



See a Social Security Number? Say Something!
Report Privacy Problems to <https://public.resource.org/privacy>
Or call the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 1-800-908-4490



Form

990Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service**Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax**

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except black lung benefit trust or private foundation)

▶ The organization may have to use a copy of this return to satisfy state reporting requirements

OMB No 1545-0047

2009

Open to Public Inspection

A For the 2009 calendar year, or tax year beginning **JUN 1, 2009** and ending **MAY 31, 2010****B** Check if applicable

- ☐ Address change
☐ Name change
☐ Initial return
☐ Terminated
☐ Amended return
☐ Application pending

Please use IRS label or print or type
See Specific Instructions**C** Name of organization**NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION**

Doing Business As

Number and street (or P.O. box if mail is not delivered to street address)

1560 SHERMAN AVENUE

Room/suite

200

City or town, state or country, and ZIP + 4

EVANSTON, IL 60201-4897**F** Name and address of principal officer **TIMOTHY E. MCGUIRE**
SAME AS C ABOVE**D** Employer identification number**36-2307745****E** Telephone number**847-866-5112****G** Gross receipts \$**84,413,681.****H(a)** Is this a group return for affiliates? ☐ Yes ☒ No**H(b)** Are all affiliates included? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If "No," attach a list (see instructions)

H(c) Group exemption number ▶ **N/A****I** Tax-exempt status. ☒ 501(c) (3) (insert no) ☐ 4947(a)(1) or ☐ 527**J** Website: ▶ **WWW.NATIONALMERIT.ORG****K** Form of organization. ☒ Corporation ☐ Trust ☐ Association ☐ Other ▶**L** Year of formation: **1955** **M** State of legal domicile: **IL****Part I Summary**

Activities & Governance	1 Briefly describe the organization's mission or most significant activities: TO CONDUCT NATIONWIDE ACADEMIC COMPETITIONS FOR RECOGNITION AND COLLEGE UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIPS.		
	2 Check this box <input type="checkbox"/> if the organization discontinued its operations or disposed of more than 25% of its net assets.		
	3 Number of voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1a)	3	20
	4 Number of independent voting members of the governing body (Part VI, line 1b)	4	19
	5 Total number of employees (Part V, line 2a)	5	45
	6 Total number of volunteers (estimate if necessary)	6	0
	7a Total gross unrelated business revenue from Part VIII, column (C), line 12	7a	0.
b Net unrelated business taxable income from Form 990-T, line 34	7b	0.	
Revenue	8 Contributions and grants (Part VIII, line 1h)	Prior Year	Current Year
	9 Program service revenue (Part VIII, line 2g)	41,351,562.	41,564,332.
	10 Investment income (Part VIII, column (A), lines 3, 4, and 7d)	5,277.	7,962.
	11 Other revenue (Part VIII, column (A), lines 5, 6d, 8c, 9c, 10c, and 11e)	4,124,166.	5,075,202.
	12 Total revenue - add lines 8 through 11 (must equal Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	111.	406.
	13 Grants and similar amounts paid (Part IX, column (A), lines 1-3)	45,481,116.	46,647,902.
Expenses	14 Benefits paid to or for members (Part IX, column (A), line 4)	48,165,073.	48,333,430.
	15 Salaries, other compensation, employee benefits (Part IX, column (A), lines 5-10)	2,709,447.	2,546,610.
	16a Professional fundraising fees (Part IX, column (A), line 11e)		
	b Total fundraising expenses (Part IX, column (D), line 25) ▶ 569,971.		
	17 Other expenses (Part IX, column (A), lines 11a-11d, 11f-24f)	1,788,472.	1,796,532.
	18 Total expenses - Add lines 13-17 (must equal Part IX, column (A), line 25)	52,662,992.	52,676,572.
	19 Revenue less expenses - Subtract line 18 from line 12	-7,181,876.	-6,028,670.
Net Assets or Fund Balances	20 Total assets (Part X, line 16)	Beginning of Current Year	End of Year
	21 Total liabilities (Part X, line 26)	136,183,757.	148,221,243.
	22 Net assets or fund balances. Subtract line 21 from line 20	2,058,437.	2,555,959.
		134,125,320.	145,665,284.

Part II Signature Block

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here**Karen Boich**

Signature of officer

Date

10/1/2010**KAREN M. BOICH, VICE PRESIDENT AND TREASURER**

Type or print name and title

Paid**Preparer's Use Only**

Preparer's signature

Daniel Fajal

Date

9-30-10Check if self-employed ☐

Preparer's identifying number (see instructions)

Firm's name (or yours if self-employed), address, and ZIP + 4

RSM MCGLADREY INC**ONE SOUTH WACKER DRIVE, SUITE 800
CHICAGO, IL 60606-3392**

EIN ▶

Phone no. ▶ **312-634-3400**

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? (see instructions)

☒ Yes ☐ No

932001 02-04-10

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the separate instructions.

Form 990 (2009)

616

4

SCANNED OCT 29 2010

Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments

- 1 Briefly describe the organization's mission SEE SCHEDULE O FOR CONTINUATION
THE ENDURING GOALS OF NMSC'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAMS ARE: TO PROMOTE A
WIDER AND DEEPER RESPECT FOR LEARNING IN GENERAL AND FOR EXCEPTIONALLY
TALENTED INDIVIDUALS IN PARTICULAR; TO SHINE A SPOTLIGHT ON BRILLIANT
STUDENTS AND ENCOURAGE THE PURSUIT OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AT ALL
- 2 Did the organization undertake any significant program services during the year which were not listed on the prior Form 990 or 990-EZ? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 If "Yes," describe these new services on Schedule O
- 3 Did the organization cease conducting, or make significant changes in how it conducts, any program services? ☐ Yes ☒ No
 If "Yes," describe these changes on Schedule O
- 4 Describe the exempt purpose achievements for each of the organization's three largest program services by expenses. Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations and section 4947(a)(1) trusts are required to report the amount of grants and allocations to others, the total expenses, and revenue, if any, for each program service reported.

4a (Code:) (Expenses \$ 48025216. including grants of \$ 45822538.) (Revenue \$ 7,308.)
NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
FOUR YEAR RENEWABLE SCHOLARSHIPS: 26,469
ONE-TIME AWARDS: 2,814

4b (Code:) (Expenses \$ 2,970,561. including grants of \$ 2,510,892.) (Revenue \$ 654.)
NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
FOUR YEAR RENEWABLE SCHOLARSHIPS: 396
ONE-TIME AWARDS: 710

4c (Code:) (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4d Other program services. (Describe in Schedule O)
 (Expenses \$ including grants of \$) (Revenue \$)

4e Total program service expenses ► \$ 50,995,777.

