

LOS ISLEÑOS HERITAGE AND CULTURAL SOCIETY OF ST. BERNARD

2026 Collegiate Scholarship Instructions

Los Isleños Heritage and Cultural Society of St. Bernard offers two (2) \$1,000 Collegiate Scholarships to the descendants of Isleños who founded St. Bernard Parish. The award of these scholarships is based upon the composition of essays entitled *What My Isleño Heritage Means to Me*. These scholarships shall be awarded during the July 2026 membership meeting of Los Isleños Heritage and Cultural Society of St. Bernard.

Purpose

The Collegiate Scholarship is intended for high school students entering a course of study at a college or university. This award shall be used to cover any expenses related to entering said course of study.

Submission Requirements

1. Applicant must be a projected high school graduate from a school located in one of the following Louisiana parishes: St. Bernard, Plaquemines, Orleans, Jefferson, St. Charles, St. Tammany, or Tangipahoa.
2. Applicant must be of Isleño descent from St. Bernard Parish. This means that one or more of his/her ancestors must have been colonists from the Canary Islands who settled in St. Bernard Parish between 1779 and 1783.
3. Applicant must complete the Collegiate Scholarship Application Form on page

4. Applicant must author an original essay entitled “What My Isleño Heritage Means to Me.” This essay must be written in English and must be between 490 and 510 words. The application shall be disqualified if identifying information such as the name of the author, family names, or names of family members appear in the essay. Plagiarism shall not be tolerated. This essay must be attached to the Collegiate Scholarship Application Form.
5. Applicant must attach his/her academic transcript to the Collegiate Scholarship Application Form. The transcript must record academic progress at least to the first semester of the 12th grade and must report at least a 2.5 cumulative GPA.

Submission Deadline

Three (3) items must be submitted to the Society on or before **March 31st, 2026**, to apply for the 2026 Collegiate Scholarship: (1) a completed Collegiate Application Form, (2) an original essay, and (3) a high school academic transcript.

Submission Methods

Three (3) acceptable submission methods for the Collegiate Scholarship include are mailed-in, electronic, and in-person. More details are included below:

Mailed-in submissions shall be accepted if they are postmarked on or before the Submission Deadline. Mailed letters must be addressed as follows:

Los Isleños Heritage and Cultural Society of St. Bernard
Attention: Jerry Glen Estopinal, Society Historian/Chairman
1345 – 1357 Bayou Road
St. Bernard, LA 70085

Electronic submissions shall be accepted through the virtual Collegiate Scholarship Application at www.losislenos.org/scholarship on or before the Submission Deadline.

In-person submissions shall be accepted at Membership Meetings of Los Isleños Heritage and Cultural Society of St. Bernard on or before the Submission Deadline.

Judging Process

The Scholarship Committee of Los Isleños Heritage and Cultural Society of St. Bernard shall retain applications and scholarship essays. To preserve anonymity, the author's names shall not appear on essays. The Scholarship Committee shall identify essays with a unique number associated with his/her application. Applicants are limited to only one (1) application for the Collegiate Scholarship.

An impartial panel of judges from the St. Bernard Parish School Board shall select the two (2) winning essays from those submitted to the Society on or before the Submission Deadline. The two (2) winners shall then be notified by the Society. Any interference in the judging process shall result in immediate disqualification from the scholarship.

Further Questions

Any additional questions may be emailed to both losislenos2011@gmail.com or islenoshis@gmail.com. Applicants may also contact Scholarship Committee Chairman Jerry Estopinal through text message at (504) 722 – 5746.

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2026 COLLEGIATE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

APPLICANT FULL NAME: _____

STREET _____ ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

APPLICANT _____ E-MAIL _____ ADDRESS: _____

APPLICANT TELEPHONE NUMBER: _____

EXPLANATION OF ISLEÑO ANCESTRY _____

HIGH SCHOOL NAME: _____

HIGH SCHOOL ADDRESS: _____

GUARDIAN FULL NAME: _____

GUARDIAN _____ E-MAIL _____ ADDRESS: _____

By my signature below, I, _____, certify the information I provided in this application to the 2026 Collegiate Scholarship is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand the requirements of this application and that any false statements or deliberate omissions in my application may subject me to disqualification from the scholarship.

APPLICANT SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

FOR SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE USE ONLY

RECEIVED BY: _____

DATE: _____