



Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Opportunities

On behalf of generous individuals, SRCCF administers a scholarship program each year to help students pursue their dreams and goals at colleges and universities following high school graduation. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Board of Directors is pleased to announce the 2026 educational scholarships.

To streamline the amount of time you need to spend completing each of these scholarships, we have created a common portion of the application (Part I) that will be used by the Scholarship Committee. Please complete both pages. You only need to complete this once. You are also being asked to complete a separate essay for each scholarship for which you wish to apply and provide two letters of recommendation from educators who can support your application. Please be sure to attach the appropriate essay(s) and letters of recommendation for each scholarship to Part 1.

Return the entire packet to us in person, by mail or via email. *We recommend that you call the Foundation office within five (5) business days after sending your application to us to confirm we received it!*

Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the college or university for deposit in the student's account upon our receipt of the student ID number, and a copy of the admission letter or the fall class schedule.

**PLEASE CONTACT THE FOUNDATION OFFICE WITH QUESTIONS.
SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED 1/12/26 through 3/6/26**

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

PART 1 - PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:

For Office Use Only:
Applicant # _____

APPLICANT INFORMATION SHEET

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

I AM APPLYING FOR THE FOLLOWING SCHOLARSHIP(S) please be sure to attach the appropriate Appendix:

APPENDIX A: The Rising Star Scholarship

APPENDIX B: The Carol and Dick Janko Scholarship for Promising Entrepreneurs
The Internet of Things (IoT) Scholarship for Science, Engineering

APPENDIX C: and Technology presented by the Advantech Corporation

APPENDIX D: The Mac-Aero Scholarship for Aeronautics and Aviation
Tangled Roots Brewing Company Pie It Forward Scholarship for

APPENDIX E: Hospitality and Culinary Arts

APPENDIX F: The Charles H. Beckett Scholarship for Culinary Arts

APPENDIX G: The Women Inspired Network Young Women Leaders Scholarship
The Stephen Charles Vogler Scholarship for Electronics and

APPENDIX H: Communications

The Robert J. and Ellen G. Moore Memorial Scholarship for

APPENDIX I: Wenona, Illinois Students

APPENDIX J: The Molly Lenora Yacko Memorial Scholarship

The Streator Leading Ladies Maxine Wargo Working Women's

APPENDIX K: Scholarship

APPENDIX L: The Robert Cotner Memorial Scholarship

APPENDIX M: The Dolores "Dee" Heflebower Memorial Nursing Scholarship

APPENDIX N: The Frank C. Oathoudt Memorial Scholarship

APPENDIX O: The "Boots" Wisniewski-Eike College Scholarship

My signature verifies that all the information in the packet is accurate and authorizes my high school or college Counseling Office to release an official copy of my transcript, if requested, to necessary scholarship committees:

Student Signature

Date

Parent Signature

Date

For Office Use Only:
Applicant # _____

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

Name of School Currently Attending _____ located in _____

County, Illinois.

SAT or ACT Composite _____ Cumulative GPA _____ GED Score _____

What college, university, or job do you plan to attend in the fall?

Please provide your intended college major _____

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES/SERVICE

Academic Activities - Please list all academic activities or clubs in which you have participated during high school or college. List all positions of responsibility or leadership.

Awards/Honors - Please list all awards and honors, such as honor roll, department honors, or academic club awards (during your high school, college, or after-college years, whichever are applicable.)

Award/Honor	Year Received

Leadership/Service Activities - Please list all leadership and service activities in which you have participated during high school, college, or after-college years, whichever are applicable. List such items as Student Council, Key Club, youth group activities, or other involvement in your community, etc. List all positions of responsibility or leadership.

Activity	Position	Year(s)

Employment/Extracurricular Activities - Please list your employment history and all extracurricular activities in which you have participated during high school or college. List all positions of responsibility or leadership.

Activity	Position	Year(s)

By signing below, you acknowledge that your essays are entirely your own work and that you have not used AI writing tools.