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules

	Yes	No
1 Is the organization described in section 501(c)(3) or 4947(a)(1) (other than a private foundation)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule A</i>	1 X	
2 Is the organization required to complete Schedule B, Schedule of Contributors?	2 X	
3 Did the organization engage in direct or indirect political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I</i>	3	X
4 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization engage in lobbying activities? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II</i>	4	X
5 Section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), and 501(c)(6) organizations. Is the organization subject to the section 6033(e) notice and reporting requirement and proxy tax? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part III</i>	5	
6 Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds or any similar funds or accounts where donors have the right to provide advice on the distribution or investment of amounts in such funds or accounts? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part I</i>	6	X
7 Did the organization receive or hold a conservation easement, including easements to preserve open space, the environment, historic land areas, or historic structures? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part II</i>	7	X
8 Did the organization maintain collections of works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part III</i>	8	X
9 Did the organization report an amount in Part X, line 21; serve as a custodian for amounts not listed in Part X, or provide credit counseling, debt management, credit repair, or debt negotiation services? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IV</i>	9	X
10 Did the organization, directly or through a related organization, hold assets in term, permanent, or quasi-endowments? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part V</i>	10 X	
11 Is the organization's answer to any of the following questions "Yes"? <i>If so, complete Schedule D, Parts VI, VII, VIII, IX, or X as applicable</i>	11 X	
• Did the organization report an amount for land, buildings, and equipment in Part X, line 10? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VI</i>		
• Did the organization report an amount for investments - other securities in Part X, line 12 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VII.</i>		
• Did the organization report an amount for investments - program related in Part X, line 13 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part VIII.</i>		
• Did the organization report an amount for other assets in Part X, line 15 that is 5% or more of its total assets reported in Part X, line 16? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part IX</i>		
• Did the organization report an amount for other liabilities in Part X, line 25? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i>		
• Did the organization's separate or consolidated financial statements for the tax year include a footnote that addresses the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Part X</i>		
12 Did the organization obtain separate, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule D, Parts XI, XII, and XIII.</i>	12 X	
12A Was the organization included in consolidated, independent audited financial statements for the tax year? <i>If "Yes," completing Schedule D, Parts XI, XII, and XIII is optional</i>	12A	X
13 Is the organization a school described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule E</i>	13	X
14a Did the organization maintain an office, employees, or agents outside of the United States?	14a	X
b Did the organization have aggregate revenues or expenses of more than \$10,000 from grantmaking, fundraising, business, and program service activities outside the United States? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part I</i>	14b	X
15 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of grants or assistance to any organization or entity located outside the United States? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part II</i>	15	X
16 Did the organization report on Part IX, column (A), line 3, more than \$5,000 of aggregate grants or assistance to individuals located outside the United States? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule F, Part III</i>	16	X
17 Did the organization report a total of more than \$15,000 of expenses for professional fundraising services on Part IX, column (A), lines 6 and 11e? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part I</i>	17	X
18 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 total of fundraising event gross income and contributions on Part VIII, lines 1c and 8a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part II</i>	18	X
19 Did the organization report more than \$15,000 of gross income from gaming activities on Part VIII, line 9a? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule G, Part III</i>	19	X
20 Did the organization operate one or more hospitals? <i>If "Yes," complete Schedule H</i>	20	X

Part IV Checklist of Required Schedules (continued)

	Yes	No
21 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 1? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and II		X
22 Did the organization report more than \$5,000 of grants and other assistance to individuals in the United States on Part IX, column (A), line 2? If "Yes," complete Schedule I, Parts I and III	X	
23 Did the organization answer "Yes" to Part VII, Section A, line 3, 4, or 5 about compensation of the organization's current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees? If "Yes," complete Schedule J	X	
24a Did the organization have a tax-exempt bond issue with an outstanding principal amount of more than \$100,000 as of the last day of the year, that was issued after December 31, 2002? If "Yes," answer lines 24b through 24d and complete Schedule K. If "No," go to line 25		X
24b Did the organization invest any proceeds of tax-exempt bonds beyond a temporary period exception?		
24c Did the organization maintain an escrow account other than a refunding escrow at any time during the year to defease any tax-exempt bonds?		
24d Did the organization act as an "on behalf of" issuer for bonds outstanding at any time during the year?		
25a Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations. Did the organization engage in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person during the year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		X
25b Is the organization aware that it engaged in an excess benefit transaction with a disqualified person in a prior year, and that the transaction has not been reported on any of the organization's prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part I		X
26 Was a loan to or by a current or former officer, director, trustee, key employee, highly compensated employee, or disqualified person outstanding as of the end of the organization's tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II		X
27 Did the organization provide a grant or other assistance to an officer, director, trustee, key employee, substantial contributor, or a grant selection committee member, or to a person related to such an individual? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part III		X
28 Was the organization a party to a business transaction with one of the following parties, (see Schedule L, Part IV instructions for applicable filing thresholds, conditions, and exceptions):		
a A current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV		X
b A family member of a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV		X
c An entity of which a current or former officer, director, trustee, or key employee of the organization (or a family member) was an officer, director, trustee, or direct or indirect owner? If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part IV		X
29 Did the organization receive more than \$25,000 in non-cash contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M		X
30 Did the organization receive contributions of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets, or qualified conservation contributions? If "Yes," complete Schedule M		X
31 Did the organization liquidate, terminate, or dissolve and cease operations? If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part I		X
32 Did the organization sell, exchange, dispose of, or transfer more than 25% of its net assets? If "Yes," complete Schedule N, Part II		X
33 Did the organization own 100% of an entity disregarded as separate from the organization under Regulations sections 301.7701-2 and 301.7701-3? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part I		X
34 Was the organization related to any tax-exempt or taxable entity? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Parts II, III, IV, and V, line 1		X
35 Is any related organization a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2		X
36 Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part V, line 2		X
37 Did the organization conduct more than 5% of its activities through an entity that is not a related organization and that is treated as a partnership for federal income tax purposes? If "Yes," complete Schedule R, Part VI		X
38 Did the organization complete Schedule O and provide explanations in Schedule O for Part VI, lines 11 and 19? Note. All Form 990 filers are required to complete Schedule O.	X	

Form 990 (2009)

Part VI Governance, Management, and Disclosure For each "Yes" response to lines 2 through 7b below, and for a "No" response to line 8a, 8b, or 10b below, describe the circumstances, processes, or changes in Schedule O. See instructions.

Section A. Governing Body and Management

	Yes	No
1a Enter the number of voting members of the governing body	20	
b Enter the number of voting members that are independent	19	
2 Did any officer, director, trustee, or key employee have a family relationship or a business relationship with any other officer, director, trustee, or key employee?		X
3 Did the organization delegate control over management duties customarily performed by or under the direct supervision of officers, directors or trustees, or key employees to a management company or other person?		X
4 Did the organization make any significant changes to its organizational documents since the prior Form 990 was filed?		X
5 Did the organization become aware during the year of a material diversion of the organization's assets?		X
6 Does the organization have members or stockholders?		X
7a Does the organization have members, stockholders, or other persons who may elect one or more members of the governing body?		X
b Are any decisions of the governing body subject to approval by members, stockholders, or other persons?		X
8 Did the organization contemporaneously document the meetings held or written actions undertaken during the year by the following:		
a The governing body?	X	
b Each committee with authority to act on behalf of the governing body?	X	
9 Is there any officer, director, trustee, or key employee listed in Part VII, Section A, who cannot be reached at the organization's mailing address? If "Yes," provide the names and addresses in Schedule O		X

Section B. Policies (This Section B requests information about policies not required by the Internal Revenue Code.)

