



Scholarship Application Opens at the Community Foundation

Sycamore, IL, 02/01/2026 – The [DeKalb County Community Foundation](#) is accepting online [scholarship applications](#) now through April 1, 2026. Over 100 opportunities for financial assistance are available through their Universal Application this year. Student applicants gain access to local support toward their career goals using one convenient online form.

The Universal Scholarship Application allows high school seniors, as well as nontraditional, undergraduate, and postgraduate students, to apply for the full range of the Foundation's scholarship offerings. Applicants can test their eligibility for all [107 scholarships](#) with a single application, saving time and effort while increasing their chances of receiving financial assistance for their education. These awards are made possible through donations from local individuals, businesses, and organizations.

“My goal is to make the application process as welcoming as possible for scholarship seekers at every stage,” said Sara Nickels, Grants & Scholarships Manager. “Offering all our awards through the Universal Application means applicants are automatically matched with eligible scholarships, reducing stress and uncertainty as students plan for their education.”

The 2026 Universal Application includes [six new scholarships](#) created by the Community Foundation's generous donors:

- Bob Suddeth 4-H Scholarship
- Dave Fultz Scholarship
- Jim Rhoades Law Enforcement Scholarship
- Robert and Laura Carlson Scholarship
- Ryan Charles Hill Memorial Scholarship
- Shirley Lorenz Yates Scholarship

The online application is open from February 1 through 11:59 p.m. on April 1. Students are encouraged to visit [dekalbccf.org/scholarships](#) to learn more about available scholarships, view eligibility requirements, and submit their applications.

For questions or additional information, contact Sara Nickels at 815-748-5383 or s.nickels@dekalbccf.org.



Jason Wehrli presents the Wehrli Custom Fabrication Scholarship to 2025 Somonauk High School graduate Gavin Lorentzen. Over 100 opportunities for financial assistance are available through the Community Foundation's Universal Application this year.