



**The National Italian American Foundation
The Ambassador Peter F. Secchia Voyage of Discovery
Application Instructions**

1. Sign up for a NIAF membership

If you qualify for the NIAF Ambassador Peter F. Secchia Voyage of Discovery and are not an active member of the Foundation, [CLICK HERE](#) to visit NIAF's membership registration page and become a member or renew your membership. ***All NIAF memberships are valid for one year from the date of registration.*** Once you fill out the membership form and submit payment, you will receive an e-mail from membership@nialf.org with an electronic membership card. The membership card includes your member number to input on your application. If you do not receive your electronic membership card, please check your spam folder.

2. Get started on Community Force

All new applicants must create a free Community Force account to start your application by pressing the grey, "Create New Account" button on NIAF's [Community Force page](#). If you have applied to a NIAF Scholarship or NIAF on Campus for the 2025-2026 academic year, you may use the same login as you used last year. **Please note that the application login is different from your NIAF membership login. You cannot access NIAF's education program applications from the NIAF membership portal.**

3. Complete the online application

Once you create a Community Force account, log in to your Community Force account and fill out your application details. As you complete the online application, follow the instructions to upload your supporting documentation. **All supporting documentation must be submitted online in a .doc or .pdf format by February 1, 2026 at 11:59 pm PT.**

4. Request two letters of recommendation

Within the Community Force application, request two letters of recommendation from a teacher, supervisor, or community leader. Letters from parents, friends, and relatives will not be considered and your application will be considered incomplete. Once you send a request for a letter of recommendation on Community Force, your recommender will receive an e-mail from admin@communityforce.com instructing him or her how to submit their letter on the Community Force website.