



CONTACT:
Annemarie Roketenetz
aroketenetz@ncra.org
703-584-9014

National Court Reporters Association
12030 Sunrise Valley Drive, Suite 400
Reston, VA 20191-3484

Tel: 703-556-6272 • Fax: 703-391-0629
800-272-NCRA (6272) • NCRA.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Local Court Reporting Student Awarded Scholarship *Jessi Norris from Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, 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 Jessi Norris from Medicine Hat, Alberta, Canada, a student at Northern Alberta Institute of Technology (NAIT) in Alberta, 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](#).

Norris, who is writing at 160 words per minute, expects to graduate in the spring of 2023 and is leaning toward working as a court reporter rather than a captioner.

“This scholarship was such an amazing surprise, and it will help me with the cost of my software and machine rental for my second year,” Norris said.

“I heard about the court reporting profession from my mother. She told me she had always thought it was an interesting career, so I spent the next few hours looking into court reporting, and the next day I applied to NAIT. I had so much fun learning to write shorthand. I think it's the coolest thing in the world,” she added.

Norris said she encourages everyone she knows to investigate the career. “NAIT has an amazing captioning and court reporting program. I fully trust every one of my instructors with my education; they are amazing.”

Students who have completed an NCRA A to Z® 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® Intro to Steno Machine Shorthand program as well as pass a skills test writing between 60 and 100 wpm, among other eligibility requirements.



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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.

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.

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.

[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 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, 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.