

# September 2025



Welcome to NCRA's student newsletter! It's back to school and time to apply for the many, many scholarships we've got open this fall. And read about a student who is a real DIY-er, teaching herself Gregg shorthand and stenography before even applying to court reporting school.

## Student Spotlight



### A secret language becomes more than just a hobby

When Sammi Ta was in high school, she discovered a secret language in a library book. She started using it to take notes in class and soon found out her mother had learned the same language, Gregg shorthand, growing up in the Philippines. Later, Ta found Plover, the open-source steno engine, and taught herself machine writing as well. Now she's in her 200s and staring down the RPR.

[Read more.](#)

Do you know a student currently attending a court reporting or captioning program who should be in the spotlight? [Let us know.](#)

# NCRA Conference & Expo - a look back

## Across the river and into the action: A first-time attendee's reflection on #NCRAMinneapolis

*By Melissa Kornaus*

As a proud Saint Paul resident, I don't usually cross the river without a really good reason — those of us in the Twin Cities tend to be fiercely loyal to our respective sides. But when I found out the 2025 NCRA Conference & Expo was coming to Minneapolis, I knew this was one time I was packing a bag and heading west.

[Read more.](#)



## Full coverage of the 2025 NCRA Conference & Expo

Get the full scoop on the 2025 NCRA Conference & Expo, including contest results, awards, news, and more!

[Read more.](#)

## Student Achievements



NCRA is proud to offer the Student Fast Lane program to recognize student speed accomplishments. NCRA reaches out to all court reporting programs asking for their assistance in recognizing student speed accomplishments at the 150, 160, 180, 200, and 225 wpm speeds.

[Read more.](#)



**ASK ME ANYTHING**

*ZoomUp brought to you by the*  
**NATIONAL COURT REPORTERS FOUNDATION**

**Ask Me Anything about How I Graduated**  
**PANELISTS DISCUSS HOW THEY DID IT:**  
Road Maps to Graduation—from Daily Drills to Speed Triumphs.

**TUESDAY, SEPT. 30**  
**8 p.m. Eastern**

*Register by Monday, Sept. 29, noon Eastern*  
Members Only • Zoom name required to sign up





**JOIN NOW!**

**GET 16 MONTHS FOR THE PRICE OF 12!**



## Student Success

**Career Launcher Reviewer option is back up and running**

We're excited to announce that the Career Launcher Reviewer option is back up and running. The program supports our students and new professionals by guiding them through the complex intricacies of producing a quality transcript as well as exposing them to countless scenarios that would take decades of deposition experience to learn personally.

[Read more.](#)



## What benefits do students get from NCRA membership?



NCRA members regularly recommend that students of court reporting and captioning sign up for a membership. But, you may wonder, what is it that students receive with NCRA membership? While student members have access to all of the same benefits as full members, there are many benefits that are just for students.

[Read more.](#)

## Student Scholarships

**Time's running out! Apply now for NCRF A to Z and CASE Student Scholarships**





There are just days left to take advantage of several scholarship opportunities worth more than \$11,000 for court reporting and captioning students. Applications for the NCRF A to Z® Scholarship and the CASE Student Scholarships will be accepted through Sept. 30.

[Read more.](#)

## NCRF Linda Breech Memorial Advocacy Scholarship announced

The NCRA Government Relations Department, in collaboration with the National Court Reporters Foundation (NCRF), announces the creation of the NCRF Linda Breech Memorial Advocacy Scholarship. The scholarship provides full registration for an eligible student to attend NCRA's annual Leadership & Legislative Boot Camp.

[Read more.](#)

## Nominations open for the NCRF Student Intern Scholarship – four \$2,000 awards!



**STUDENT  
INTERN  
SCHOLARSHIP**

From Intern to Inspiration!  
**Four \$2,000 scholarships**  
open for high achievers who  
have completed  
their internships.

**Deadline Dec. 5**



The National Court Reporters Foundation (NCRF) is accepting nominations for its Student Intern Scholarship recognizing high-achieving court reporting and captioning students who have completed the internship portion of their education. Four recipients will receive \$2,000 to help power the final stretch into their careers.

[Read more.](#)

## Ready to write your future? \$5K Stenograph Milton H. Wright Memorial Scholarship open for second award this year

Student members are invited to apply for the Stenograph Milton H. Wright Memorial Scholarship, now open for the second time this year. This scholarship, in partnership with the National Court Reporters Foundation, offers \$5,000 in tuition plus the use of a student writer and software. Previous applicants remain eligible with the submission of an updated transcript.

[Read more.](#)

**The Stenograph Milton H. Wright Memorial Scholarship is offered through the National Court Reporters Foundation.**

Court reporting students in formal court reporting programs are encouraged to apply for this generous, merit-based award, worth up to \$5,000 in tuition plus more.

**Applications accepted Sept. 9 - Nov. 3**



**Stenograph  
Milton H. Wright  
Memorial Scholarship**  
Empowering the Future of Court Reporting Excellence  
National Court Reporters Foundation

## How You Can Get Involved with NCRA

**JOIN NCRA** as a student member and get access to discounts on testing, Conference registration, study guides, and more.

**CONTRIBUTE** to *Up-to-Speed* by submitting articles, study tips, questions for reporters and instructors, and other suggestions.

**LEARN** about upcoming scholarship opportunities.

**TELL US** how we're doing. NCRA welcomes your feedback.

## Testing Center

**Written Knowledge Tests** | Registration closes Sept. 30 for testing in October.

**Online Skills Tests** | Registration opens Oct. 1 for testing in November.

If you received this email via a forward and would like to join our mailing list, please click [here](#).  
Missed previous issues of *Up-to-Speed*? Access them [here](#).

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