

2026 DETECTIVE RAFAELA A. VALDEZ MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Detective Rafaela A. Valdez, “Ralphie” joined NOBLE in 1987; In 1995, she spearheaded a petition for Associate Members to have a greater voice within NOBLE, by creating an Associate Members Representative position on the NOBLE National Executive Board; and in 1997, as a result of Ralphie’s successful advocacy, Associate Members voted historically, for the first time on the NOBLE National level. The Detective Rafaela A. Valdez Memorial Scholarship Award is dedicated to assist in the furtherance of education, for an Associate Member who embodies the spirit, commitment and vision for proficiency and excellence in self, NOBLE, and for the community served, as “Ralphie” exuded dedication, commitment, proficiency, and excellence in her service to NOBLE, and the community.

The Detective Rafaela A. Valdez Memorial Scholarship Award application is open to all Associate Members who meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Financially current with both NOBLE National and NOBLE Local Chapter dues;
- ✓ Registered to attend an accredited post-secondary Institution (demonstrated by receipt);
- ✓ Applicant may be enrolled in the discipline/major of their choice;
- ✓ Current students must demonstrate (by transcript) at least a 2.5 GPA;
- ✓ Submit an essay, to include details on how the Award will assist you in your current role as a NOBLE Associate Member, in service to the Community;
- ✓ Completed applications must be received by June 22, 2026, and sent to amr@noblenatl.net. The document must be in a .pdf format.
- ✓ The Award is valued at \$1,000.00. The full amount will be provided to the Award Recipient once all criteria has been satisfied, and is only awarded to a Recipient once.

The decision process will be conducted by the current NOBLE National Associate Member Representative, in collaboration with select Associate Members in good financial standing with NOBLE National, and their NOBLE Local Chapter.

The Award Recipient will be selected from the applications received by the prescribed deadline, and in time for family, friends and colleagues to submit a congratulatory ad in the 50th Annual NOBLE National Training & Exhibit Conference commemorative journal, and post on NOBLE social media platforms. The Detective Rafaela A. Valdez Memorial Scholarship Award will be presented during the 50th Annual Conference Awards Luncheon.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Michelle Tégé

NOBLE National Associate Members Representative

“NOBLE Associate Members: Intentionally Reaching for Higher Heights!”

**2026 Detective Rafaela A. Valdez Memorial Scholarship Award
(Application)**

Applicant Name: _____

Applicant Address: _____

Applicant Contact No.: _____

Applicant NOBLE Chapter: _____

Applicant Employer: _____

If you are still active in your Agency/Department, please indicate your last promotional exam and/or anticipated promotion date: _____

Name of Post-Secondary Accredited Institution you will attend:
(Please provide a copy of Bursar Receipt)

If Applicant is currently enrolled in a Post-Secondary Accredited Institution, please provide copy of transcript indicating minimum GPA of 2.5.

Please attach your essay, to include details of how the Award will assist you in your current role as a NOBLE Associate Member in service to NOBLE and your Community.

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