Student Name: _____

Student Signature: _____

Date: _____

APPENDIX A: THE RISING STAR SCHOLARSHIP

ONE \$5,000 SCHOLARSHIP WILL BE AWARDED

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- Must be a resident of LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam, Livingston, Marshall, or Lee Counties in Illinois.
- Must be enrolled in an accredited, degree-granting program (minimum of 12 credit hours) for the following academic year at Illinois State University in the field of Elementary Education, with the intent to teach elementary school-age children.
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to ISU for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the ISU student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule.

Has demonstrated the following:

1. Positive attitude
2. Encourages others.
3. Charitable, Compassionate. Hardworking
4. High Moral Character
5. Role Model to Underclassmen
6. Patient with him/herself and others

Preference will be given to students who have been involved in school activities and/or have volunteered in various ways both at school and in the community.

Essay Requirements (the quality of your essay will be heavily weighted in the final selection process.

Include anything else you would like us to know about your interest in these fields). In 1,000 words or less:

1. Why do you want to become a teacher at the elementary school level?
2. What makes you a "good fit" for such a career?
3. Who has been your most influential teacher to date and why?

Must include two (2) letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to your ability and desire to become an educator in the field of Early Education. *Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.*

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026.

**APPENDIX B: CAROL AND DICK JANKO SCHOLARSHIP
FOR PROMISING ENTREPRENEURS**
A TOTAL OF \$7,500 WILL BE AWARDED

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- Has entrepreneurial experience during high school or college.
- Preference will be given to students who have been involved in entrepreneurial activities at school, in the community, and/or who have taken entrepreneurship or vocational courses.
- Must be a resident of LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam, Livingston, Marshall, or Lee counties.
- Applicant must be a current high-school senior or a recent graduate.
- Must be enrolled in an accredited, degree-granting college or university (minimum of 12 credit hours) for the following academic year.
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the academic institution for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule.

Has demonstrated the following:

1. Positive attitude
2. Charitable, Compassionate
3. Hardworking
4. High Moral Character
5. Role Model to Underclassmen

Essay Requirements (the quality of your essay will be heavily weighted in the final selection process. Include anything else you would like us to know about your interest in these fields). In 1,000 words or less:

1. What does "Entrepreneurship" mean to you?
2. The creation of the internet has both helped and complicated the rise of entrepreneurship. How would you leverage the internet to develop a business?
3. How would you manage the increased competition that an online marketplace produces?

Must include two (2) letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to your ability and desire to become an entrepreneur upon graduation from college. *Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.*

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipients are notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026

APPENDIX C: THE INTERNET OF THINGS (IoT) Scholarship for Engineering, Science & Manufacturing Technology, Presented by Advantech Corporation

TWO \$2,500 SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE AWARDED (one Male recipient, one Female recipient)

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- Must be a resident of LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam, Livingston, Marshall, or Lee Counties in Illinois.
- Applicant may be current high-school senior, a recent high-school graduate, or a graduate of a community college with a grade point average of at least 3.5.
- Must be enrolled in an accredited, degree-granting college or university (minimum of 12 credit hours) for the following academic year, with the intent to pursue a degree in engineering, science, and/or technology.
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the college or university for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall schedule.

Has demonstrated the following:

1. Charitable, Compassionate	3. High Moral Character
2. Hardworking	4. Role Model to Underclassmen

Preference will be given to students who can demonstrate an interest in IoT, or have been involved in engineering, science and/or manufacturing technology activities at school and/or in the community, and/or who have taken related technical courses

****Recipients of the scholarship may be eligible for an internship at Advantech Ottawa in production optimization, process improvement, and/or hands-on support.**

Essay Requirements (the quality of your essay will be heavily weighted in the final selection process. Include anything else you would like us to know about your interest in these fields). In 1,000 words or less:

1. Explain your interest in The Internet of Things (IoT) with respect to engineering, science, or manufacturing technology
2. Explain your current career choice and your plans for employment and/or continued education upon completion of your college career.

