



Teenager of the Year Scholarship Contest Rules for the Academic Year 2026-2027

1. This contest is only open to 2027 graduating High School Seniors who are citizens of the United States and residents of Texas.
2. Applications must be submitted by the posted deadline to the Elks Lodge nearest to the applicant's residence, either in person or by mail. To locate the nearest Elks Lodge, use the Lodge Locator at www.elks.org. All applications become the property of the Texas Elks State Association and will not be returned. Do NOT include original documents as all applications will be destroyed after judging.
3. Include a high school transcript showing all coursework completed for grades 9-12 as of the date of application. The transcript does not have to be official but should bear the signature of the issuing official.
4. **Applications should be stapled** on the top left corner. Do not enclose your application in a binder or folder. Counting pages 3,4, and 5 of the official application, the completed brochure must not exceed 15 pages. Please explain the meaning of all acronyms for clarity.
5. Photocopies of the most recent set of SAT or ACT scores must be included.
6. Prizes provided by the Texas Elks State Association are as follows:

1 st Place Girl.....	\$2,500.00	1 st Place Boy.....	\$2,500.00
2 nd Place Girl.....	\$1,500.00	2 nd Place Boy.....	\$1,500.00
3 rd Place Girl.....	1,000.00	3 rd Place Boy.....	\$1,000.00

7. Each scholarship will be in the form of a Certificate of Award issued by the Texas Elks State Association conditioned upon the enrollment of the individual as a full-time student in an accredited junior college, college, university, or trade school in the United States within the calendar year the scholarship is awarded. These awards will be paid as scholarship funds directly to the school in which the student is enrolled. Separate "Verification of Student Enrollment" and "Special Instructions to University or College" forms will be provided to all winners for use in requesting funds.
8. The award may be used for tuition, books, student fees, laboratory fees (and room & board, if housed on campus). The scholarship will not cover expenses or payments for an academic year begun prior to July 1 of the year in which it is awarded.
9. Winners will be notified by email between April, 2027 and formally announced at the Texas Elks State Association Convention in June.

Application DEADLINE: Must be turned in to your local Elks Lodge Scholarship Chair on or before January 29, 2026

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE AUTOFORM APPLICATION

1. Download and save the application to your computer.
2. Open the document with Adobe Acrobat Reader. (Note—other PDF programs may open the file but not allow you to enter or save information. If using a program other than Acrobat, please test that your program will allow you to complete, save, and print your application.) Acrobat Reader DC may be downloaded free at <https://get.adobe.com/reader/>.
3. Enter the information requested in each highlighted area.
4. The form does NOT have to be completed all at once. You may save and close the form, the re-open it later and complete it.
5. When all information has been entered, print the form and sign/date where signatures are required. APPLICATIONS WITH MISSING OR INCOMPLETE SIGNATURES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
6. Attach all required documentation to the application.
7. Submit your completed application to your local Elks Lodge by the application deadline.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE AUTOFORM APPLICATION MANUALLY

1. Download and save the application to your computer.
2. Open and print the document with a program that will open PDF documents.
3. Complete each area of the application. Be sure to sign/date where signatures are required. APPLICATIONS WITH MISSING OR INCOMPLETE SIGNATURES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
4. Some fields may be set to calculate totals electronically; these fields will have “0.00” printed in them. Please mark through the digits and enter your totals.
5. Attach all required documentation to the application.
6. Submit your completed application to your local Elks Lodge by the application deadline.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETION OF THE TESA TEENAGER OF THE YEAR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

STATEMENT OF REQUIRED FACTS

1. Please use your full legal name. Should you go by your middle name, please underline it. If you are known by a nickname, you may include it in parentheses.
2. Please use a permanent address, phone number, and email address. THIS INFORMATION CANNOT BE CHANGED ONCE YOUR APPLICATION IS SUBMITTED. Correspondence regarding your application will primarily be through email.
3. The applicant and applicable Mother/Father/Stepparent/Guardian must sign and date the application. The Lodge Endorsement portion will be completed by the local Elks Lodge.

LEADERSHIP DATA

1. Indicate the grade in which each honor, award, office, or membership applies (9, 10, 11, or 12). If the same honor/award was received in multiple grades, list the honor/award only once, but indicate all grades the honor/award was received.
2. Do NOT include nominations for any honor, award, or membership. For example, being nominated for homecoming king/queen or National Honor Society does NOT count. However, being elected/chosen homecoming king/queen or actually being inducted into National Honor Society does count.
3. Take care to list scholastic, extra-curricular, and non-school related activities in the proper section of the Leadership Data.
4. Do not duplicate memberships. For example, membership in band for grades 10-11-12 and elected band president for grade 12 yields two years of membership where no office was held (10-11) and one year of office/position of leadership (12). Selection for all-district, all region, and/or all-state band is considered additional honors and awards and should also be included.
5. Do NOT include a resume or list of information as an alternative to completing the Leadership Data page. If more room is needed for any section of Leadership Data, please continue the information on another sheet of paper and place it after the application form in your packet. Make sure that no information is duplicated on the Leadership Data page and the additional page, if included.

