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### **PMOPA SEF Launches Aviation Maintenance Scholarship Program**

Washington, DC, July 11, 2025 – The PMOPA Safety & Education Foundation (PMOPA SEF) today announced the creation of a new scholarship program dedicated to retaining current and inspiring new maintenance professionals to join the Piper PA-46 (M-Class) community. In its first year of the program, PMOPA SEF has dedicated \$15,000 in direct financial scholarships for at least three candidates. Additionally, PMOPA SEF will pay travel costs and registration fees for recipients to attend the PMOPA Convention, September 11-14, 2025 in Lake Geneva, WI.

“There’s a clear need to attract talented individuals to pursue rewarding careers in general aviation maintenance,” said Mike Nichols, CEO of PMOPA SEF. “Our scholarship program is designed to help Piper M-Class maintenance facilities recruit the next generation of professionals—and retain the skilled talent they already have.”

A maintenance facility that specializes in Piper M-Class aircraft maintenance may submit a nomination application. Applications are due by July 25 and awards will be announced in mid-August 2025. The following individuals are eligible for consideration:

1. Students who are currently completing an academic aviation maintenance program and are being recruited by a facility within the PMOPA maintenance community.
2. Students, with no prior formal aviation maintenance education, who are being recruited as apprenticeship program candidates by a facility within the PMOPA maintenance community.
3. Current maintenance professionals are being recruited by a facility within the PMOPA maintenance community.
4. Current maintenance professionals working a facility within the PMOPA maintenance community who have been identified as candidates for additional training.

“High-quality aircraft maintenance—carried out by skilled, specialized professionals—has a proven, positive impact on safety,” said Dr. Manny Casiano, Chair of the PMOPA SEF Board of Trustees. “That’s why the PMOPA SEF is committed to investing in maintenance training within our community—it’s a smart, safety-focused decision.”

Scholarship recipients may use the financial awards for:

1. Aviation maintenance tools or tool box
2. Tuition at an accredited Airframe & Powerplant (A&P) program
3. Testing costs



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4. Additional or advanced training, such as avionics training, engine training (Continental, Lycoming, or PT6), and other continuing education

The maximum scholarship amount the SEF will award to any individual applicant in 2025 is \$5,000.00.

More information about the new PMOPA SEF Maintenance Scholarship program and the application are available on the PMOPA SEF website: <https://pmopasafety.org/maintenance-scholarship/>.

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#### **ABOUT PMOPA SEF**

*The PMOPA Safety & Education Foundation (PMOPA SEF) is a 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization dedicated to promoting, supporting, and funding safety initiatives, programming, resources, and tools that advance the safe operations of Piper M-Class aircraft.*