

Investing in Bright Futures

At GBS, supporting our employees and their families has always been at the heart of who we are. One of the initiatives we are most proud of is the **Larry A. Merriman (LAM) Memorial Scholarship**, established in 2019 to honor the legacy of longtime GBS leader and founder Larry Merriman. Mr. Merriman was a guiding light for our company, and offering this annual scholarship in his name carries forward his commitment to helping others succeed.

The LAM scholarship provides financial assistance to the children of GBS employees as they pursue their next steps in education—whether through traditional college, trade school, craftsmanship or other skill-based training programs. Since its inception, the fund has helped ease the financial burden of higher education while also encouraging students to embrace community involvement, leadership and academic achievement.

Since the first recipients were honored in 2020, the program has continued to thrive with a host of new applicants and recipients each year. To be eligible, applicants must be dependents of GBS employees, maintain at least a 2.5 GPA, submit transcripts or a diploma, provide letters of recommendation and share their story through an essay. Volunteerism and community service are also important criteria, reflecting the values that guide both the scholarship and GBS as a whole. A minimum of \$1,000 is awarded to each of our scholars.

This past summer, GBS was thrilled to award its 2025 LAM Scholarships to five outstanding students in the North Canton/Youngstown, Ohio, region: Lauren Harvey, Jessica Megown, Sean Rhoades, Laura Rodgers and Sarah Rodgers. Each of these scholars impressed the selection committee with their academic achievements, dedication to service and passion for their chosen fields. Their hard work and dedication reflect the very spirit of Mr. Merriman's legacy—one of perseverance, generosity and belief in the potential of others.

The LAM Scholarship remains a proud example of what can happen when a company stands behind its people and their families. And it is a tradition that we are honored to carry forward. The scholarship is not only about providing financial support, but also about investing in the future of our extended GBS family. When our employees' children succeed, we all succeed!

We congratulate our 2025 recipients and look forward to watching their journeys unfold in the years ahead.



One of GBS' 2025 Larry A. Merriman Scholarship recipients, Lauren Harvey, along with her mother and GBS employee, Kristen Harvey