	Yes	No
10a Does the organization have local chapters, branches, or affiliates?		X
b If "Yes," does the organization have written policies and procedures governing the activities of such chapters, affiliates, and branches to ensure their operations are consistent with those of the organization?		
11 Has the organization provided a copy of this Form 990 to all members of its governing body before filing the form?	X	
11A Describe in Schedule O the process, if any, used by the organization to review this Form 990.		
12a Does the organization have a written conflict of interest policy? If "No," go to line 13	X	
b Are officers, directors or trustees, and key employees required to disclose annually interests that could give rise to conflicts?	X	
c Does the organization regularly and consistently monitor and enforce compliance with the policy? If "Yes," describe in Schedule O how this is done	X	
13 Does the organization have a written whistleblower policy?	X	
14 Does the organization have a written document retention and destruction policy?	X	
15 Did the process for determining compensation of the following persons include a review and approval by independent persons, comparability data, and contemporaneous substantiation of the deliberation and decision?		
a The organization's CEO, Executive Director, or top management official	X	
b Other officers or key employees of the organization	X	
If "Yes" to line 15a or 15b, describe the process in Schedule O. (See instructions.)		
16a Did the organization invest in, contribute assets to, or participate in a joint venture or similar arrangement with a taxable entity during the year?		X
b If "Yes," has the organization adopted a written policy or procedure requiring the organization to evaluate its participation in joint venture arrangements under applicable federal tax law, and taken steps to safeguard the organization's exempt status with respect to such arrangements?		

Section C. Disclosure

17 List the states with which a copy of this Form 990 is required to be filed ► **SEE SCHEDULE O**

18 Section 6104 requires an organization to make its Forms 1023 (or 1024 if applicable), 990, and 990-T (501(c)(3)s only) available for public inspection. Indicate how you make these available. Check all that apply.
☐ Own website ☐ Another's website ☒ Upon request

19 Describe in Schedule O whether (and if so, how), the organization makes its governing documents, conflict of interest policy, and financial statements available to the public.

20 State the name, physical address, and telephone number of the person who possesses the books and records of the organization: ►
KAREN M. BOICH, VICE PRESIDENT AND TREASURER- 847-866-5112
1560 SHERMAN AVENUE, SUITE 200, EVANSTON, IL 60201-4897

Part VII Compensation of Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, Highest Compensated Employees, and Independent Contractors
Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

1a Complete this table for all persons required to be listed. Report compensation for the calendar year ending with or within the organization's tax year. Use Schedule J-2 if additional space is needed.

• List all of the organization's **current** officers, directors, trustees (whether individuals or organizations), regardless of amount of compensation. Enter -0- in columns (D), (E), and (F) if no compensation was paid.

• List all of the organization's **current** key employees. See instructions for definition of "key employee."

• List the organization's five **current** highest compensated employees (other than an officer, director, trustee, or key employee) who received reportable compensation (Box 5 of Form W-2 and/or Box 7 of Form 1099-MISC) of more than \$100,000 from the organization and any related organizations.

• List all of the organization's **former** officers, key employees, and highest compensated employees who received more than \$100,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

• List all of the organization's **former** directors or trustees that received, in the capacity as a former director or trustee of the organization, more than \$10,000 of reportable compensation from the organization and any related organizations.

List persons in the following order: individual trustees or directors; institutional trustees; officers; key employees; highest compensated employees; and former such persons.

☐ Check this box if the organization did not compensate any current officer, director, or trustee

(A) Name and Title	(B) Average hours per week	(C) Position (check all that apply)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
JAMES R. DONNELLEY BOARD CHAIRMAN	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
RICHARD L. KEYSER BOARD VICE-CHAIRMAN	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
HAROLD B. SMITH, JR. BOARD VICE-CHAIRMAN	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
JOSEPH M. CAHALAN DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
SCOTT S. COWEN DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
GREGORY L. GEOFFROY DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
LINDA R. GORSLINE DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
MARK A. HAUGHT DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
EDWIN S. HEDGEPEETH DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
MICHAEL J. HEILMAN DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
MICHAEL G. JOHNSON DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
BRIAN C. MITCHELL DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
S. GEORGIA NUGENT DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
CE QUANDT DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
THOMAS J. QUINLAN III DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
DIANA M. SCHMELZER DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
SUE SLOAN DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.

Part VII Section A. Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees (continued)

(A) Name and title	(B) Average hours per week	(C) Position (check all that apply)						(D) Reportable compensation from the organization (W-2/1099-MISC)	(E) Reportable compensation from related organizations (W-2/1099-MISC)	(F) Estimated amount of other compensation from the organization and related organizations
		Individual trustee or director	Institutional trustee	Officer	Key employee	Highest compensated employee	Former			
DEBORAH V. TRASKELL DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
DIRLENE WHEELER DIRECTOR	0.50	X						0.	0.	0.
T. E. MCGUIRE PRESIDENT	35.00	X		X				176,840.	0.	32,067.
K. M. BOICH VP AND TREASURER	35.00			X				108,202.	0.	37,572.
J. Z. LITTLE VP OF ADMINISTRATION	35.00			X				92,725.	0.	23,040.
T. J. STERZIK VP OF PROGRAM EVALUATION	35.00			X				83,546.	0.	30,785.
R. L. SEVCIK CORPORATE SECRETARY	0.50			X				0.	0.	0.
1b Total								461,313.	0.	123,464.

2 Total number of individuals (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 in reportable compensation from the organization **2**

- 3 Did the organization list any **former** officer, director or trustee, key employee, or highest compensated employee on line 1a? If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual
- 4 For any individual listed on line 1a, is the sum of reportable compensation and other compensation from the organization and related organizations greater than \$150,000? If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such individual
- 5 Did any person listed on line 1a receive or accrue compensation from any unrelated organization for services rendered to the organization? If "Yes," complete Schedule J for such person

	Yes	No
3		X
4	X	
5		X

Section B. Independent Contractors

1 Complete this table for your five highest compensated independent contractors that received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization

(A) Name and business address	(B) Description of services	(C) Compensation
PARITY SYSTEMS, LTD., 1560 SHERMAN AVENUE #301, EVANSTON, IL 60201	IT CONSULTANT	205,018.
MORGAN, LEWIS & BOCKIUS, LLP, 1111 PENNSYLVANIA AVE, NW WASHINGTON, DC 20004	LEGAL COUNSEL	180,241.

