



NEWS RELEASE

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Western Tech senior earns National Merit® corporate-sponsored scholarship

Towson, MD – Evelyn H. Sangree, a senior at Western School of Technology and Environmental Science, is among the approximately 770 distinguished high school seniors from across the nation who have won corporate-sponsored National Merit® Scholarship awards financed by about 94 corporations, company foundations, and other business organizations.

Sangree, a resident of Catonsville planning a career in environmental engineering, earned a National Merit Northrop Grumman Scholarship. [Northrop Grumman](#) is a leading global aerospace and defense technology company.

Scholars were selected from students who advanced to the finalist level in the National Merit Scholarship competition and met criteria of their scholarship sponsors. Corporate sponsors provide National Merit Scholarships for finalists who are children of their employees, who are residents of communities the company serves, or who plan to pursue college majors or careers the sponsor wishes to encourage.

Most of these awards are renewable for up to four years of college undergraduate study and provide annual stipends that range from \$1,000 to \$10,000 per year. Some provide a single payment between \$2,500 and \$5,000. Recipients can use their awards at any regionally accredited U.S. college or university of their choice.

This is the first announcement of National Merit Scholars in 2024 by National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC®). NMSC will name recipients of National Merit® \$2,500 Scholarships on May 8, and winners of college-sponsored Merit Scholarship awards on June 5 and July 15. By the

conclusion of this year's competition, about 6,870 academic champions will have won National Merit Scholarships worth approximately \$26 million.

2024 National Merit Scholarship Competition

High school juniors entered the 2024 National Merit Scholarship Program when they took the 2022 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT®), which served as an initial screen of program entrants. In September 2023, more than 16,000 semifinalists were designated on a state-representational basis in numbers proportional to each state's percentage of the national total of graduating high school seniors. Semifinalists were the highest-scoring program entrants in each state and represented less than one percent of the nation's seniors.

To be considered for a National Merit Scholarship, semifinalists had to fulfill requirements to advance to finalist standing. Each semifinalist was asked to complete a detailed scholarship application (which included writing an essay) and provide information about extracurricular activities, awards, and leadership positions. Semifinalists also had to have an outstanding academic record and be endorsed and recommended by a high school official. From the semifinalist group, more than 15,000 met finalist requirements.

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