



BOROUGH OF CHATHAM

54 Fairmount Avenue
Chatham, New Jersey 07928
www.chathamborough.org

MAYOR CAROLYN DEMPSEY



TOWNSHIP OF CHATHAM

58 Meyersville Road
Chatham, New Jersey 07928
www.chathamtownship.org

MAYOR JENNIFER ROWLAND

February 11, 2026

Dear Students, Administrators, Faculty, and Volunteers in the Chatham Education Community:

The New Jersey State League of Municipalities, along with your Mayors, have an excellent scholarship opportunity for high school juniors and seniors from Chatham Borough and Chatham Township.

We have teamed up to offer three \$1,000.00 scholarships through the Louis Bay 2nd Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Competition. This statewide scholarship competition centers on the theme "What I Like About My Hometown," and seeks to advance the virtues of elected and volunteer members of municipal government. If a student is a resident of Chatham Borough, their application should be submitted to the Mayor of Chatham Borough. Likewise, students residing in Chatham Township should submit their application to the Mayor of Chatham Township.

Many of the elected officials and appointed board members serve the Chathams with little or no compensation. It is our altruistic desire to serve our community which compels us into public service. Elected officials, along with a cadre of dedicated professionals, are guardians of our hometown's comforts and security. We all give of our time and talents to help plan our community and preserve our way of life.

Elected officials and professionals serve us year-round, every day and their dedication often goes unnoticed. This scholarship competition will help to celebrate that spirit of civic service that while encouraging our future municipal leaders. Full details on the application process and contest are enclosed. We hope to see many of our young adults representing the Chathams in the Louis Bay 2nd Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Competition.

Please return completed applications by PDF or hard copy to the mayor of your municipality by March 16, 2026:

Mayor Carolyn Dempsey
Chatham Borough Hall
54 Fairmount Avenue
Chatham NJ 07928
mayor@chathamborough.org

Mayor Jennifer Rowland
Chatham Township Municipal Building
58 Meyersville Road
Chatham NJ 07928
jrowland@chathamtownship.org

Thank you, and we look forward to reading our Chatham applications!

Sincerely,

Carolyn Dempsey
Mayor, Chatham Borough

Jennifer Rowland
Mayor, Chatham Township

The Louis Bay 2nd Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Competition
Application and Selection Process
(Please keep these instructions with the application)

Open to all high school juniors and seniors who are residents of New Jersey and plan to continue their education after high school.

1. Complete the application and essay.
2. **Return them to your Hometown Mayor's Office** (or the location designated by your Mayor).

Regional Or Private High School Students: Please note that the application and essay must be returned to your **hometown** mayor, not the mayor of the municipality where your high school is located (unless that is your hometown).

3. The mayor or a designated committee will select one semi-finalist from your municipality.
4. All entrants will receive a certificate of participation from the Mayor's office.
5. The winner from each municipality will be designated as a state semi-finalist. They will have their essay and application reviewed by the Scholarship Committee of the New Jersey State League of Municipalities.
6. All state semi-finalists will receive a certificate attesting to their status as state semi-finalists.
7. The Scholarship Committee will select 15 finalists and 3 winners.
8. The 15 finalists will each be awarded finalist certificates. The three winners will each be awarded \$1,000.00 by their mayor at a hometown ceremony.
9. Winners' essays will be featured in *New Jersey Municipalities* magazine.

2026 Louis Bay 2nd Future Municipal Leaders Scholarship Application

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Email _____

Municipality In Which You Reside _____

Current School _____

Grade Attending _____

Colleges or Schools To Which You May Apply

Area of Municipal Govt/Administration That Interests You _____

Write an essay on the theme "What I Like About My Hometown." Your essay should be based on your perceptions and experiences with your municipality's local government. The essay should consider the public contributions of your municipal government.

Length: Approximately 500 words. Recommended Times New Roman, Double space, 12 pt font. Please use paper clips, not staples.

Deadline: Essays must be submitted to your hometown mayor by **March 16, 2026**

Judging Criteria:

- Judging is based solely on the essay. Please do not include any other information such as transcripts and references.
- Appropriateness of theme.
- Effective articulation of theme.
- Originality.
- Technical composition, spelling, and syntax.

Return completed application and essay to your **hometown** mayor's office.

WHAT IS THE LEAGUE?

The New Jersey State League of Municipalities is a voluntary association created to help communities do a better job of self-government through pooling information resources and brainpower. The League is authorized by state statute and since 1915, has been serving local officials throughout the Garden State. All of New Jersey's 564 municipalities are members of the League. The 564 mayors and 13,000 elected and appointed officials of member municipalities are entitled to all of the services and privileges of the League.

The League publishes a magazine titled *New Jersey Municipalities* that reports up-to-the-minute information on municipal administration and procedures with practical examples, news notes, and new laws. It is one of the reading "musts" for municipal officials and is sent to more than 8,500 readers each month.

In addition to the magazine, other League services include: Bureau of Municipal Information; Ordinances and Codes; Research; Legislative Analysis; Legislative Bulletins; New Laws; Contracts; In-Service Training; Personal Consultation; and Instructional Seminars. Nearly all League services are available through the League website, www.njlm.org.

The highlight of the year's activities is the Annual League Conference, held each November in Atlantic City at the Atlantic City Convention Center. The Conference is an invaluable learning experience which yields benefits throughout the year. Delegates have the opportunity to learn and ask questions at more than 100 panels, clinics, workshops, and other sessions conducted by the League and the 22 associations of technical and professional employees allied with it. Commercial, government and association exhibits display the latest products and services for municipal government. At the 2025 Annual League Conference, approximately 17,000 delegates, participants, and guests attended, representing the largest municipal gathering in the country.

These Organizations Form an Integral Part of the League

Association of Municipal Assessors of New Jersey
New Jersey Institute of Local Government Attorneys
New Jersey Building Officials Association
Municipal Clerks' Association of New Jersey, Inc.
Municipal Court Administrators Association of New Jersey
Municipal Electrical Inspectors Association of New Jersey, Inc.
New Jersey Society of Municipal Engineers, Inc.
New Jersey Government Management Information Sciences
Government Finance Officers Association of New Jersey
New Jersey State Fire Prevention and Protection Association
NJACCHO – Health Officers
Jersey Access Group
New Jersey Municipal Management Association
New Jersey Planning Officials, Inc.
New Jersey State Plumbing Inspectors Association, Inc.
New Jersey State Municipal Prosecutors Association
American Public Works Association – New Jersey Chapter
Governmental Purchasing Association of New Jersey
Community Recreation Society of New Jersey
Registrars Association of New Jersey
Tax Collectors and Treasurers Association of New Jersey
New Jersey Association of Planning & Zoning
Administrators