2 Total number of independent contractors (including but not limited to those listed above) who received more than \$100,000 in compensation from the organization **2**

Part VIII Statement of Revenue

				(A) Total revenue	(B) Related or exempt function revenue	(C) Unrelated business revenue	(D) Revenue excluded from tax under sections 512, 513, or 514
Contributions, gifts, grants and other similar amounts	1 a	Federated campaigns	1a				
	b	Membership dues	1b				
	c	Fundraising events	1c				
	d	Related organizations	1d				
	e	Government grants (contributions)	1e				
	f	All other contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts not included above	1f	41,564,332.			
	g	Noncash contributions included in lines 1a-1f: \$					
	h	Total. Add lines 1a-1f		41,564,332.			
Program Service Revenue	2 a	SPONSOR ADMIN. SERVICE	Business Code 561000	7,962.	7,962.		
	b						
	c						
	d						
	e						
	f	All other program service revenue					
	g	Total. Add lines 2a-2f		7,962.			
Other Revenue	3	Investment income (including dividends, interest, and other similar amounts)		3171112.			3,171,112.
	4	Income from investment of tax-exempt bond proceeds					
	5	Royalties					
	6 a	Gross Rents	(i) Real (ii) Personal				
	b	Less: rental expenses					
	c	Rental income or (loss)					
	d	Net rental income or (loss)					
	7 a	Gross amount from sales of assets other than inventory	(i) Securities (ii) Other				
				39,669,869.			
	b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses					
				37,765,779.			
	c	Gain or (loss)					
				1,904,090.			
	d	Net gain or (loss)		1904090.			1,904,090.
	8 a	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ _____ of contributions reported on line 1c). See Part IV, line 18	a				
	b	Less: direct expenses	b				
	c	Net income or (loss) from fundraising events					
	9 a	Gross income from gaming activities. See Part IV, line 19	a				
	b	Less: direct expenses	b				
	c	Net income or (loss) from gaming activities					
10 a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	a					
b	Less: cost of goods sold	b					
c	Net income or (loss) from sales of inventory						
Miscellaneous Revenue			Business Code				
11 a	MISCELLANEOUS INC.	900099	406.			406.	
b							
c							
d	All other revenue						
e	Total. Add lines 11a-11d		406.				
12	Total revenue. See instructions.		46,647,902.	7,962.	0.	5,075,608.	

Part IX Statement of Functional Expenses

Section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete all columns.

All other organizations must complete column (A) but are not required to complete columns (B), (C), and (D).

Do not include amounts reported on lines 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b, and 10b of Part VIII.	(A) Total expenses	(B) Program service expenses	(C) Management and general expenses	(D) Fundraising expenses
1 Grants and other assistance to governments and organizations in the U.S. See Part IV, line 21				
2 Grants and other assistance to individuals in the U.S. See Part IV, line 22	48,333,430.	48,333,430.		
3 Grants and other assistance to governments, organizations, and individuals outside the U.S. See Part IV, lines 15 and 16				
4 Benefits paid to or for members				
5 Compensation of current officers, directors, trustees, and key employees	485,922.	123,830.	240,406.	121,686.
6 Compensation not included above, to disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B)				
7 Other salaries and wages	1,479,946.	1,166,869.	153,004.	160,073.
8 Pension plan contributions (include section 401(k) and section 403(b) employer contributions)	251,287.	151,996.	59,692.	39,599.
9 Other employee benefits	183,095.	129,278.	29,608.	24,209.
10 Payroll taxes	146,360.	98,985.	27,636.	19,739.
11 Fees for services (non-employees).				
a Management				
b Legal	180,323.	77,700.	77,700.	24,923.
c Accounting	35,256.		35,256.	
d Lobbying				
e Professional fundraising services. See Part IV, line 17				
f Investment management fees	298,050.		298,050.	
g Other	412,684.	286,655.	83,874.	42,155.
12 Advertising and promotion				
13 Office expenses	331,541.	252,018.	19,868.	59,655.
14 Information technology				
15 Royalties				
16 Occupancy	348,785.	226,712.	62,780.	59,293.
17 Travel	40,426.	24,624.	9,688.	6,114.
18 Payments of travel or entertainment expenses for any federal, state, or local public officials				
19 Conferences, conventions, and meetings	75,792.	75,792.		
20 Interest				
21 Payments to affiliates				
22 Depreciation, depletion, and amortization	42,948.	27,916.	7,731.	7,301.
23 Insurance	30,727.	19,972.	5,531.	5,224.
24 Other expenses. Itemize expenses not covered above. (Expenses grouped together and labeled miscellaneous may not exceed 5% of total expenses shown on line 25 below.)				
a _____				
b _____				
c _____				
d _____				
e _____				
f All other expenses _____				
25 Total functional expenses. Add lines 1 through 24f	52,676,572.	50,995,777.	1,110,824.	569,971.
26 Joint costs. Check here <input type="checkbox"/> if following SOP 98-2. Complete this line only if the organization reported in column (B) joint costs from a combined educational campaign and fundraising solicitation				

Part X Balance Sheet

		(A) Beginning of year		(B) End of year
Assets	1 Cash - non-interest-bearing	1,151.	1	1,150.
	2 Savings and temporary cash investments	7,144,308.	2	5,768,319.
	3 Pledges and grants receivable, net		3	
	4 Accounts receivable, net	131,194.	4	11,638.
	5 Receivables from current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, and highest compensated employees. Complete Part II of Schedule L		5	
	6 Receivables from other disqualified persons (as defined under section 4958(f)(1)) and persons described in section 4958(c)(3)(B). Complete Part II of Schedule L		6	
	7 Notes and loans receivable, net		7	
	8 Inventories for sale or use		8	
	9 Prepaid expenses and deferred charges	30,095.	9	40,823.
	10a Land, buildings, and equipment: cost or other basis. Complete Part VI of Schedule D	10a 1,636,710.		
	10b Less: accumulated depreciation	10b 505,437.	10c 123,230.	1,131,273.
	11 Investments - publicly traded securities	128,607,935.	11	141,170,597.
	12 Investments - other securities. See Part IV, line 11		12	
	13 Investments - program-related. See Part IV, line 11		13	
	14 Intangible assets		14	
	15 Other assets. See Part IV, line 11	145,844.	15	97,443.
16 Total assets. Add lines 1 through 15 (must equal line 34)	136,183,757.	16	148,221,243.	
Liabilities	17 Accounts payable and accrued expenses	342,752.	17	489,673.
	18 Grants payable		18	
	19 Deferred revenue	1,653,061.	19	2,050,948.
	20 Tax-exempt bond liabilities		20	
	21 Escrow or custodial account liability. Complete Part IV of Schedule D		21	
	22 Payables to current and former officers, directors, trustees, key employees, highest compensated employees, and disqualified persons. Complete Part II of Schedule L		22	
	23 Secured mortgages and notes payable to unrelated third parties		23	
	24 Unsecured notes and loans payable to unrelated third parties		24	
	25 Other liabilities. Complete Part X of Schedule D	62,624.	25	15,338.
	26 Total liabilities. Add lines 17 through 25	2,058,437.	26	2,555,959.
	Net Assets or Fund Balances	Organizations that follow SFAS 117, check here <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 27 through 29, and lines 33 and 34.		
27 Unrestricted net assets		131,064,304.	27	142,218,627.
28 Temporarily restricted net assets		0.	28	385,641.
29 Permanently restricted net assets		3,061,016.	29	3,061,016.
Organizations that do not follow SFAS 117, check here <input type="checkbox"/> and complete lines 30 through 34.				
30 Capital stock or trust principal, or current funds			30	
31 Paid-in or capital surplus, or land, building, or equipment fund			31	
32 Retained earnings, endowment, accumulated income, or other funds			32	
33 Total net assets or fund balances		134,125,320.	33	145,665,284.
34 Total liabilities and net assets/fund balances	136,183,757.	34	148,221,243.	

