**Elks Award Nearly $4 Million in College Scholarships**

In April, the Elks National Foundation awarded more than $3.9 million to high school seniors entering their freshman year of college, welcoming 850 students to the Elks Family. More than just financial aid, an Elks scholarship is an invitation to a network of service-minded peers and a promise that an Elks Lodge is always there with open arms.

Out of more than 22,000 applicants for the Elks National Foundation’s Most Valuable Student scholarship, the Top 20 scholars received $30,000 scholarships and an invitation to Chicago for the Most Valuable Student Leadership Weekend. Four-hundred-and-eighty runners-up received $4,000 scholarships.

From April 11 to 14 in Chicago, the Leadership Weekend offered panels run by current and former Elks scholars to teach the new class about personal branding, transitioning to college, and finding service opportunities through the Elks.

“The Leadership Weekend was an experience I will never forget,” says Ella Brie Mayor, a top winner sponsored by Simi Valley, Calif., Lodge No. 2492. “I am so grateful to have been able to connect with a likeminded group of students who care about education and bettering the world just as much as I do.”

The Elks also welcomed 350 Legacy Awards scholarship recipients to the #ElksFamily. Exclusively for the children or grandchildren of Elks members, the Legacy Awards are $4,000 scholarships with an essential service requirement. Recipients must serve with an Elks Lodge three times during the four years they receive the scholarship.

“Receiving an Elks Legacy scholarship is a profound honor that represents not only financial support but also recognition of my family connection to the Elks community,” says Denton Wiggins, a Legacy scholar sponsored by Perry, Fla., Lodge No. 1851. “It signifies a legacy of service, generosity, and commitment to education passed down through generations. This scholarship not only alleviates financial burdens but also fosters a sense of belonging and pride in being part of a tradition of giving back to others.”

To see a full list of the scholarship winners and to learn more about the Elks National Foundation’s scholarships, visit [elks.org/scholars](http://www.elks.org/scholars), follow the ENF on Instagram @ElksScholars, and [like the ENF on Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/Elksscholars) @ElksNationalFoundation.

*For 2024-25, the Elks National Foundation allocated nearly $2.9 million to fund the Most Valuable Student scholarship program, which includes 500 four-year scholarships ranging from $4,000 to $30,000. For more information about the Most Valuable Student scholarship program, including eligibility and deadlines, visit elks.org/scholars.*