Must include two (2) letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to your ability and desire to pursue a career in engineering, science, or manufacturing technology upon graduation from college. *Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.*

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipients are notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026.

APPENDIX D: THE MAC-AERO SCHOLARSHIP FOR AERONAUTICS AND AVIATION

ONE \$10,000 SCHOLARSHIP TO BE AWARDED

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- Must be pursuing a degree in Aviation or Aeronautics. Additionally, preference will be given to students who can demonstrate previous or current interest in Aviation and/or Aeronautics at school, in the community, and who have taken related technical courses.
- Must be enrolled in an accredited, degree-granting college or university (minimum of 12 credit hours) for the following academic year in the field of Aviation and/or Aeronautics.
- Must be a resident of LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam, Livingston, Marshall, or Lee counties
- Applicant may be a current high-school senior, a recent high-school graduate, or a graduate of a community college.
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the academic institution for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule

Has demonstrated the following:

1. Positive attitude	4. Hardworking
2. Encourages others.	5. High Moral Character
3. Charitable, Compassionate	6. Role Model to Underclassmen

Essay Requirements (the quality of your essay will be heavily weighted in the final selection process. Include anything else you would like us to know about your interest in these fields). In 1,000 words or less:

1. Explain your interest in Aviation and/or Aeronautics
2. Explain your current career choice, and your plans for employment and/or continued education upon completion of your college career in the fields of Aviation or Aeronautics

Must include two (2) letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to your ability and desire to pursue a degree in aviation or aeronautics. *Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.*

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026.

APPENDIX E: THE TANGLED ROOTS BEVERAGE COMPANY PIE IT FORWARD SCHOLARSHIP FOR CAREER IN HOSPITALITY OR CULINARY ARTS FIELDS

ONE \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIP TO BE AWARDED

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

A current high-school senior or home-schooled senior, or a student graduating from a community college who meets the following criteria:

- Must be a resident of LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam, Livingston, Marshall, or Lee counties
- Must have a minimum GPA of 3.0.
- Applicant may be a current high-school senior, a recent high school graduate, or a graduate of a community college.
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the academic institution for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule.
- Preference will be given to:
 - A student who is interested in a career in Hospitality or Culinary Arts.
 - A student currently working in either industry.
 - A student who has experience in either Hospitality or Culinary Arts.

Has demonstrated the following attributes:

1. Positive attitude; encourages others	4. High moral character
2. Charitable and compassionate	5. Role model to underclassmen, if applicable
3. Hardworking	

Essay Requirements (the quality of your essay will be heavily weighted in the final selection process. Include anything else you would like us to know about your interest in these fields). In 1,000 words or less:

1. What sector of the Hospitality or Culinary Arts industry do you plan on entering?
2. What skills or attributes make you a "good fit" for such a career?
3. Is the customer always right? Why or Why Not?

Must include two (2) letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to your ability and desire to pursue a degree in the culinary arts field. *Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.*

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026

APPENDIX F: THE CHARLES H. BECKETT SCHOLARSHIP FOR THE CULINARY ARTS MANAGEMENT

ONE \$2,500 ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP WILL BE AWARDED*

TWO APPAREL AND SUPPLIES AWARDS MAY BE AVAILABLE*

Applicants with financial need as determined by Joliet Junior College will be given priority for these awards.

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- Must be enrolled in Joliet Junior College, for the following academic year, pursuing an A.A.S. in Culinary Arts.
- Preference to residents of LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam, Marshall, Livingston, or Lee counties
- Award may be granted to a recent high-school graduate; a high school graduate of a home-school environment; or having earned a GED within the past two years with a score of 750 or higher; a current Joliet Junior College student pursuing a Culinary Arts Management A.A.S degree with a grade point average of at least 3.0
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the academic institution for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and letter from Joliet Junior College confirming the student's enrollment in the Culinary Arts Program.