Form 990 (2009)

Part XI Financial Statements and Reporting

1 Accounting method used to prepare the Form 990. ☐ Cash ☒ Accrual ☐ Other _____

If the organization changed its method of accounting from a prior year or checked "Other," explain in Schedule O.

2a Were the organization's financial statements compiled or reviewed by an independent accountant?

b Were the organization's financial statements audited by an independent accountant?

c If "Yes" to line 2a or 2b, does the organization have a committee that assumes responsibility for oversight of the audit, review, or compilation of its financial statements and selection of an independent accountant?

If the organization changed either its oversight process or selection process during the tax year, explain in Schedule O.

d If "Yes" to line 2a or 2b, check a box below to indicate whether the financial statements for the year were issued on a consolidated basis, separate basis, or both

☒ Separate basis ☐ Consolidated basis ☐ Both consolidated and separate basis

3a As a result of a federal award, was the organization required to undergo an audit or audits as set forth in the Single Audit Act and OMB Circular A-133?

b If "Yes," did the organization undergo the required audit or audits? If the organization did not undergo the required audit or audits, explain why in Schedule O and describe any steps taken to undergo such audits.

	Yes	No
2a		X
2b	X	
2c	X	
3a		X
3b		

Form 990 (2009)

SCHEDULE A
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Public Charity Status and Public Support

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ. ▶ See separate instructions.

OMB No 1545-0047

2009

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Employer identification number

36-2307745

Part I Reason for Public Charity Status (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions

The organization is not a private foundation because it is (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box.)

- 1 ☐ A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2 ☐ A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E.)
- 3 ☐ A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4 ☐ A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state _____
- 5 ☐ An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 6 ☐ A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7 ☒ An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 8 ☐ A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 9 ☐ An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions - subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III.)
- 10 ☐ An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 11 ☐ An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of, to perform the functions of, or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2)**. See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e through 11h.
- a ☐ Type I b ☐ Type II c ☐ Type III - Functionally integrated d ☐ Type III - Other
- e ☐ By checking this box, I certify that the organization is not controlled directly or indirectly by one or more disqualified persons other than foundation managers and other than one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2)**.
- f If the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, or Type III supporting organization, check this box ☐
- g Since August 17, 2006, has the organization accepted any gift or contribution from any of the following persons?
- (i) A person who directly or indirectly controls, either alone or together with persons described in (ii) and (iii) below, the governing body of the supported organization?
- (ii) A family member of a person described in (i) above?
- (iii) A 35% controlled entity of a person described in (i) or (ii) above?
- h Provide the following information about the supported organization(s)

	Yes	No
11g(i)		
11g(ii)		
11g(iii)		

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1-9 above or IRC section (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization in col. (i) listed in your governing document?		(v) Did you notify the organization in col. (i) of your support?		(vi) Is the organization in col. (i) organized in the U.S.?		(vii) Amount of support
			Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	
Total									

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990 or 990-EZ.

Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2009

Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)

(Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I.)

Section A. Public Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")	41,019,993.	41,124,549.	41,537,015.	41,351,562.	41,564,332.	206,597,451.
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
4 Total. Add lines 1 through 3	41,019,993.	41,124,549.	41,537,015.	41,351,562.	41,564,332.	206,597,451.
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f)						9,130,312.
6 Public support. Subtract line 5 from line 4						197,467,139.

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in)	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4	41,019,993.	41,124,549.	41,537,015.	41,351,562.	41,564,332.	206,597,451.
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources	4,700,437.	5,179,434.	5,368,613.	4,469,992.	3,171,112.	22,889,588.
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)						
11 Total support. Add lines 7 through 10						229,487,039.
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions)					12	44,300.
13 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and stop here <input type="checkbox"/>						

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

14 Public support percentage for 2009 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f))	14	86.05	%
15 Public support percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part II, line 14	15	85.91	%
16a 33 1/3% support test - 2009. If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
b 33 1/3% support test - 2008. If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and stop here. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>			
17a 10% -facts-and-circumstances test - 2009. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>			
b 10% -facts-and-circumstances test - 2008. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and stop here. Explain in Part IV how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization <input type="checkbox"/>			
18 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions <input type="checkbox"/>			

Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) 2009

Part III Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Section 509(a)(2) (Complete only if you checked the box on line 9 of Part I.)**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.")						
2 Gross receipts from admissions, merchandise sold or services performed, or facilities furnished in any activity that is related to the organization's tax-exempt purpose						
3 Gross receipts from activities that are not an unrelated trade or business under section 513						
4 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf						
5 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge						
6 Total. Add lines 1 through 5						
7a Amounts included on lines 1, 2, and 3 received from disqualified persons						
b Amounts included on lines 2 and 3 received from other than disqualified persons that exceed the greater of \$5,000 or 1% of the amount on line 13 for the year						
c Add lines 7a and 7b						
8 Public support (Subtract line 7c from line 6)						

Section B. Total Support

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2005	(b) 2006	(c) 2007	(d) 2008	(e) 2009	(f) Total
9 Amounts from line 6						
10a Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources						
b Unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 taxes) from businesses acquired after June 30, 1975						
c Add lines 10a and 10b						
11 Net income from unrelated business activities not included in line 10b, whether or not the business is regularly carried on						
12 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part IV)						
13 Total support (Add lines 9, 10c, 11, and 12)						

14 First five years. If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and **stop here** ▶ ☐

Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage

15 Public support percentage for 2009 (line 8, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	15	%
16 Public support percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part III, line 15	16	%

Section D. Computation of Investment Income Percentage

17 Investment income percentage for 2009 (line 10c, column (f) divided by line 13, column (f))	17	%
18 Investment income percentage from 2008 Schedule A, Part III, line 17	18	%

19a 33 1/3% support tests - 2009. If the organization did not check the box on line 14, and line 15 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 17 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐

b 33 1/3% support tests - 2008. If the organization did not check a box on line 14 or line 19a, and line 16 is more than 33 1/3%, and line 18 is not more than 33 1/3%, check this box and **stop here**. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization ▶ ☐

20 Private foundation. If the organization did not check a box on line 14, 19a, or 19b, check this box and see instructions ▶ ☐

Schedule D
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Financial Statements

► Complete if the organization answered "Yes," to Form 990,
Part IV, line 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, or 12.
► Attach to Form 990. ► See separate instructions.

