, 2026.

15. How will I know if I receive a scholarship?

Applicants will be notified through the SJSU Scholarship Portal. Please monitor the portal for updates after the review period.

16. What is the application deadline?

The deadline is Friday, December 4, 2026, at 11:59 p.m. Submit your application before the deadline. If you encounter a technical issue, contact the JMC department office as soon as possible.

QUESTIONS?

For questions about the JMC scholarship application, please contact Maddy Voorhees in the School of Journalism and Mass Communications department office at maddy.voorhees@sjsu.edu.