



NJLN Scholarship Review Assessment Rubric

Below demonstrates the four areas that applicants are reviewed and graded on for the 2026 NJLN Scholarship Award.

	Excellent 4 – 5	Very Good – Good 2 – 3	Fair 1
1. Application Form Submission (Overall presentation, completeness, and followed online instructions on application.)	Virtually error free, typed submission, and fully completed. Uploaded all required documents.	Limited errors, typed submission, most areas answered. Uploaded all required documents.	Errors, areas missing or incomplete.
2. Personal Essay (Answers all questions in criteria, clarity of writing, reflection with excellent grammar and no typographical errors. Essay must be a clear, concise and prescriptive narrative that is focused on approach to nursing education, goals and scholarship need and impact. 1,000 words or less, exceeding will result in point deduction.)	Addresses all questions in the criteria. Thoughtfully crafted, reflective answers, expresses need and impact of receiving this award and goals. Demonstrates excellent use of grammar, no typographical errors and adheres to 1,000 words or less.	Addresses the questions to some degree, but lacks clarity in some areas, does not fully address need and impact of receiving this award. Demonstrated acceptable use of grammar, minimal typographical errors. Adheres to 1,000 words or less.	Lacks focus, does not answer the criteria questions, repetitive, poor grammar and sentence structure, and/or exceeds 1,000 words.
3. Letter of Character Reference / Recommendation: Instructor or Professor Reference (Customized to the scholarship with the ability to relate first-hand experience of the applicant. Express the candidates impact as a result of receiving the scholarship. Reflects all aspects of the criteria to reinforce applicants viability as a candidate.)	Tailored to the applicant and scholarship award. Specific examples of first-hand experience and interaction expressed in letter. Reflects elements of the award criteria demonstrating applicants goals and impact this scholarship award will have if selected.	Somewhat tailored, providing high-level insight, examples or experience with the candidate are expressed in the letter. Reflects elements of the award criteria and what makes the applicant a good candidate and the impact the scholarship will have if selected.	Generic letter, no specific examples or experience with the candidate. Does not reflect aspects of the criteria or clearly state the difference that will be made if the applicant is awarded the scholarship. Generically addressed.
4. Academics (GPA consideration is given and included in scoring.)	3.76 – 4.0	3.26 – 3.75	3.0 – 3.25