OMB No 1545-0047

2009

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Employer identification number
36-2307745

Part I Organizations Maintaining Donor Advised Funds or Other Similar Funds or Accounts. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 6

	(a) Donor advised funds	(b) Funds and other accounts
1 Total number at end of year		
2 Aggregate contributions to (during year)		
3 Aggregate grants from (during year)		
4 Aggregate value at end of year		
5 Did the organization inform all donors and donor advisors in writing that the assets held in donor advised funds are the organization's property, subject to the organization's exclusive legal control?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
6 Did the organization inform all grantees, donors, and donor advisors in writing that grant funds can be used only for charitable purposes and not for the benefit of the donor or donor advisor, or for any other purpose conferring impermissible private benefit?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No

Part II Conservation Easements. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 7.

1 Purpose(s) of conservation easements held by the organization (check all that apply)

<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of land for public use (e.g., recreation or pleasure)	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of an historically important land area
<input type="checkbox"/> Protection of natural habitat	<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of a certified historic structure
<input type="checkbox"/> Preservation of open space	

2 Complete lines 2a through 2d if the organization held a qualified conservation contribution in the form of a conservation easement on the last day of the tax year.

	Held at the End of the Tax Year
a Total number of conservation easements	2a
b Total acreage restricted by conservation easements	2b
c Number of conservation easements on a certified historic structure included in (a)	2c
d Number of conservation easements included in (c) acquired after 8/17/06	2d

3 Number of conservation easements modified, transferred, released, extinguished, or terminated by the organization during the tax year ► _____

4 Number of states where property subject to conservation easement is located ► _____

5 Does the organization have a written policy regarding the periodic monitoring, inspection, handling of violations, and enforcement of the conservation easements it holds? ☐ Yes ☐ No

6 Staff and volunteer hours devoted to monitoring, inspecting, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ► _____

7 Amount of expenses incurred in monitoring, inspecting, and enforcing conservation easements during the year ► \$ _____

8 Does each conservation easement reported on line 2(d) above satisfy the requirements of section 170(h)(4)(B)(i) and section 170(h)(4)(B)(ii)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

9 In Part XIV, describe how the organization reports conservation easements in its revenue and expense statement, and balance sheet, and include, if applicable, the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that describes the organization's accounting for conservation easements

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets.

Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 8.

- 1a If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, not to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide, in Part XIV, the text of the footnote to its financial statements that describes these items
- b If the organization elected, as permitted under SFAS 116, to report in its revenue statement and balance sheet works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets held for public exhibition, education, or research in furtherance of public service, provide the following amounts relating to these items:
- (i) Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ► \$ _____
- (ii) Assets included in Form 990, Part X ► \$ _____
- 2 If the organization received or held works of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets for financial gain, provide the following amounts required to be reported under SFAS 116 relating to these items.
- a Revenues included in Form 990, Part VIII, line 1 ► \$ _____
- b Assets included in Form 990, Part X ► \$ _____

Part III Organizations Maintaining Collections of Art, Historical Treasures, or Other Similar Assets (continued)

- 3 Using the organization's acquisition, accession, and other records, check any of the following that are a significant use of its collection items (check all that apply):
- a ☐ Public exhibition d ☐ Loan or exchange programs
- b ☐ Scholarly research e ☐ Other _____
- c ☐ Preservation for future generations
- 4 Provide a description of the organization's collections and explain how they further the organization's exempt purpose in Part XIV
- 5 During the year, did the organization solicit or receive donations of art, historical treasures, or other similar assets to be sold to raise funds rather than to be maintained as part of the organization's collection? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Part IV Escrow and Custodial Arrangements. Complete if organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 9, or reported an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21

- 1a Is the organization an agent, trustee, custodian or other intermediary for contributions or other assets not included on Form 990, Part X? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIV and complete the following table:
- | | Amount |
|---------------------------------|--------|
| c Beginning balance | 1c |
| d Additions during the year | 1d |
| e Distributions during the year | 1e |
| f Ending balance | 1f |
- 2a Did the organization include an amount on Form 990, Part X, line 21? ☐ Yes ☐ No
- b If "Yes," explain the arrangement in Part XIV.

Part V Endowment Funds. Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 10

	(a) Current year	(b) Prior year	(c) Two years back	(d) Three years back	(e) Four years back
1a Beginning of year balance	3433334.	3094081.			
b Contributions					
c Net investment earnings, gains, and losses	436,305.	366,508.			
d Grants or scholarships	207,641.	27,255.			
e Other expenditures for facilities and programs					
f Administrative expenses					
g End of year balance	3661998.	3433334.			

2 Provide the estimated percentage of the year end balance held as:

- a Board designated or quasi-endowment \blacktriangleright 10.11 %
- b Permanent endowment \blacktriangleright 83.59 %
- c Term endowment \blacktriangleright 6.30 %

3a Are there endowment funds not in the possession of the organization that are held and administered for the organization by:

- (i) unrelated organizations
- (ii) related organizations

	Yes	No
3a(i)		X
3a(ii)		X
3b		

b If "Yes" to 3a(ii), are the related organizations listed as required on Schedule R?

4 Describe in Part XIV the intended uses of the organization's endowment funds

Part VI Investments - Land, Buildings, and Equipment. See Form 990, Part X, line 10

Description of investment	(a) Cost or other basis (investment)	(b) Cost or other basis (other)	(c) Accumulated depreciation	(d) Book value
1a Land				
b Buildings				
c Leasehold improvements		228,699.	156,308.	72,391.
d Equipment		140,083.	123,487.	16,596.
e Other		1,267,928.	225,642.	1,042,286.
Total. Add lines 1a through 1e. (Column (d) must equal Form 990, Part X, column (B), line 10(c).)				1,131,273.

Schedule D (Form 990) 2009

Part VII Investments - Other Securities. See Form 990, Part X, line 12.

(a) Description of security or category (including name of security)	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
Financial derivatives		
Closely-held equity interests		
Other		
Total. (Col (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 12.) ▶		

Part VIII Investments - Program Related. See Form 990, Part X, line 13.

(a) Description of investment type	(b) Book value	(c) Method of valuation: Cost or end-of-year market value
Total. (Col (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 13.) ▶		

Part IX Other Assets. See Form 990, Part X, line 15.

(a) Description	(b) Book value
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 15.) ▶	

Part X Other Liabilities. See Form 990, Part X, line 25.

1. (a) Description of liability	(b) Amount
Federal income taxes	
PAYABLE TO BROKERS AND BANKS	15,338.
Total. (Column (b) must equal Form 990, Part X, col (B) line 25.) ▶	
	15,338.

2. FIN 48 Footnote. In Part XIV, provide the text of the footnote to the organization's financial statements that reports the organization's liability for uncertain tax positions under FIN 48

Part XI Reconciliation of Change in Net Assets from Form 990 to Audited Financial Statements

1	Total revenue (Form 990, Part VIII, column (A), line 12)	1	46,647,902.
2	Total expenses (Form 990, Part IX, column (A), line 25)	2	52,676,572.
3	Excess or (deficit) for the year. Subtract line 2 from line 1	3	-6,028,670.
4	Net unrealized gains (losses) on investments	4	17,568,634.
5	Donated services and use of facilities	5	
6	Investment expenses	6	
7	Prior period adjustments	7	
8	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	8	
9	Total adjustments (net). Add lines 4 through 8	9	17,568,634.
10	Excess or (deficit) for the year per audited financial statements. Combine lines 3 and 9	10	11,539,964.

