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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**



**Local Court Reporting Student Awarded Scholarship**  
*Alexa Duran, from Forest Hills, N.Y., awarded a \$750 scholarship*

**RESTON, Va., July 6, 2022** — The National Court Reporters Association (NCRA), the country’s leading organization representing stenographic court reporters, captioners, and legal videographers, has announced that Alexa Duran, from Forest Hills, N.Y., a student at Plaza College in Queens, N.Y., has been awarded a \$750 [NCRA A to Z® Scholarship](#). The scholarships are supported by funds from the National Court Reporters Foundation (NCRF), the philanthropic arm of NCRA.

The [NCRA A to Z® Intro to Steno Machine Shorthand](#) program, a free online six-to-eight-week introductory course, lets participants see if a career in court reporting or captioning would be for them. The program is an introductory course in stenographic theory and provides participants with the opportunity to learn the basics of writing on a steno machine. There is no charge to take the course, but participants are required to have access to a steno machine or an iPad they can use to download an [iStenoPad app](#).

Duran, who is currently writing at between 100 and 120 words per minute, anticipates graduating in June 2023.

“I want to pursue my profession in freelance fresh out of school to gain more experience. I like that I can make my own schedule as a freelancer, which is a luxury,” Duran said. “I then would like to go into being an official court reporter,” she added.

Duran said that she plans to use the scholarship money to purchase a new computer to replace the older, slower one she is currently using. She said that she learned about the court reporting profession from a TikTok Video and found it very interesting.

“Within a few weeks I saw more and more videos of a court reporting student and her journey in school. It kind of made me want to look more into it, and then I took an NCRA A to Z class and it



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changed my life. Prior to this TikTok video I had never heard of being a court reporter. I wanted a career change, and I definitely don't regret it," she said.

"Court reporting is one of the coolest careers out there and the most rewarding too. There is so much you can do as a court reporter. It takes a lot of practice and determination to be able to go forward, but in the end is very rewarding," Duran said.

Students who have completed an NCRA A to Z<sup>®</sup> Intro to Steno Machine Shorthand program and are enrolled in a court reporting program are encouraged to apply for consideration for one of 15 \$750 scholarship awards.

Qualified applicants must have completed the NCRA A to Z<sup>®</sup> Intro to Steno Machine Shorthand program as well as pass a skills test writing between 60 and 100 wpm, among other eligibility requirements.

For more information about the NCRA A to Z Scholarship, or the [NCRA A to Z Intro to Steno Machine Shorthand program](#), please contact the Education Department at [schools@ncra.org](mailto:schools@ncra.org).

NCRF is currently accepting donations to meet its 2022-2023 goal of \$5,000 to fund an additional 15 scholarships. To donate to the A2Zfund, text the keyword **A2ZFUND** to 41444 with this message: A2ZFUND \$Amount Name and Message.

Court reporters and captioners rely on the latest in technology to use stenographic machines to capture the spoken word and translate it into written text in real time. These professionals work both in and out of the courtroom recording legal cases and depositions, providing live captioning of events, and assisting members of the deaf and hard-of-hearing communities with gaining access to information, entertainment, educational opportunities, and more.

If you're looking for a career that is on the cutting edge of technology and offers the opportunity to work at home or abroad, and if you like to write, enjoy helping others, and are fast with your fingers, then the fields of court reporting and captioning are careers you can explore at [NCRA/discoversteno.org](https://ncra/discoversteno.org).

To arrange an interview with a working court reporter, captioner, legal videographer, or a current court reporting student, or to learn more about the lucrative and flexible court reporting or captioning professions and the many job opportunities currently available, contact [pr@ncra.org](mailto:pr@ncra.org).

### [About NCRA](#)

*The National Court Reporters Association (NCRA) has been internationally recognized for promoting excellence among those who capture and convert the spoken word to text for more than*



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*100 years. NCRA is committed to supporting its more than 13,000 members in achieving the highest level of professional expertise with educational opportunities and industry-recognized court reporting, educator, and videographer certification programs. NCRA impacts legislative issues and the global marketplace through its actively involved membership.*

*Forbes has named court reporting as one of the best career options that do not require a traditional four-year degree. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reports that the court reporting field is expected to be one of the fastest areas of projected employment growth across all occupations. According to [247/WallSt.com](http://247/WallSt.com), the court reporting profession ranks sixth out of 25 careers with the lowest unemployment rate, just 0.7 percent. Career information about the court reporting profession—one of the leading career options that do not require a traditional four-year degree—can be found at [NCRA DiscoverSteno.org](http://NCRA.DiscoverSteno.org).*