

NATIONAL INTERSCHOLASTIC SWIMMING COACHES ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA, INC.

Scholar Team Award Application

The objective of the Scholar Team award is to recognize teams that perform on a high academic level. The award is a cumulative effort by a team of 12 or more athletes who strive for academic success during their high school careers. Applications are accepted for girls, boys, and combined teams at the varsity level.

Scholar Team applications have two deadlines: a submission deadline and a completion deadline. The portal opens to submit applications on January 1 and closes on June 15 at 11:59 PM Eastern Time. The **submission/completion** deadline is March 31 for Fall/Winter seasons and is June 15 for late applications and Spring season.

The late fee of \$30 applies if an application is not submitted and completed by the deadline. Non-member fee is \$40 per application. No applications accepted after June 15.

The Scholar Team application is completed online and requires a scanned signature page that verifies the accuracy of the application to the NISCA Academic Award chair. The document is to be uploaded to google drive at: be.niscaonline.org/teams/documentUpload.aspx

Directions

1. A program must have a minimum of 12 varsity level athletes in grade 9-12 to apply for the award. Teams from a lower level may not apply (Examples: Junior varsity, freshmen, modified teams, etc. are NOT eligible). To enter a combined team a combination of the boys' and girls' teams may apply together with no more than a total of 24 athletes. Only one of the teams may have more than a total of 12 athletes and combined may not have more than 24. The teams may submit only one application. A combined team of less than 12 may apply using the lowest GPA on the team under the name of the coach as a substitute.

2. ALL varsity level members of the team **MUST** be included in your application.

3. Fall and winter season athletes must have participated in and completed the season to be eligible for the teams' application. Spring athletes must be currently academically eligible to compete at the varsity level. Fall/winter/spring season athletes must be in good standing according to the rules of their school and program and eligible to compete when listed on the team's application.

4. Cumulative GPA is to be used including the 1st semester or 2nd trimester of the current year. Round GPA to the nearest thousandth.

- 9th grade 1 semester cumulative GPA or a 2 trimester cumulative GPA
- 10th grade 3 semester cumulative GPA or a 5 trimester cumulative GPA
- 11th grade 5 semester cumulative GPA or an 8 trimester cumulative GPA
- 12th grade 7 semester cumulative GPA or an 11 trimester cumulative GPA

5. The **Cumulative GPA** must include **all** grades for **all** courses taken in the **1st semester or 2nd trimester** of the current school year even if they are yearlong courses and credit has not been earned.

6. The school's grade scale is required on the application. The grade scale is based upon the value that the school gives to an unweighted A. The program will convert your school's grade scale to the NISCA scale upon entering the GPA into the system.

7. GPAs are to be recorded to the nearest thousandths using the schools grade scale and may not be altered from the school records.

8. Individual GPAs above 4.000 are automatically limited to a maximum of 4.000

9. Application fee (except late fees) for NISCA member coaches are waived provided the submission deadline and completion deadline for the season is met. Application fee for the nonmember coach is \$40. The fees are paid during the application process via PayPal. If fees must be paid via check, the address is listed at the bottom of the page. The treasurer's email is treasurer@niscaonline.org if you need assistance.

10. Applications will require 3 of 5 possible signatures: coach, principal, athletic director, registrar or counselor. The Head Coach and the District Athletic Director should review the names of the team members listed on the application and sign verification of the required participation. The High School Principal/Registrar should verify the accuracy of the grade average of each student listed and sign the application form. Three of the five must sign the application form.

11. Awards will be provided for three levels:

- GOLD = 3.750 - 4.000
- SILVER = 3.500 - 3.749
- BRONZE = 3.200 - 3.499

12. SAVE a copy of your application to a jpeg or PDF and PRINT a copy of your application at STEP 6 of the application process.

13. When the application has the required signatures scan your application to your computer and upload a copy to: be.niscaonline.org/teams/documentUpload.aspx

14. Please enter only one application for your team. If you make an error, please contact the Academic Chair at aamercian@niscaonline.org for assistance in making corrections. Please do not enter a second application unless directed to do so.

15. Trimester schools may have difficulty with meeting the March 31 deadline for the fall/winter season. Please contact the Academic Chair at aamercian@niscaonline.org for an extension. Do this in advance of the deadline to be assured that you will not be required to pay the \$30 late fee.

16. A list of the accepted applications is posted on the NISCA website under Academic Awards and Scholar Team under Processed/Accepted applications. The final list will be available after the deadline of June 15. It will be posted by GPA and award level.

17. DO NOT mail or email your Scholar Team document to the Academic Chair. It MUST be uploaded to google drive.

**THE SUBMISSION & COMPLETION DEADLINE FOR FALL AND WINTER SEASONS IS MARCH 31
SPRING SEASON DEADLINE AND LATE APPLICATION DEADLINE IS JUNE 15**

Upload your signed document to: be.niscaonline.org/teams/documentUpload.aspx

Revised September 4, 2025