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# 2026 SAN DIEGO AEP EXPANDING THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSION SCHOLARSHIP for High School Juniors and Seniors

The San Diego Chapter of the Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) supports students who are actively engaged in the pursuit of a career in a field with an environmental emphasis. As part of AEP's support efforts, this scholarship is focused on supporting qualifying high school juniors and seniors interested in pursuing an education in environmentally related topics. This scholarship is specific to the San Diego Chapter of AEP with the intent to promote and support expanding the environmental profession to students who either (1) are from a low-income household or (2) will be first-generation college students.

The monetary award will be up to \$1,000 per scholarship recipient. Scholarships will be awarded at the San Diego Chapter Annual Awards and Scholarships Event, which will be held in October 2026. The scholarship recipients will be notified prior to the event and invited to attend this event with one guest to receive their award.

## HOW CAN AWARD MONEY BE USED?

The scholarship award can be used to fund educational pursuits, including college preparation, tuition, books, research, etc. Recipients will receive a check in their name from the San Diego Chapter of AEP.

## WHO CAN APPLY?

The San Diego Chapter of AEP will accept applications from San Diego County and Imperial County high school students who meet all of the following criteria:

- Will be a high school junior or senior in October 2026;
- Have a minimum 3.0 GPA;
- Are interested in pursuing a college/university education to support a future career in the environmental field; AND
- Are at least one of the following (not subject to verification):
  - From a low-income household (see next page for household incomes that qualify as low-income by county); or
  - Will be a first-generation college student (neither parent received a bachelor's degree or equivalent).

## APPLICATION DIRECTIONS

Students are required to complete the application form and provide their current transcripts and an essay (no greater than two pages double-spaced, minimum 10-point font and 1-inch margins). In the essay, describe your career goals in the environmental field, and which life experience(s) led you to them. Please also include a brief statement about how this scholarship will help you achieve your educational goals. Applicant information along with the required materials must be submitted via the application form at: <https://forms.gle/wXwue53wRbnY9nyt5>.

**DEADLINE: Friday September 4, 2026**

Direct questions to [sdaepstudentoutreach@gmail.com](mailto:sdaepstudentoutreach@gmail.com).



## EXPANDING THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSION SCHOLARSHIP

### State of California's 2025 Low-Income Thresholds\*

<b>Total Number of Persons in Household</b>	<b>San Diego County</b> <i>(Annual Area Median Income: \$130,800)</i>	<b>Imperial County</b> <i>(Annual Area Median Income: \$93,900)</i>
1	\$92,700	\$52,600
2	\$105,950	\$60,100
3	\$119,200	\$67,600
4	\$132,400	\$75,100
5	\$143,000	\$81,150
6	\$153,600	\$87,150
7	\$164,200	\$93,150
8	\$174,800	\$99,150

Source: California Department of Housing and Community Development, Division of Housing Policy Development. 2025. 2025 State Income Limits Memorandum. April 23. Available at:

<https://www.hcd.ca.gov/sites/default/files/docs/grants-and-funding/income-limits-2025.pdf>.

\* Households are considered to be low-income if the annual income of a household is equal to or less than the amount listed in this table.