Has demonstrated the following attributes:

1. High moral character	3. Hard working; trustworthy
2. Charitable	4. Role model to underclassmen

For high school age applicants, preference will be given to those who can demonstrate an interest in the Culinary Arts or have been involved in the cooking industry at school and/or in the community, and/or who have taken related culinary courses.

Essay Requirements (the quality of your essay will be heavily weighted in the final selection process. Include anything else you would like us to know about your interest in these fields). In 1,000 words or less:

1. Explain your financial need
2. Explain your interest in Culinary Arts
3. Explain your plans for employment and/or continued education upon completion of your degree in Culinary Arts Management

Please enclose two (2) letters of recommendation from educators or employers in the field of Culinary Arts who can attest to your ability and desire to pursue a degree in the culinary management field.

Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026

APPENDIX G: THE WOMEN INSPIRED YOUNG WOMEN LEADERS SCHOLARSHIP

TWO \$3,000 SCHOLARSHIPS WILL BE AWARDED



On behalf of the **Women Inspired Network** of the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation, we offer an annual scholarship to help young women pursue their dreams and goals through higher education. Tell us how you plan to inspire others as you become an inspired woman.

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- Must be a resident of Bureau, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall or Putnam counties.
- Must be a current high school senior; a high school graduate with a GPA of 3.0; a home-schooled student who qualifies as a graduate; or a recipient of a GED program with a final score of at least 750.
- Must be enrolled in an accredited, degree-granting program (minimum of 12 credit hours) for the following academic year or enrolled in a certified training program in a skilled trade.
- Must possess a commitment to further education; have a positive attitude; be encouraging to others; have a charitable mindset; be compassionate; hardworking; possess high moral character, and serve as a role model in her community.
- Preference will be given to individuals who have volunteered, worked, or been actively involved in school/community activities.
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the academic institution for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule

Essay Requirements (the quality of your essay will be heavily weighted in the final selection process. Please title your essay WIN Scholarship Essay). In 1,500 words or less:

1. Identify your purpose and how your purpose will serve a larger community.
2. Discuss your background, individuality, interests, and talents.
3. Describe who (or what) has been as strong influence in your life and where you see yourself in 5 years upon completion of your degree.

The format is:

- Times New Roman, 12 point, 1 inch margins, double spaced
- Content must be clear and focused with a clear thesis followed by organizational development. Use of vocabulary, spelling, and grammar demonstrates your strength as a learner as well as your ability to communicate in writing.

Please attach two letters of recommendation attesting to your leadership capabilities through work, volunteerism, or school and community activities. *Please ask the individuals who write letters to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.*

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026

APPENDIX H: THE STEPHEN CHARLES VOGLER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR ELECTRONICS OR COMMUNICATIONS DEGREES AT ILLINOIS VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

ONE \$1,220 SCHOLARSHIP TO BE AWARDED



FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- Must be a resident of LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam, Livingston, Marshall, or Lee counties
- Applicants may be a current high-school senior; a recent high-school graduate, a home-schooled student with graduation status; or a student already enrolled at Illinois Valley Community College. Last GPA must be at least 3.0.
- Must be pursuing an Associate degree at IVCC in Electronics or Communications
- Preference will be given to students who can demonstrate previous or current interest in Electronics and/or Communications at school, in the community, or who have taken related technical courses.
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to IVCC for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule

Has demonstrated the following attributes:

1. Positive attitude; charitable, compassionate, hardworking
2. High moral character and a role model to underclassmen

Essay Requirements (the quality of your essay will be heavily weighted in the final selection process. Include anything else you would like us to know about your interest in these fields). In 1,000 words or less:

1. Explain your interest in Electronics and/or Communications;
2. Explain the value and importance of electronic media;
3. Explain your current career goals; and
4. Explain your plans for employment and/or continued education upon completion of your Associate degree at IVCC.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION - Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Vogler Memorial Scholarship. One must be from an educator who knows your learning experiences in the past two years. *Please ask the individuals who write letters to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.*

