



JIM AND MARIE MURPHY ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP ACADEMIC YEAR 2026-27 APPLICATION

Instructions: Please type all requested information. Submit your completed application with supporting materials by email to IPSScholarships@tennessee.edu or by mail to:

UT Institute for Public Service
Attn: IPS Scholarship Selection Committee
1610 University Avenue
Knoxville, TN 37921

Submission deadline is **June 5, 2026.**

Minimum Eligibility Criteria:

- Applicants must be enrolled or admitted at any campus of the University of Tennessee System – campus list below.
- Must be pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree.
- Affiliation Requirements (select one):
 - 1. Current County Officials Association of Tennessee (**COAT**) **Member** or County Technical Assistance Service (**CTAS**) **Employee** **OR**
 - 2. Legally qualified dependent of a COAT member or CTAS employee ex: children, grandchildren, etc.

Selection Preference Criteria – Applicants who meet the following criteria will be given first preference:

- Pursuing a graduate degree
- Qualified dependent
- Successful academic performance
- Financial need
- Current scholarship recipient(s) who continue to meet the criteria

TN Residency Status:	<input type="checkbox"/> TN Resident	<input type="checkbox"/> Nonresident (as determined by residency classification)
Current or Intended Degree Program Level:	<input type="checkbox"/> Undergraduate Degree	<input type="checkbox"/> Graduate Degree
Campus:	<input type="checkbox"/> UT Chattanooga <input type="checkbox"/> UT Health Science Center, Memphis <input type="checkbox"/> UT Southern, Pulaski	<input type="checkbox"/> UT Knoxville <input type="checkbox"/> UT Space Institute, Tullahoma
COAT/CTAS Affiliation:	<input type="checkbox"/> COAT Member <input type="checkbox"/> COAT/CTAS Dependent - Child <input type="checkbox"/> COAT/CTAS Dependent - Other(specify)_____	<input type="checkbox"/> CTAS Employee <input type="checkbox"/> COAT/CTAS Dependent - Grandchild
Semester(s) scholarship award(s) will be applied:	<input type="checkbox"/> Fall 2026 <input type="checkbox"/> Spring 2027	

Name (first - middle initial - last): _____

UT ID No. or Social Security No.*: _____

Permanent Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Phone (with area code): (_____)_____- _____

Email Address: _____

If High School Senior, what is the current high school attending: _____

Previous/current college attended (name/city/state): _____

Dates attended: From _____ (month) _____ (year) to _____ (month) _____ (year)

Total college credit hours completed, if any: _____ Cumulative GPA earned: _____

Expected UT graduation date: _____

Intended or current course of study or major: _____

Parent, Guardian and/or COAT or CTAS Sponsor:

Name (first - middle initial - last): _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Phone (with area code): (_____)_____- _____

Email address: _____

REQUIRED APPLICATION DOCUMENTS, SUBMISSION CHECKLIST:

- Complete and signed application PDF.
- One (1) typed, short essay (500 – 1000 words) describing your education and career goals, include any leadership experience, community service, volunteer service and public service aspirations. If applicable, its strongly encouraged to include information that demonstrates successful academic performance and/or financial need.
- One (1) letter of reference from a sponsoring COAT member or CTAS employee.
- Up to three (3) letters of support from family, professors, mentors or friends highlighting your experience in leadership, community service or volunteer service.
- College or high school transcripts (Note: Only high school students/college freshman need to submit high school transcripts.) Unofficial transcripts are acceptable.

Note: Incomplete applications will not be considered. All documents become the property of the IPS Scholarship Selection Committee.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- Scholarship funds are made possible by endowment income from invested assets. As a result, award amounts will vary by year and by recipient and are subject to fund availability and qualified applicant pool.
- If a recipient is awarded a scholarship for academic year 2026-27 and does not maintain enrollment at the University of Tennessee, the committee reserves the right to award the remainder of the scholarship to another qualified applicant or reinvest the funds.
- IPS Scholarship recipients are expected to participate in donor appreciation activities including but not limited to in-person attendance at the 2026 IPS Annual Conference award luncheon/dinner, submitting a photo and/or other donor appreciation content e.g. thank you letter, short video, etc.

RELEASE STATEMENT *(Please sign below. If you do not sign, the application is incomplete.)*

I, the undersigned, hereby authorize the IPS Scholarship Selection Committee to access and review any and all educational records in my name or relating to my enrollment at The University of Tennessee. I confirm by my signature below that the information I have provided is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge. I verify that I have read and agree to the basic terms and conditions of the scholarship. I understand that the scholarships are awarded at the discretion of the IPS Scholarship Selection Committee.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

* *Disclosure of your Social Security number is optional. If you receive a scholarship, you must provide your Social Security number for tax purposes.*

The University of Tennessee does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, color, religion, national origin, age, disability, or veteran status in provision of educational programs and services or employment opportunities and benefits. This policy extends to both employment by and admission to the university.

The university does not discriminate on the basis of race, sex, or disability in its education programs and activities pursuant to the requirements of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.

Inquiries and charges of violation of Title VI (race, color, and national origin), Title IX (sex), Section 504 (disability), the ADA (disability), the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (age), sexual orientation, or veteran status should be directed to the Office of Equity and Diversity, 1840 Melrose Avenue, Knoxville, TN 37996-3560, telephone 865-974-2498. Requests for accommodation of a disability should be directed to the ADA Coordinator at the Office of Equity and Diversity.