Part XII Reconciliation of Revenue per Audited Financial Statements With Revenue per Return

1	Total revenue, gains, and other support per audited financial statements	1	63,918,486.
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12		
a	Net unrealized gains on investments	2a	17,568,634.
b	Donated services and use of facilities	2b	
c	Recoveries of prior year grants	2c	
d	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	2d	
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e	17,568,634.
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	46,349,852.
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 12, but not on line 1:		
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a	298,050.
b	Other (Describe in Part XIV.)	4b	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	298,050.
5	Total revenue. Add lines 3 and 4c. (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 12.)	5	46,647,902.

Part XIII Reconciliation of Expenses per Audited Financial Statements With Expenses per Return

1	Total expenses and losses per audited financial statements	1	52,378,522.
2	Amounts included on line 1 but not on Form 990, Part IX, line 25		
a	Donated services and use of facilities	2a	
b	Prior year adjustments	2b	
c	Other losses	2c	
d	Other (Describe in Part XIV)	2d	
e	Add lines 2a through 2d	2e	0.
3	Subtract line 2e from line 1	3	52,378,522.
4	Amounts included on Form 990, Part IX, line 25, but not on line 1:		
a	Investment expenses not included on Form 990, Part VIII, line 7b	4a	298,050.
b	Other (Describe in Part XIV.)	4b	
c	Add lines 4a and 4b	4c	298,050.
5	Total expenses. Add lines 3 and 4c. (This must equal Form 990, Part I, line 18.)	5	52,676,572.

Part XIV Supplemental Information

Complete this part to provide the descriptions required for Part II, lines 3, 5, and 9; Part III, lines 1a and 4; Part IV, lines 1b and 2b; Part V, line 4; Part X, line 2; Part XI, line 8; Part XII, lines 2d and 4b; and Part XIII, lines 2d and 4b. Also complete this part to provide any additional information.

PART V, LINE 4: THE INCOME FROM THE ENDOWMENT FUNDS IS USED TO PAY FOR

SCHOLARSHIPS SPONSORED BY THE DONORS IN THE NATIONAL MERIT PROGRAM AND THE NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM.

PART X: ON JUNE 1, 2009, NMSC ADOPTED THE ACCOUNTING STANDARD

ON ACCOUNTING FOR UNCERTAINTY IN INCOME TAXES, WHICH ADDRESSES THE

DETERMINATION OF WHETHER TAX BENEFITS CLAIMED OR EXPECTED TO BE CLAIMED ON

A TAX RETURN SHOULD BE RECORDED IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. UNDER THIS

Part XIV Supplemental Information (continued)

GUIDANCE, NMSC MAY RECOGNIZE THE TAX BENEFIT FROM AN UNCERTAIN TAX POSITION ONLY IF IT IS MORE LIKELY THAN NOT THAT THE TAX POSITION WILL BE SUSTAINED ON EXAMINATION BY TAXING AUTHORITIES, BASED ON THE TECHNICAL MERITS OF THE POSITION. EXAMPLES OF TAX POSITIONS INCLUDE THE TAX-EXEMPT STATUS OF NMSC AND VARIOUS POSITIONS RELATED TO THE POTENTIAL SOURCES OF UNRELATED BUSINESS TAXABLE INCOME (UBIT). THE TAX BENEFITS RECOGNIZED IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FROM SUCH A POSITION ARE MEASURED BASED ON THE LARGEST BENEFIT THAT HAS A GREATER THAN 50 PERCENT LIKELIHOOD OF BEING REALIZED UPON ULTIMATE SETTLEMENT. THE GUIDANCE ON ACCOUNTING FOR UNCERTAINTY IN INCOME TAXES ALSO ADDRESSES DE-RECOGNITION, CLASSIFICATION, INTEREST AND PENALTIES ON INCOME TAXES, AND ACCOUNTING IN INTERIM PERIODS. NMSC HAS REVIEWED THE TAX POSITIONS FOR THE OPEN TAX YEARS (CURRENT AND PRIOR THREE TAX YEARS) AND HAS CONCLUDED THAT NO PROVISION FOR INCOME TAX IS REQUIRED IN THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS. AT MAY 31, 2010, THERE WERE NO UNRECOGNIZED TAX BENEFITS IDENTIFIED OR RECORDED AS LIABILITIES. NMSC FILES FORMS 990 IN THE U.S. FEDERAL JURISDICTION AND IN MOST STATES. WITH FEW EXCEPTIONS, NMSC IS NO LONGER SUBJECT TO EXAMINATION BY THE INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE FOR YEARS BEFORE 2007.

Name of the organization

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Employer identification number
36-2307745

Part I	General Information on Grants and Assistance
---------------	---

1 Does the organization maintain records to substantiate the amount of the grants or assistance, the grantees' eligibility for the grants or assistance, and the selection criteria used to award the grants or assistance?

☒ Yes ☐ No

2 Describe in Part IV the organization's procedures for monitoring the use of grant funds in the United States.

Part IV **Grants and Other Assistance to Governments and Organizations in the United States.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 21, for any recipient that received more than \$5,000. Check this box if no one recipient received more than \$5,000. Use Part IV and Schedule L (Form 990) if additional space is needed.

[illegible]

2 Enter total number of section 501(c)(3) and government organizations

3 Enter total number of other organizations

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Schedule I (Form 990) 2009

Part III**Grants and Other Assistance to Individuals in the United States.** Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 22.
Use Part IV and Schedule I-1 (Form 990) if additional space is needed

(a) Type of grant or assistance	(b) Number of recipients	(c) Amount of cash grant	(d) Amount of non-cash assistance	(e) Method of valuation (book, FMV, appraisal, other)	(f) Description of non-cash assistance
NATIONAL MERIT PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS	29283	45,822,538.	0.		
NATIONAL ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS	1106	2,510,892.	0.		

Part IV. Supplemental Information. Complete this part to provide the information required in Part I, line 2, and any other additional information.

SCHEDULE I, PART I, LINE 2: IN ORDER TO MONITOR THE USE OF THE SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS, NMSC PREPARES CHECKS THAT ARE PAYABLE TO THE SELECTED SCHOLAR OR THEIR UNIVERSITY/COLLEGE. THESE CHECKS ARE MAILED DIRECTLY TO THE APPLICABLE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY. NMSC INSTRUCTS THE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY TO VERIFY THE SCHOLAR'S ELIGIBILITY FOR THE PAYMENT PRIOR TO DISTRIBUTING THE CHECKS TO STUDENTS OR APPLYING THEM TO THE SCHOLAR'S UNIVERSITY ACCOUNT. IF THE STUDENT IS INELIGIBLE FOR THE PAYMENT, NMSC ASKS THE COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY TO EITHER SEND THE CHECK BACK TO NMSC OR TO PROVIDE NMSC WITH A REFUND IF THE CHECK HAS ALREADY BEEN DEPOSITED BY THE

Part IV Supplemental Information

INSTITUTION. SCHOLARS HAVE AN AGREEMENT WITH NMSC THAT THEIR STIPEND
CHECKS ARE ONLY TO BE USED FOR COLLEGE UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES AND THAT ANY
UNUSED PORTION MUST BE RETURNED TO NMSC.