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026

APPENDIX I: THE ROBERT J. MOORE AND ELLEN G. MOORE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOR FIELDCREST HIGH SCHOOL AND WENONA, ILLINOIS STUDENTS

Prior to his death, Bob Moore committed a portion of his estate to scholarships for deserving youth in Wenona who are in need of financial assistance to pursue a college education. This scholarship is awarded based on financial need – more than one may be awarded

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- Must be a resident of Wenona, Illinois
- Must be a current high-school senior, a recent high-school graduate, or a graduate of a community college. Students with a GED score of 750 or higher and home-schooled graduates may apply.
- Must be enrolled in an accredited, degree-granting college or university (minimum of 12 credit hours) for the following academic year.
- Must be able to demonstrate financial need to attend a degree granting program
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the academic institution for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule

Has demonstrated the following attributes:

1. Must have a positive attitude and be encouraging to others
2. Must be compassionate and hardworking
3. Must be of high moral character and a role model to underclassmen

Essay Requirements (the quality of your essay will be heavily weighted in the final selection process. Include anything else you would like us to know about your interest in these fields). In 1,500 words or less:

1. Explain why you want to attend college;
2. Explain why you are in need of financial assistance;
3. Explain how much you need;
4. Explain how you will finance the balance of your educational costs if you are awarded a Moore Scholarship;
5. Explain your current career choice and your plans for employment and/or continued education upon completion of college. Please tell us whatever else you would like us to know about you.

LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION-Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Moore Scholarship. One letter must be from an educator at Fieldcrest High School or another educator who taught you in the past two years. *Please ask individuals who write letters to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.*

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner(s) in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026.

APPENDIX J: THE MOLLY LENORA YACKO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

SCHOLARSHIP AMOUNT TO BE DETERMINED EACH YEAR

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria;

- Must be a resident of LaSalle County Illinois.
- Must be currently enrolled as a Junior or Senior in an accredited, degree-granting program (minimum of 12 credit hours) for the following academic year in the field of Mental Health or other related course of study, with the intent to return to Starved Rock Country to contribute to our community.
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the academic institution for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule

Has demonstrated the following:

1. Positive attitude; encouraging to others.
2. Charitable; compassionate; hardworking
3. High moral character; role model to underclassmen
4. Patient with themselves and others

Preference will be given to students who have been involved in school activities and/or have volunteered in various ways both at school and in the community.

Essay Requirements (the quality of your essay will be heavily weighted in the final selection process.). In 1,000 words or less:

1. Why do you want to work in the mental health field?
2. What makes you a "good fit" for such a career?
3. What are your plans for employment and a dedicated career in mental health services?

Must include two (2) letters of recommendation from educators or employers who can attest to your ability and desire to succeed in a mental health career. Please ask the individuals who write letters to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026.

APPENDIX K: THE STREATOR LEADING LADIES MAXINE WARGO WORKING WOMEN'S SCHOLARSHIP

ONE \$2,000 SCHOLARSHIP TO BE AWARDED. SCHOLARSHIP IS RENEWABLE.

The Maxine Wargo Working Women's Scholarship was established by the Streator Business and Professional Women, now known as the Streator Leading Ladies, to honor a driving force in the Streator community. Maxine Wargo was born and raised in Streator and became a multiple business owner in the Streator community. Her infectious spirit and positive attitude inspired others to get involved with the Streator community. Her work ethic and strong will to succeed made her an excellent role model for women entering or returning to the workforce. This Scholarship honors her legacy.

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- Must be female and a legal resident of LaSalle, Livingston, Bureau, Marshall or Putnam counties.
- Must have a break in education for at least one year.
- Must be currently enrolled in an accredited, degree-granting program as of August 2025 as either a part-time or full-time student for the following academic year.
- May not currently be attending a secondary school.
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the academic institution for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule

Has demonstrated the following:

- Must display leadership potential.
- Must display a dedication towards community service.

