



January 1, 2017

The Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for our annual merit scholarship competition. As a benefit of membership, the Chamber offers this scholarship annually to graduating high school seniors.

Established in 1995 by Bimba Manufacturing in partnership with the Chicago Southland Chamber, the Scholarship was created as a memorial to Ron Milnes, Director of Human Resources at Bimba Manufacturing and Chair of the Chamber's Human Resource Committee.

This year the Chamber will award up to five scholarships, totaling \$6,000 to qualifying applicants. To be eligible, students must be graduating in the academic year 2016 – 2017, be children of Chamber member company employers or employees, or be themselves an employee of a Chamber member. The applicant must have at least a 2.5 GPA on a 4.0 scale. Enclosed with this letter is the application packet with the list of requirements. **All fully completed applications must be postmarked by the deadline (end of business day, April 1st) and meet all the qualifications.** Applications will be evaluated by the Scholarship Committee, and scholarships will be announced by May 15, 2016.

Applicants are to submit their completed application packet to:

Scholarship Committee, Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce  
18230 Orland Parkway  
Orland Park, IL 60467

Please notify your employees of this benefit to ensure that all eligible and interested applicants have an opportunity to apply. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Chamber. Please contact Heather at [heather@chicagosouthlandchamber.com](mailto:heather@chicagosouthlandchamber.com) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

*Heather Haynes*

Heather Haynes  
Executive Director



**The Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Foundation**

General Information		
(Last Name)	(First Name)	(Middle Name)
(Street Address)	(Apt.)	(P.O. Box)
(City)	(State)	(Zip)
Daytime Phone Number ( )	Evening /Cell Phone Number ( )	E-mail address
Father's Last Name (or Legal Guardian)	Father's First Name	Employed by:
Mother's Last Name (or Legal Guardian)	Mother's First Name	Employed by:

Academic Plans	
College / University planning to attend	(Name of Institution) (City & State)
Planned field of study	Start Date:

Academic Background & Test Scores (HS Transcripts Required)					
	Name & Address	No. of Years Attended	Academic Graduating Class MO/YR	Class Rank	G.P.A.
Graduate High School					
SAT Composite Score: /1600 Date:		ACT Composite Score: /36 Date:			

Student Employment Experiences					
Company Name:			Company Name:		
Position Title:			Position Title:		
Dates:	From (mm/dd/yy)	To (mm/dd/yy)	Dates:	From (mm/dd/yy)	To (mm/dd/yy)
Describe the work you performed:			Describe the work you performed:		

<b>Scholastic / Athletic Honors and Awards</b>	
Name of Honor / Award Received	Date

<b>Extracurricular Activities</b>		
List below, in order of importance to you, your principle extracurricular activities in grades 9 – 12. Do <b>NOT</b> list employment or volunteer work in this section.		
Activity	Length of Involvement	Positions / Offices Held or Honors Awarded

<b>Volunteer / Community Service</b>			
Describe the nature of the community service, your specific role, when you participated and the length of your involvement.			
Activity	Description / Role	Dates	Hours

### **Personal Essay**

In 500 words or less, address the following question:

- What high school courses, personal experiences, extracurricular activities, or volunteer/community service work has/have been the most challenging and rewarding? How did this influence you?

### **Letter of Recommendation**

Applicants must submit one (1) letter (and only one) of recommendation (from a counselor, principal, teacher, employer, clergy, mentor, coach) appraising the individual's academic and personal qualities and potential. The Scholarship Committee is particularly interested in evidence of character, relative maturity, integrity, independence, interests, skills and any special talents or qualities.

### Information and Tips for Scholarship Applicants

- 1) DO NOT WAIT TO APPLY
- 2) Applicants must be the child/legal dependent of a Chamber member business owner, a child/legal dependent of an employee of a Chamber member business, or themselves an employee of a Chamber member business. **The Chamber member must be in good standing as of March 1, 2017.** No policy exceptions.
- 3) The student must be a graduating senior of the 2015-2016 academic school year.
- 4) Applicants must have a grade point average of 2.5 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- 5) The scholarship recipients will be selected by the Chamber Scholarship Foundation Committee.
- 6) The scholarship must be used for expenses with the requirement that recipient be a full time student.
- 7) All requirement documents must be **postmarked by April 1, 2017.** **It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure that documents are submitted to the Chamber and are postmarked on or before April 30, 2017** (such as letter of recommendation or transcripts if submitted separately).
- 8) Each component of the application will be considered in the evaluation. Incomplete applications will not be considered. There shall be no discrimination based on race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, or gender.
- 9) Scholarship Recipients will be notified by **May 15, 2017** through email and a personal letter. Awards will be presented on **June 6, 2016.**
- 10) Awarded scholarships will be in the amount of \$1,000 and \$2,000 with up to six (6) awards.

### Authorization and Certification

I understand that the information submitted herein will be relied upon by the Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce Scholarship Committee to determine my status as a scholarship candidate. I certify that the information submitted with this application is complete and correct. I understand that it may be verified, and that submission of false information is grounds for rejection of my application and withdrawal of any offer of scholarship. I also give permission to release these materials to the Scholarship Committee and the Scholarship Foundation.

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**Signature of Applicant**

**Date**

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**Signature of Parent or Legal Guardian (if student is under the age of 18)**

**Date**

Please send checklist, completed application, official transcripts, personal essay, college acceptance letter and one letter of recommendation to:

**Scholarship Committee / Scholarship Foundation  
Chicago Southland Chamber of Commerce  
18230 Orland Parkway  
Orland Park, IL 60467**

**POSTMARK DEADLINE: April 1, 2017**

Students Name: (L) \_\_\_\_\_ (F) \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please Print)

**Chicago Southland Chamber Scholarship Application Checklist**

**Use This Checklist As A Cover Sheet in Your Application Packet**

	<b>Included in Application Packet</b>	<b>To Be Submitted Separately</b>
1. <b>This Checklist as COVER PAGE</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
2. Chicago Southland Chamber Member In Good Standing	<input type="checkbox"/>	
a. Child/Legal Dependent of Business Owner (or)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
b. Child/Legal Dependent of Employee of the Member Business (or)	<input type="checkbox"/>	
c. Student is the Employee of the Member Business	<input type="checkbox"/>	
3. Completed Application	<input type="checkbox"/>	
4. High School Graduating Senior 2016-2017 Academic Year	<input type="checkbox"/>	
5. Grade Point Average 2.5 or higher on 4.0 Scale	<input type="checkbox"/>	
6. High School Official Transcripts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. College Acceptance Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Copy of ACT and/or SAT score(s) <i>if not on transcript</i>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
9. Personal Essay	<input type="checkbox"/>	
10. <b>One</b> (1) Recommendation Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Postmarked by April 1, 2017	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Student's Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_