TRANSCRIPT

Include a high school transcript of student grades from the beginning of the ninth grade to the due date of the application. Transcript may be unofficial but should contain the signature of the appropriate school official.

SAT/ACT SCORES

At least one set of college entrance test scores (SAT or ACT) must be included.

APPLICANT STATEMENT

The applicant must prepare a statement of 300 words or less setting forth his/her professional goal(s), and in a self-appraisal, relate how past, present, and future activities make attainment of the goal(s) probable. The statement must be signed.

ORDER OF APPLICATION:

1. Statement of Required Facts (Page 3 of application)
2. Applicant Information (Page 4 of application)
3. Leadership Data (Page 5 of application)
4. Official Transcript
5. SAT/ACT Score(s)
6. Applicant's Statement
7. Additional supporting documentation as desired

APPLICATION MUST NOT EXCEED FIFTEEN (15) PAGES TOTAL
STAPLE YOUR APPLICATION IN THE TOP LEFT CORNER



Teenager of the Year Scholarship Application for the Academic Year 2026-2027

Applicant's Name _____

APPLICANT CERTIFICATION: I certify to the accuracy of the facts included in this application. I give my permission for the Texas Elks State Association and/or its local Lodges to use my name and to quote from my application in news and other publicity media. I understand that this application becomes the property of the Texas Elks State Association and will not be returned.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN CONSENT: I/We hereby certify that the information in this application pertaining to my/our child is true and correct, and I/we hereby waive any claim against the Texas Elks State Association and its subordinate Lodges.

Father/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Mother/Guardian's Signature _____ Date _____

Lodge Certification

THIS APPLICATION MUST HAVE SPONSORING LODGE ENDORSEMENT TO BE ACCEPTED FOR TEXAS ELKS STATE ASSOCIATION JUDGING. APPLICATION MUST BE MADE ON THIS OFFICIAL TESA FORM. PHOTOCOPIES OF COMPLETED APPLICATIONS OR FACSIMILES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.

APPLICATIONS BECOME THE PROPERTY OF THE TEXAS ELKS STATE ASSOCIATION AND WILL BE DESTROYED AFTER JUDGING.

LODGE ENDORSEMENT

This application, with attached exhibits, has been reviewed, the statements verified to the best of my ability, and it is in conformity with rules and regulations set forth by the Texas Elks State Association.

Print Name: Lodge ER, Secretary, or Scholarship Chair Signature & Title: Lodge ER, Secretary, or Scholarship Chair

Lodge Name & Number Contact email address

Date _____ *Lodge phone number Endorser's phone number*

LODGE PERSONNEL: MAIL APPLICATION TO TO THE TESA TEENAGER OF THE YEAR STATE CHAIR BY FEBRUARY 22, 2026

APPLICANT INFORMATION

IMPORTANT: Before preparing this application, it is recommended that instructions on page 3 be carefully studied and then completely executed.

Name _____

Email (required) _____

Address _____
Street _____

_____ City State ZIP

Phone _____ Date of Birth _____ Age _____

Sex (M/F) _____

Place of Birth (City/State) _____

Citizen of the United States of America (Y/N) _____

If not born a U.S. Citizen, give date and place of naturalization:

Date _____ Place _____ Number _____
Court/City/State

List all schools attended (9th through 12th grades):

Name of School	City/State	Date Attended	Grade(s)

Scheduled date of HS graduation: _____

EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

Note: Work in a family business or on a family farm should be included, whether or not you are paid. Use additional paper if needed.

Are you currently working? Yes No

Positions held in gainful employment (including part-time and/or summer jobs):

Employer	Position	Dates employed	Average hours per week	Rate of Pay

LEADERSHIP DATA

SCHOLASTIC ORGANIZATIONS AND AWARDS

Note: Refer to Application instruction on page 3 to accurately complete Leadership Data.

Honors and Awards (Nature of honor or award and grade received):

- a. _____ c. _____
b. _____ d. _____

Offices and positions of Leadership (Name of organization, position title, and grade):

- a. _____ c. _____
b. _____ d. _____

Member of organization where no office was held (Name of organization and grade):

- a. _____ c. _____
b. _____ d. _____

SCHOOL RELATED EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Note: Sports, music, agriculture, drama, etc. should be included here

Honors and Awards (Name of honor or award and grade received):

- a. _____ c. _____
b. _____ d. _____

Offices and positions of Leadership (Name of organization, position held, and grade):

- a. _____ c. _____
b. _____ d. _____

Member of organizations where no office was held (Name of organization and grade):

- a. _____ c. _____
b. _____ d. _____

NON-SCHOOL RELATED CIVIC AND VOLUNTEER ACTIVITY

Note: List only activities occurring during 4 years of high school

Honors and Awards (Nature of honor or award and calendar year, i.e., Eagle Scout/Girl Scout, Candy Striper of the Year, etc.):

- a. _____ c. _____
b. _____ d. _____

Member of organization or agency where no office was held, the service you performed, and the number of volunteer hours:

Agency or Organization	Kind of service	Dates of participation	Total hours

Please list any additional honors or activities on a separate sheet if not enough space is available in any of the above categories.