SCHEDULE J
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Compensation Information

For certain Officers, Directors, Trustees, Key Employees, and Highest Compensated Employees

▶ **Complete if the organization answered "Yes" to Form 990, Part IV, line 23.**

▶ **Attach to Form 990.** ▶ **See separate instructions.**

OMB No 1545-0047

2009

Open to Public Inspection

Name of the organization

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Employer identification number

36-2307745

Part I Questions Regarding Compensation

1a Check the appropriate box(es) if the organization provided any of the following to or for a person listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a. Complete Part III to provide any relevant information regarding these items.

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> First-class or charter travel | <input type="checkbox"/> Housing allowance or residence for personal use |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Travel for companions | <input type="checkbox"/> Payments for business use of personal residence |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tax indemnification and gross-up payments | <input type="checkbox"/> Health or social club dues or initiation fees |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Discretionary spending account | <input type="checkbox"/> Personal services (e.g., maid, chauffeur, chef) |

b If any of the boxes on line 1a are checked, did the organization follow a written policy regarding payment or reimbursement or provision of all of the expenses described above? If "No," complete Part III to explain

2 Did the organization require substantiation prior to reimbursing or allowing expenses incurred by all officers, directors, trustees, and the CEO/Executive Director, regarding the items checked in line 1a?

3 Indicate which, if any, of the following the organization uses to establish the compensation of the organization's CEO/Executive Director. Check all that apply.

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation committee | <input type="checkbox"/> Written employment contract |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Independent compensation consultant | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Compensation survey or study |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form 990 of other organizations | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approval by the board or compensation committee |

4 During the year, did any person listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, with respect to the filing organization or a related organization

a Receive a severance payment or change-of-control payment?

b Participate in, or receive payment from, a supplemental nonqualified retirement plan?

c Participate in, or receive payment from, an equity-based compensation arrangement?

If "Yes" to any of lines 4a-c, list the persons and provide the applicable amounts for each item in Part III

Only section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations must complete lines 5-9.

5 For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the revenues of:

a The organization?

b Any related organization?

If "Yes" to line 5a or 5b, describe in Part III.

6 For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization pay or accrue any compensation contingent on the net earnings of:

a The organization?

b Any related organization?

If "Yes" to line 6a or 6b, describe in Part III.

7 For persons listed in Form 990, Part VII, Section A, line 1a, did the organization provide any non-fixed payments not described in lines 5 and 6? If "Yes," describe in Part III

8 Were any amounts reported in Form 990, Part VII, paid or accrued pursuant to a contract that was subject to the initial contract exception described in Regs. section 53.4958-4(a)(3)? If "Yes," describe in Part III

9 If "Yes" to line 8, did the organization also follow the rebuttable presumption procedure described in Regulations section 53.4958-6(c)?

	Yes	No
1a		
1b		
2		
3		
4a		X
4b		X
4c		X
5a		X
5b		X
6a		X
6b		X
7		X
8		X
9		

LHA For Privacy Act and Paperwork Reduction Act Notice, see the Instructions for Form 990.

Schedule J (Form 990) 2009

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or to provide any additional information.
▶ Attach to Form 990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2009

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Employer identification number
36-2307745

FORM 990, PART III, LINE 1, DESCRIPTION OF ORGANIZATION MISSION:

LEVELS OF EDUCATION; AND TO STIMULATE INCREASED SUPPORT FROM

ORGANIZATIONS THAT WISH TO SPONSOR SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OUTSTANDING

SCHOLASTIC TALENT.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 11: THE FORM 990 IS PREPARED BY RSM

MCGLADREY AND THEN IS REVIEWED INTERNALLY BY NMSC'S CONTROLLER. RSM

MCGLADREY MAKES ANY NECESSARY EDITS AND THE FORM 990 IS THEN REVIEWED BY

NMSC'S TREASURER AND PRESIDENT, AND IS THEN FORWARDED TO NMSC'S LEGAL

COUNSEL FOR AN ADDITIONAL REVIEW. THE COMPLETED FORM 990 IS THEN MAILED TO

NMSC'S AUDIT COMMITTEE AND THE BOARD PRIOR TO FILING.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 12C: NMSC REQUIRES ALL MEMBERS OF

NMSC'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND ALL OFFICERS TO COMPLETE A DISCLOSURE FORM ON

AN ANNUAL BASIS TO DISCLOSE ANY INTERESTS THAT COULD GIVE RISE TO

CONFLICTS. IN ADDITION, THE WRITTEN POLICY IS PROVIDED TO ALL NEW

EMPLOYEES AND IS CONSTANTLY AVAILABLE TO ALL DIRECTORS, EMPLOYEES, AND

OFFICERS ALONG WITH ALL OTHER POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ON NMSC'S NETWORK.

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION B, LINE 15: NMSC'S EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ANNUALLY

DETERMINES THE SALARY FOR NMSC'S PRESIDENT. ALL OTHER SALARIES ARE

DETERMINED BY NMSC'S PRESIDENT WITHIN THE PARAMETERS OF THE COMPENSATION

BUDGET WHICH IS APPROVED ANNUALLY BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS. NMSC

REGULARLY RECEIVES AND REVIEWS SALARY SURVEY DATA FROM COMPARABLE

NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANIZATIONS. THIS INFORMATION IS REVIEWED BY NMSC'S

CHAIRMAN AND THE PRESIDENT BEFORE DETERMINING ANNUAL SALARY ADJUSTMENTS.

SCHEDULE O
(Form 990)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

Supplemental Information to Form 990

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on
Form 990 or to provide any additional information.
▶ Attach to Form 990.

OMB No 1545-0047

2009

Open to Public
Inspection

Name of the organization

NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP CORPORATION

Employer identification number
36-2307745

FORM 990, PART VI, LINE 17, LIST OF STATES RECEIVING COPY OF FORM 990:

AL, AK, AZ, AR, CA, CO, CT, DC, FL, GA, IL, KS, KY, ME, MD, MA, MI, MN, MS, MO, NH, NJ, NM, NY, NC
ND, OH, OK, OR, PA, RI, SC, TN, UT, VA, WA, WV, WI

FORM 990, PART VI, SECTION C, LINE 19: NMSC'S ANNUAL AUDITED FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS ARE MADE AVAILABLE TO THE PUBLIC AS PART OF NMSC'S ANNUAL
REPORT, WHICH IS POSTED ON NMSC'S WEBSITE EACH YEAR. AT THIS TIME, NMSC'S
GOVERNING DOCUMENTS AND CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY ARE NOT MADE AVAILABLE
TO THE PUBLIC.