Essay Requirements (the quality of your essay will be heavily weighted in the final selection process.). In 1,000 words or less:

1. Describe your career goals and future objectives.
2. Specifically show how you will reach your goals and the steps you feel are needed to achieve your objectives.

Attach two letters of recommendation. One letter should be professional and one personal about why you are a viable candidate for the Maxine Wargo Working Women's Scholarship. *Please ask those who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.*

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026.

APPENDIX L: THE ROBERT COTNER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
ONE \$1,500 SCHOLARSHIP WILL BE AWARDED TO A STUDENT STUDYING ENGLISH LITERATURE OR FINE ARTS TO INCLUDE PAINTING, SCULPTURE, DRAWING, PHOTOGRAPHY, MUSIC, DANCE AND THEATRE.

Robert Cotner was an extraordinary man whose kindness, brilliance, compassion, and creativity inspired those fortunate enough to know him. Bob passed away on November 16, 2024. A scholar of remarkable depth, Bob dedicated his life to the pursuit of knowledge; his intellect unparalleled, and a shining beacon of curiosity and understanding that illuminated countless minds. Also, a poet of the heart, Bob's eloquent words and profound verses captured the beauty and complexity of life, leaving a body of work that will resonate for generations to come.

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- Must be a resident of LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam, Livingston, Marshall, or Lee counties
- Must be enrolled in an accredited, degree-granting college or university (minimum of 12 credit hours) for the following academic year.
- Minimum GPA preference is 3.0.
- Enrolled in the study of English Literature or Fine Arts which includes painting, sculpture, drawing, photography, music, dance, and theatre.
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the academic institution for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule

Has demonstrated the following:

1. Positive attitude; charitable, compassionate, hardworking
2. High moral character and a role model to underclassmen

Essay Requirements (the quality of your essay will be heavily weighted in the final selection process.). In 1,500 words or less:

1. Describe your love of English literature or the arts.
2. Provide examples of your work – copies of your written work; photocopies of paintings, sculptures, drawings; or videos of dance, music, or theatrical performances.

Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Bob Cotner Memorial Scholarship. *Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.*

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026.

APPENDIX M: THE DOLORES “DEE” HEFLEBOWER MEMORIAL NURSING SCHOLARSHIP ONE \$3,000 SCHOLARSHIP TO BE AWARDED.

Created by John Heflebower of St. Helena, California, and Linda Gorr of Arlington Heights, Illinois to honor their older sister, Dee, the daughter of the late Anne Baker and the wife of former Peru Mayor Don Baker. The Scholarship is awarded annually to an IVCC nursing student planning to work in oncology. The Bakers created the scholarship initially with the Illinois Valley Community Hospital Foundation. Don died at age 87 in 2016 and Anne at age 99 in 2020. Dee died of ovarian cancer in 2000. Heflebower said Dee was a great ‘big’ sister to him and Linda. “My sister was a sweet soul,” he said. “She was a teacher, artist, and devout Buddhist. She had a silly sense of humor which caused us to laugh often.”

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- Must be a resident of LaSalle, Bureau, Putnam, Livingston, Marshall, or Lee counties
- Applicants must be already enrolled in the Illinois Valley Community College Nursing Program, planning to become a Registered Nurse. Last GPA must be at least 3.0.
- Preference will be given to Nursing students planning to work in oncology or cancer care, and single parents
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to IVCC for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule

Has demonstrated the following:

1. Positive attitude; charitable, compassionate, hardworking
2. High moral character and a role model to underclassmen

Essay Requirements Please respond to the questions in your essay in 1500 words or less:

1. Why have you chosen a career in nursing? Who are the individuals who inspired your decision?
2. If applicable, please cite challenges you have faced and overcome as a single parent in the nursing program.
3. If applicable, please cite financial challenges you encountered in gaining access to the IVCC nursing program.
4. Please discuss the community causes and/or nonprofit organizations you have championed or contributed to.
5. Please cite examples of your leadership ability in high school or college.

Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Dolores “Dee” Heflebower Memorial Nursing Scholarship. *Please ask the individuals who write letters to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.*

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026.

APPENDIX N: THE FRANK C. OATHOUDT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

ONE \$3,000 SCHOLARSHIP TO BE AWARDED ANNUALLY

Created by Pam Helfers Riss to honor her late brother-in-law's legacy as a Vietnam War Veteran and journalist. Oathoudt served as a U.S. Army helicopter in Vietnam and dove into a career in journalism upon returning home. This Scholarship reflects Frank's generosity and thirst for knowledge.

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- A current high-school senior or home-school senior, or a student graduating from a community college, or current college student who meets the following criteria:
- A current grade point average of at least 3.0
- Must be enrolled in an accredited, degree-granting college or university (minimum of 12 credit hours) for the following academic year, or a licensed trade school.
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the academic institution for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule

Has demonstrated the following:

1. Positive attitude; encourages others; charitable
2. Hard working, compassionate; high moral character
3. Role model to underclassmen, if applicable

**Preference will be given to students pursuing careers in Journalism and/or Communications

Essay Requirements Please respond to the questions in your essay in 1000 words or less:

1. Frank had a roadmap for success made up of four steps: Every day you must get up, you have to show up, and then you need to keep up. And sometimes, you might need to shut up. Describe a situation in your life in which this roadmap would have or did serve you well.
2. Frank was an avid reader of literature on all topics. Describe a time when a book or piece of literature changed your perspective.

Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Frank C. Oathoudt Memorial Scholarship. *Please ask the individuals who write letters to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.*

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026.

APPENDIX O: THE “BOOTS” WISNIEWSKI-EIKE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP

ONE \$2,000 SCHOLARSHIP TO BE AWARDED ANNUALLY

FOLLOW THIS PROCEDURE FOR EVERY SCHOLARSHIP YOU APPLY FOR

1. Please answer each appendix question on a separate sheet of paper.
2. All essay responses must be your own original work, written in your own words. Using artificial intelligence tools to write, rewrite, or significantly edit your essays is not permitted. Submitting AI generated work will result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.
3. Type the appendix letter and the name of the scholarship on the top of your page.
4. Do not staple papers!
5. PLEASE DO NOT WRITE YOUR NAME ANYWHERE ON YOUR ESSAY!
6. Attach two letters of recommendation addressing why you are a good candidate for the Scholarship you are applying for. Please ask the individuals who write letters for you to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Selection of the recipient of the scholarship(s) is based on the following criteria:

- *The individual must be a female current high-school senior or home-schooled senior, or a student graduating from a community college, or a current college (undergraduate or graduate) student who meets the following criteria:*
- Must be a female student
- A current grade point average of at least 2.5
- Must be enrolled in an accredited, degree-granting college or university (minimum of 12 credit hours) for the following academic year, or a licensed trade program.
- Scholarship funds will be awarded by check, made payable to the academic institution for deposit in the student's account upon receipt by the Starved Rock Country Community Foundation of the student ID and acceptance letter or fall class schedule

Has demonstrated the following:

1. Positive attitude and encourages others
2. Hard working and compassionate
3. Participation in extracurricular/community activities
4. Leadership skills
5. Faith-based activities or lifestyle

Essay Requirements In 1000 words or less, please outline the following:

1. Your leadership experience
2. Your faith-based activities or lifestyle
3. Explain how your chosen career will assist and empower children

Attach two letters of recommendation from current educators or employers that can attest to your ability to succeed. Please ask the individuals who write letters to only use your first name in the letter of recommendation.

Scholarship applications are accepted annually, January through February. The Starved Rock Country Community Foundation Scholarship Evaluation Committee chooses the winner in April, and the recipient is notified within two (2) weeks.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ARE DUE BY MARCH 6, 2026.