



Elks
National
Foundation, Inc.

MVS & YOU

Hi Capt Daniel,

The 2026 MVS contest is almost underway! You're receiving this email because you are appointed as an MVS Coordinator for your Lodge. Thank you for stepping up for your Lodge to help promote and judge the [Most Valuable Student](#) scholarship contest this year.

If you will not be involved with scholarships this cycle, **please ask your Lodge Secretary to update the MVS Coordinator appointment.** You can forward them [these instructions](#) on how to do so.

The 2026 Application opened today! Students can access the application by going to enf.elks.org/MVS and clicking the big, "Apply Now" button. There are two exciting things to note about the application this year:

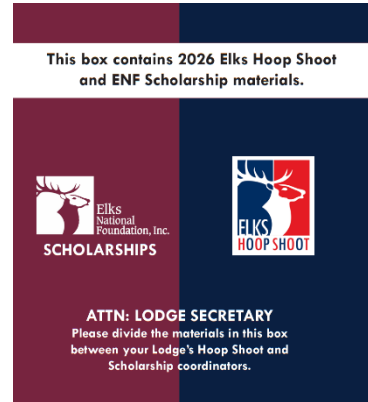
- **A new essay question!** Based on feedback from MVS Coordinators, and with AI in mind, the new essay question is:

How do you define leadership? Using a leadership role from an extracurricular activity or community service activity you prioritize as being important to you, describe how you fulfilled your definition of leadership. Include specific examples of what you contributed, what you learned about yourself, and how the role has influenced your plans for the future.

- **We have assembled a [Sample Application](#)** that anyone can review to see what questions will be asked on the official application. All applicants must apply through the ISTS hosted application form linked on the MVS webpage to be considered.

We have three upcoming dates for you to have on your calendar:

- **Friday, August 8:** The MVS Portal opens to Coordinators with some new updates that we will highlight in the coming weeks.
- **The week of August 11:** The annual scholarship materials will start arriving in Lodge mailboxes, addressed to the Lodge Secretary. The box contains BOTH Elks Hoop Shoot *and* ENF Scholarship materials with explicit instructions on the box to give the scholarship materials to Scholarship Coordinators.
- **Wednesday, November 12 at 11:59 p.m. PT:** The 2026 MVS Application closes



Check out the [2026 Timeline](#) for more exciting dates.

Your biggest priority now should be promoting the contest. [Most \(like 99%!\) school counselors like to be reached via email.](#) Use the digital promotion materials hosted on our [MVS Promotional Resources page](#) to promote the contest online and through email before the physical contest materials arrive.

Our office is here to help. If you have any questions, please email scholarship@elks.org or call 773/755-4732.

Sincerely,

Claire Schnucker
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