



## **St. Martin Knights of Columbus Council 13133 2026 Scholarship Application**

May 1, 2026

Dear Graduating Senior,

On behalf of the Saint Martin's Knights of Columbus Council #13133, we want to congratulate all graduating members of the Class of 2026. It is a major accomplishment for which you should be very proud.

The council will be awarding the James Yates Scholarship to *one or more* deserving graduates. A total of \$6000 is available this year. Scholarships are paid directly to student's account at the college or technical school to which s/he has been accepted.

If you are interested in applying for consideration for one of these scholarships, we encourage you to fill out the application and submit it to Joe Brancaccio, scholarship chairman (contact information is on the Details page).

**Note:** It is best to *include additional information which supports your responses*.

Be sure that you fully understand the following information which explains the Facts and Details about the scholarship.

Forms may now be obtained and returned via email but, *must be completed in your own handwriting*.

All materials submitted must be received via email, US mail or the Church Office no later than **6:00 pm on June 1, 2026**.

The Knights of Columbus will announce the winners during the week of June 22, 2026 after final awards are determined, and issue the scholarships soon after. Any other details will be available at a future date.

Sincerely,

Joe Brancaccio

Scholarship Chairman

Knights of Columbus Council #13133

Attachment:



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### **Facts about the James Yates Scholarship**

#### **History**

James L. Yates was a member of the Knights of Columbus Council and St. Martin of Tours parish. He was a man who knew God, loved Him and always served ‘with joy in his big heart’. Born in 1945, “Jim” Yates graduated from Bellarmine University in his hometown of Louisville, Kentucky. Following his time in the United States Air Force, James and his wife, Barbara, moved to Forney. Together they started Bow Wood Florist & Gift Shop and they served as volunteer accountants for St. Martin of Tours. Education was a passion of James Yates who was known to often encourage others to better themselves; even personally funding scholarships at St. Martin. His untimely death in 2004 deeply saddened our community. This scholarship program strives to honor his memory.

#### **Process**

The application for the scholarship and all supporting documents are considered **highly confidential**. Each application will be reviewed by a committee of several Knights of Columbus members who will only receive qualification data. *All identifying information* will be blocked out of all the committee documents. Each student is assigned a code so only the scholarship chairman will know the identity of each applicant.

The committee members rank each applicant on a weighted scale for **each of 5 areas** as outlined on the following Details sheet. The scholarship chairman *will facilitate the process*.

Each scholarship recipient is notified personally and arrangements made for a community presentation of the scholarship. *Participation in the community presentation is required to receive the scholarship*. We’ll help with that.

For any questions or for assistance with completing the application, please call/text the Scholarship Chairman using the contact information on the *Details* page.



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### James Yates Scholarship Details

#### **Deadline**

- Hand delivered to Church Office or delivered via email or US mail by **6:00 pm, June 1, 2026**.

#### **Eligibility**

- Any graduating senior who is active at St. Martin or member of an active St. Martin family.
- Any senior whose father is a Knight of Columbus member in good standing in Council 13133.
- Any graduating senior meeting one of the above criteria **and** who has been accepted at a College, University, or Technical School.
- Late or incomplete applications will be automatically disqualified.

#### **Forms**

- Applicants may receive an application via email by requesting one from the Scholarship Chairman, or can be downloaded from the Knights of Columbus website at: ***kofc13133.com***.
- *All 7 sections* of application **must be completed in the student's handwriting**.
- Completed applications may be scanned and submitted to the chairman via email (***jbrancaccio43@outlook.com***).

#### **Documentation**

- School transcripts are ideally sealed from the school.
- When you list **any event or activity** on the James Yates Scholarship application form, Scholastic or Civil, it is important that you **attach supporting documentation**.
  - For example, if you state that you were an altar server, a letter or note from Father Patrick would greatly enhance your qualifications
  - Likewise, if you are a member of the National Honor Society or other school activity, a letter from a counselor, teacher, or principal would improve your chances as well.

#### **Evaluation Weights (sections 1-5)**

- Academic Achievement (30%)
  - SAT **or** ACT scores
  - GPA (grade point average) – class ranking
  - Academic achievements (e.g. Math competitions, etc.)
- Extra-Curricular School and Community Involvement (35%)
- Church Activities and Involvement (35%)

#### **Scholarship Chairman Contact Info:**

- Joe Brancaccio – Call/Text: 972-539-8744 – email: [jbrancaccio43@outlook.com](mailto:jbrancaccio43@outlook.com)
- Address: 9470 CR 213, Forney, TX 75126







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**Section 6: College You Will Be Attending**

Please list below, the name and address of the college, university or trade school you will be attending. Also provide contact name/department and account number/ID, if available.

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Address: \_\_\_\_\_

School Department/Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Account Number/ID: \_\_\_\_\_

Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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**Section 7: Signature**

I hereby certify that the information I provided on this application along with attachments, are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Information:**

Primary Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Other Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_