

THE CEDAR CREEK MEDIA  
ORDER OF ATHLETIC MERIT SCHOLARSHIP  
Application Packet – Class of 2026

## 1. Overview

The Cedar Creek Media Order of Athletic Merit Scholarship recognizes two Mabank High School senior athletes — one male and one female — whose athletic journey reflects exceptional sacrifice, character, and commitment.

Recipients are not only awarded a scholarship, but are formally inducted into the Order of Athletic Merit, a distinguished body of Mabank alumni athletes who exemplify the highest standard of what it means to wear green and white.

Inductees will serve, in future years, as contributors to the selection process for new members, helping establish a lasting tradition of excellence, leadership, and mentorship within Panther athletics.

This honor is not based on statistics, wins, or highlight reels. It is awarded to athletes who have earned merit through resilience, effort, integrity, and the unseen work that defines true competitors.

Scholarship funding is raised through Cedar Creek Media's annual raffles of signed athletic memorabilia throughout the school year.



## 2. Eligibility Requirements

- Current Mabank High School senior (Class of 2026)
- Rostered athlete in at least one UIL sport during the 2025–2026 school year
- Minimum 2.0 cumulative GPA
- Good standing with coaches and campus administration
- Submission of essay or video answering the official prompt
- Submit all materials by the deadline (TBD)

## 3. Scholarship Prompt

Being an athlete takes sacrifice — early mornings, long practices, injuries, setbacks, expectations, and pressure. Tell the story of what it truly took for you to compete for Mabank. What did you push through, what did you learn from it, and how has that shaped the kind of person you want to be after high school?

## 4. Submission Format

A. Essay (350–500 words, PDF or Google Doc, titled:  
YourLastName\_YourFirstName\_Sport\_OAM)

B. Video (90 seconds–2 minute): Does not need to be edited, but will be judged on clarity. Submit as an unlist YouTube link, or a Google Drive Link

*\* See help page if you need instruction on uploading to YouTube or Google Drive*

## 5. Scoring Rubric (100% Total)

- Story & Substance – 35%
- Reflection & Insight – 25%
- Authenticity – 20%
- Clarity & Effort – 10%
- GPA Consideration – 10%

Minimum GPA to apply: 2.0

## 6. Selection Process

Applications reviewed by:

- Cedar Creek Media representatives
- Past inductees (starting Year 2)
- Optional: faculty/coaches

Two recipients selected and inducted into the Order of Athletic Merit.

## 7. Induction into the Order of Athletic Merit Inductees:

- Receive the scholarship
- Public recognition
- Added to the Order of Athletic Merit Roll
- May contribute to future selection committees
- Induction is a lifetime honor.

## 8. Submission Instructions

Email submissions to: [ccm.oamerit@gmail.com](mailto:ccm.oamerit@gmail.com)

Subject Line: Order of Athletic Merit – LastName, FirstName

In body of the email, include:

- Full Name • Sport(s) • Non-school Email • GPA (verified) • Post-graduation plan

## 9. Important Dates

Application Opens: Feb 16, 2026

Deadline: April 10, 2026

Recipients Announced: April 22, 2026

## HOW TO SUBMIT A VIDEO

### Cedar Creek Media – Order of Athletic Merit Scholarship

This guide is for students choosing the VIDEO option instead of the essay.

Your video does NOT need to be fancy.

A phone video recorded in a quiet place is perfect.

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#### OPTION 1 (RECOMMENDED): YOUTUBE – UNLISTED

This is the easiest and most reliable option.

1. Record your video on your phone.
2. Open the YouTube app or go to youtube.com.
3. Tap “Create” or the + button and upload your video.
4. When asked for visibility, choose:  
UNLISTED (NOT Public).
5. After the upload finishes, copy the video link.
6. Paste the link into your submission email.

#### IMPORTANT:

- Unlisted means only people with the link can watch.
- Your video will NOT show up in searches.

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#### OPTION 2: GOOGLE DRIVE

1. Record your video on your phone.
2. Upload the video to Google Drive.
3. Right-click the video file and choose “Get link.”
4. Change sharing to:  
“Anyone with the link can view.”
5. Copy the link.
6. Paste the link into your submission email.

NEED HELP? THAT’S OK. Email us at [ccm.oamerit@gmail.com](mailto:ccm.oamerit@gmail.com)

