

2027 James V. and Dorothy B. Moon Scholarship



School Administrators
Foundation for Education





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James V. and Dorothy B. Moon Scholarship Guidelines



Purpose:

The purpose of the James V. and Dorothy B. Moon Scholarship Program (hereinafter, "scholarship") is to provide scholarship grants to assist individuals in the pursuit of graduate study leading to improved competency in the superintendency.

Applicant Qualifications:

Individuals who are eligible for this scholarship shall:

- be a resident of Illinois;
- be of good character;
- be a graduate of an accredited college or university;
- be enrolled in an advanced degree program at an accredited college or university;
- hold administrative certification in Illinois;
- be a practicing school administrator in Illinois; and
- not have previously received a Moon Scholarship.

Application Process:

Applications must be completed on the forms provided by the Board of Trustees of the School Administrators Foundation for Education (hereinafter, "Board of Trustees") and submitted to the Illinois Association of School Administrators. **The completed application package should be sent to Jodi Gillespie via email (jgillespie@iasaedu.org) by 10 a.m., Friday, January 15, 2027.** Please note it is the applicant's responsibility to provide all requested items along with the completed application and that incomplete applications will not be accepted and/or considered. Completed applications must include the following and in this order (singled-sided):

- **Section I**—Response to practicum question (see application form)
- **Section II**—Three letters of reference, specific to the subject of the scholarship and judging criteria
- **Section III**—A statement by the applicant indicating a commitment to the superintendency
- **Section IV**—A statement by the applicant concerning involvement with professional development programs
- **Section V**—Verification by the college or university of the applicant's official status as a degree candidate
- **Section VI**—A full set of graduate and undergraduate university transcripts (must be submitted along with the application; please do not send separately)
- **Section VII**—Proof of employment as a practicing administrator in Illinois (letter on school district letterhead signed by an official at the school district.)
- **Award Acknowledgment Form**

Awards:

Scholarship awards will be made on the basis of:

- Letters of reference specific to the subject of the scholarship
- Good scholarship
- Commitment to and understanding of the superintendency
- Evidence of communication skills
- Abilities and strengths of the applicant as indicated in the letters of support
- Demonstrated participation in professional development programs

The SAFE Board of Trustees will review the applications and select the award recipients in February 2027. The public announcement of the Board of Trustees selections will be provided via IASA's *Leadership Matters* magazine in April 2026 and recognition at the IASA Annual Conference. **The award will be payable in the next academic year beginning with**

the summer term. Payment will be made directly to the college or university upon notice from the school that an amount less than or equal to the award amount is necessary to pay tuition, fees, and/or textbook expenses or software as required by the program and university, unless other arrangements have been made.

Send a PDF copy of the completed application package to Jodi Gillespie, jgillespie@iasaedu.org, by 10 a.m., Friday, January 15, 2027.

Terms Of The Scholarship

Scholarship recipients shall enroll at an accredited college or university for full or regular study at the graduate level in an advanced degree program designed to improve the competency of the individual as an Illinois school superintendent. Recipients must contribute to the further development of the superintendency in Illinois for a period of two years following the completion of their degree program in which they accepted payment of tuition, fees, and/or textbook expenses on their behalf.

At the discretion of the Board of Trustees, persons who fail to comply with the terms of this scholarship may be required to refund part or all of the funds expended on their behalf. Scholarship recipients shall be required to agree in writing to this stipulation at the time of application, prior to its consideration.

The scholarship award will be for a minimum of \$2,500 a year. Applicants may apply for the award in successive years if they have not already received a Moon Scholarship.

The award will be payable in the next academic year beginning with the summer term.

Questions can be directed to Jodi Gillespie at 217/753-2213 or email to jgillespie@iasaedu.org.

**Application package email deadline:
10 a.m. Friday
January 15, 2027**





School Administrators
Foundation for Education

James V. and Dorothy B. Moon Scholarship Application



Name _____ County of Residence _____

School District _____

Title at School District _____

Work Address _____

Work E-mail _____

Telephone (Work) _____ (Home) _____

Home Address _____

College or University Attending _____

At the discretion of the Board of Trustees, persons who fail to comply with the terms of this scholarship may be required to refund part or all of the funds expended on their behalf. Scholarship recipients shall be required to agree in writing to this stipulation at the time of application, prior to its consideration.

By signing below, I agree to comply with the terms of the scholarship as noted within the Guidelines.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Scholarship Requirements

Practicum Question: Please respond to the following question. (Maximum Length—3 pages)

What do you perceive your role to be in the following areas:

- Educational Leader
- Community Leader
- Political Advocate for Public Schools

The applicant must submit the following items along with this application form (please keep in order):

- ☐ **Section I**—Response to practicum question listed above
- ☐ **Section II**—Three letters of reference, specific to the matter of the scholarship
- ☐ **Section III**—A statement by the applicant indicating a commitment to the superintendency
- ☐ **Section IV**—A statement by the applicant concerning involvement with professional development programs
- ☐ **Section V**—Verification by the college or university of the applicant's official status as a degree candidate

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- ☐ **Section VI**—A full set of university transcripts (must be submitted along with the application; please do not send separately)
- ☐ **Section VII**—Proof of employment as a practicing administrator in Illinois (letter on school district letterhead signed by an official at the school district.)
- ☐ **Award Acknowledgment Form**

**PLEASE
NOTE:**

It is the applicant's responsibility to provide all requested items along with the completed application.

Incomplete applications will not be accepted and/or considered.

Send a PDF copy of the completed application package (single-sided) to Jodi Gillespie via email at jgillespie@iasaedu.org by 10 a.m., Friday, January 15, 2027.

Questions can be directed to Jodi Gillespie at 217-753-2213 or jgillespie@iasaedu.org.

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Award Acknowledgement Form

I, _____, hereby acknowledge and understand the selection criteria and award expectations as set forth in the application. If selected, I acknowledge that I am expected to be of high integrity, moral character and uphold the highest standards of professionalism.

I further acknowledge and have read the Illinois Association of School Administrators' Code of Ethics as follows and hereby agree to be held to the professional standards as set forth within.

The IASA Member shall:

- ☐ exercise allegiance to the United States of America and the State of Illinois
- ☐ afford leadership to the educational community
- ☐ demonstrate effective and efficient administration and management of schools
- ☐ honor the public trust
- ☐ be of high moral character in all matters public and private
- ☐ practice the highest standards of responsibility
- ☐ respect and protect the dignity and worth of all people
- ☐ provide the best possible educational opportunities and experiences for all students
- ☐ contribute to the achievement of all students at their maximum potential
- ☐ foster communication with the public
- ☐ increase community involvement in the schools
- ☐ recognize parents as partners in a child's education
- ☐ support the recruitment and retention of quality teaching and support personnel
- ☐ add to the body of specialized knowledge of school administration
- ☐ work within school board policy, local, state and federal laws
- ☐ advise the board of education on educational matters
- ☐ administer board policy and decisions effectively

I understand and agree that by applying and if selected that the Board of Directors of the Illinois Association of School Administrators reserves and maintains the right to rescind any award for misrepresentation, fraud, sufficient evidence of malfeasance and/or violation of the Illinois Association of School Administrators' Code of Ethics or other applicable code of ethics to which may apply and/or felony conviction relating to or arising out of or in connection with your service as an educator. As an award winner representing Superintendents statewide we want to make certain the highest standards of professionalism are met.

Signature

Date