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MINDEN SOARING CLUB YOUTH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2026

The Minden Soaring Club (MSC) Youth Scholarship is to help young pilots finance flight and ground instruction in preparation for obtaining their private glider rating. The scholarship will be paid directly to the glider flight training school of the scholarship recipient's choice. The Minden Soaring Club, Inc., is a nonprofit IRS 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Our mission is to promote world-class soaring in Minden, Nevada, through education, safety and proficiency, training, and community involvement.

Winners of the scholarship are selected based on their interest and enthusiasm for aviation, their academic record, and letters of recommendation. **Three** (3) scholarships or more at the discretion of the Board may be awarded for **\$1500** each to be used for flight training and instruction as detailed below. Recipients of the scholarships will be considered for an additional **\$1000** upon the recommendation of the recipient's flight instructor. Two of the scholarships will be reserved for applicants who live within a 100 nautical mile radius of the Minden-Tahoe Airport, Minden, Nevada. The MSC Board of Trustees, or their designated representatives, will determine the number of recipients and the scholarship amount to be awarded.

Scholarship recipients are required to study for and earn at least 75% on a practice written test before the end of the 4th month after being notified you have been awarded a scholarship. This practice test, like the FAA knowledge test, must consist of 60 questions and be completed in two hours. Qualified instructors will provide ground school training to help prepare the student for the knowledge exam. If the recipient does not pass the practice test before the deadline, the student's scholarship will terminate and all funds remaining in their scholarship account will be returned to the MSC Youth Scholarship Fund.

To qualify, applicants must:

1. Be between the ages of 13 and 25 years at the time of application;
2. Be able to read, speak and understand English;
3. Have no medical defect that would prevent them from safely operating a glider; and
4. Demonstrate an interest in aviation.

Scholarship recipients are allowed to reapply each year providing they meet the requirements of the scholarship.

Applications are due 45 days after the application has been provided to the applicant. After receipt of your application, an interview will be scheduled. Applicants will be notified whether they have been awarded a scholarship within 14 days after their interview.

Completed applications should be sent to the MSC Youth Scholarship Program, PO Box 361 Minden, Nevada 89423. Applications can also be sent via email to Ivan.Altunin02@gmail.com

Please submit your essay (in your own words) detailing:

1. Why you would like to learn to fly a sailplane;
2. Previous aviation experience (including model and radio-controlled aircraft) and level of aviation training attained, if any;
3. Goals planned for your aviation future. Please explain why your goals are beneficial to you, others, and your community.
4. List any unusual circumstances related to your financial need and how your current training, if any, is being financed;
5. Your personal background pertaining to worthiness for the scholarship award;
6. Other activities in which you participate;
7. What you can or might be able to contribute to the soaring community and a commitment to volunteer at one or more events during the soaring season; and

Attach at least one letter of recommendation from someone other than a relative.

Funds in the recipient's account not used at the end of the calendar year of the award will be returned to the MSC Youth Scholarship Fund. Prior to receiving the additional \$1000, or prior to December 31, whichever comes first, a record of how the funds were spent at the training facility and a copy of the relevant portions of the student's logbook must be submitted. Recipients are required to notify the Minden Soaring Club in writing of their intention to utilize the scholarship and the location of the training facility in order that funds may be paid directly to the training facility. The MSC Board of Trustees reserves the right to adjust these scholarship protocols at their discretion under reasonable circumstances.

For more information, please contact Ivan Altunin (775) 360-0735



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Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____ Cell or Other Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Name of School: _____ Grade: _____

Most recent GPA: _____

How did you hear about the MSC Youth Scholarship? _____

Please attach additional pages if necessary.

If under 18 years:

Parent Name: _____

Parent Phone No.: _____ Cell: _____

Parent Email: _____

Parent signature indicating support of this application for a MSC Youth Scholarship, and willingness to provide transportation and financial support to assist the applicant in his/her aviation goals.

Please Print Name

Signature

Date: _____