



ZONTA
CLUB OF
CONCORD
MEMBER OF ZONTA INTERNATIONAL
EMPOWERING WOMEN
THROUGH SERVICE & ADVOCACY

NEW AMERICAN MERIT AWARD GUIDELINES

General Information:

The Zonta Club of Concord, established in 1959 and affiliated with Zonta International, is a service organization made up of professionals working to empower women and girls worldwide through service and advocacy. Among several initiatives, the Zonta Club of Concord supports educational scholarships and awards for women. The New American Merit Award (NAMA) was created in 2013 and is awarded annually to a female, senior year student from a high school in Merrimack County, who entered the school system as a refugee, asylee, or other immigrant and has demonstrated leadership skills and exceptional commitment to family and community.

The Award:

The goal of NAMA is to recognize the resilience, leadership skills and commitment to family and community of a female student who entered the school system as a refugee, asylee, or other immigrant; is currently enrolled as a high school senior in Merrimack County; and will be attending higher education. Awards range from \$500 to \$1,000 depending on availability of funds.

Who is Eligible?

Female students are eligible to apply for NAMA if they meet the following criteria:

- Currently enrolled as a high school senior in Merrimack County.
- Applied for or accepted to attend education beyond the high school level at an accredited college, university, or institute. Funding will be contingent on acceptance.
- Demonstrated leadership skills and commitment to family or community.
- Entered the school system as a refugee or asylee.

Application Requirements:

- Complete written responses to each question on the NAMA Application.
- Submit written confirmation of current enrollment and grade of applicant from their high school.
- Submit written recommendations from two adults who are not related to the applicant, at least one of whom is a current teacher, that describe the applicant's achievements, including demonstrated leadership and commitment to family or community.
- Submit proof of refugee, asylee, or other immigrant status, or subsequent adjustment of status.
- Submit written proof of acceptance to higher education from an accredited college, university, or institute (may be sent later if not available at the time of application).

How do I Apply?

- Applicants are encouraged to be in contact with their high school guidance counselors to obtain copies of the NAMA Application.
- Applicants can download the NAMA Application from the Zonta Club of Concord's website, www.zontaclubofconcordnh.org.

What is the Application Process?

- Applications for NAMA are received between October and January of every year.
- A notification of award is made between February and March.
- The selected applicant is invited to attend a business meeting of the Zonta Club of Concord between April and May to receive the award.



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**NEW AMERICAN MERIT AWARD
APPLICATION**

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Email: _____

QUESTIONS:

Each response must be limited to no more than 200 words.

1. Describe what has had the greatest influence on your development of leadership skills.
2. Describe how you show leadership in your current activities.
3. Describe your professional and personal goals.
4. Describe how higher education will affect your role as a woman in society.

Completed applications must be received by January 15, 2021

Send your written responses and supporting documents to:

Email (.pdf preferred) to: zontaclubofconcordnh@gmail.com

Or mail to: Zonta Club of Concord, NH
PO Box 1736
Concord, NH 03302-1736