



# 2016

## SCHOLARSHIP

# BULLETIN

incourage

Scholarship funds for higher education  
available to students in the south  
Wood County area



## Grads and Future Grads,

Welcome to the 2016 Scholarship Bulletin published by Incourage. Scholarship information and applications are available on our website at [incouragecf.org](http://incouragecf.org).

Since inception, Incourage has awarded nearly 2,600 scholarships totaling more than \$1.7 million. Each scholarship is unique. We encourage you to read the stories about why each of these scholarships were created. Review the eligibility requirements of each and apply for listings that fit your qualifications.

The common element in all scholarships is the charitable spirit of the donors who created them. Some are established by organizations interested in a specific field of interest, while others were created to honor loved ones – a child who died before his or her time, a spouse, or a parent. We thank the individuals and groups who make these awards possible and believe in the power of education to help people achieve their dreams.

# New SCHOLARSHIPS

Investing in education builds a strong community

Scholarships that were established in 2015 are featured. A listing of all scholarship opportunities offered by Inourage follows. You will find full descriptions and eligibility requirements for all scholarships on our website. Included in this publication are Tips for Applicants, Important Dates, and information about Inourage.



## Helen Cartwright Graff Scholarship

Helen Cartwright Graff established this scholarship with the intent to help deserving local students who have financial need and real interest in learning. According to Helen, "My college years are long past, but I remember how much I would have welcomed even a small scholarship. My family had very limited means, and I was completely on my own in paying for college. Scholarships, grants, and student loans were practically unheard of in those years. I know all about tight budgeting in college."

She wants to encourage students to attend UW-Oshkosh because her campus experience there was wonderful. UW-Oshkosh not only prepared her for a career as a teacher, but also for life-long learning. "Studying English seemed a natural choice for me, and I have never regretted that choice. Because I loved to share whatever knowledge I had, an education major was another easy choice. The faculty at Oshkosh focused on giving undergraduates like me a high-quality college education. They gave me a lot of constructive direction and personal attention. I think they prepared me well for my career, and for life. I hope the recipients of this scholarship will experience the same educational excellence at UW-Oshkosh."

"My years at Oshkosh, and the following 40 years teaching middle and high school English classes, were as personally rewarding as I could have ever hoped. I want to cover a few expenses for qualifying students, so they can work toward their own educational and career goals with that much less worry about money."

- Graduating senior from a high school in south Wood County
- Minimum GPA 3.00
- Accepted or awaiting acceptance for full-time enrollment at the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh
- Demonstrates academic achievement, passion towards field of study through involvement in school, work, and extracurricular activities
- Primary consideration given to student with financial need
- Multi-semester award for up to four years based upon academic performance
- ESSAY: Describe what you plan to do with your selected career and how this scholarship will help you reach your goals.

**Deadline: February 24**

# New SCHOLARSHIPS

Investing in education builds a strong community



## Officer Bill Kautzer Memorial Scholarship

The Officer Bill Kautzer Memorial Scholarship was developed to honor the life of Bill Kautzer. Bill was a Nekoosa Police Officer for 26 years and the Nekoosa School District Liaison Officer. He was known to all Nekoosa youth as “Officer Bill”, and served as a powerful and positive role model and mentor in many of the youth’s lives.

A graduate of Nekoosa High School, athletics was important to Bill. He was inducted into the Nekoosa Hall of Fame for achievements in football, basketball, and baseball. He was an All-State Pitcher his senior year. After graduation, Bill was drafted by the Chicago White Sox organization in which he played professional ball for four years.

Bill’s commitment to the youth of the community extended far beyond his work setting. He was the Nekoosa High School Varsity Softball Coach for eight years and coached nine to 12 year old girls’ softball and basketball teams for nine years. Bill could guide others in a funny, yet disciplined way, and remain enthusiastic and positive. In turn, he made others believe in themselves and succeed.

Bill strongly believed in volunteerism and commitment to the community. He was a board member of Incourage for three years, former Lion’s Club member, and an active member of Bethlehem Lutheran Church. He was also a member of many fundraising committees to benefit Nekoosa throughout his adult life.

However, Bill’s greatest compassion and commitment was for his Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, and his family – his wife Nancy, their three daughters, and grandchildren. He lost his battle for life on January 11, 2015, to brain cancer. He fought this disease with dignity, selflessness, and determination. This scholarship will help to keep his spirit alive.

- Graduating senior of Nekoosa High School
- Accepted or awaiting acceptance for full-time enrollment at an accredited college, university, or technical college
- Exhibit personal qualities of: compassion, positive role model, volunteerism, sense of humor, commitment to school/community, good work ethic, and leadership
- ESSAY: Describe how you will make a positive difference in the world through your education and career.

**Deadline: February 24**

# New SCHOLARSHIPS

Investing in education builds a strong community



## Thomas F. and Nancy Z. Plunkett Scholarship

*Established in honor of Frances Nairn, former  
Guidance Director at Lincoln High School*

Tom was a sophomore student at Lincoln High School when he met with Ms. Nairn, Guidance Director. She started talking to him about going to college and changing out of the commercial courses that he was taking. Convincing him to attend the University of Wisconsin-Madison, she was instrumental in helping him to complete the proper paperwork to get accepted, secure a couple of scholarships and get a job working in the dorm kitchen.

Tom graduated from UW-Madison with a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering and a Master of Science in Nuclear Engineering. His 39-year career in the nuclear power industry began at McDonnell Douglas Corporation and would eventually lead him to Florida Power & Light Company (FPL). It was there he served as President of the Nuclear Division and member of the Board of Directors. During his time at FPL, he was responsible for the operation of four nuclear units, two at Turkey Point in south Dade County and two at St. Lucie on Hutchinson Island in St. Lucie County, as well as the associated support activities at corporate headquarters in Juno Beach, Florida. During his tenure at Turkey Point, the facility progressed from one of the nation's most troubled power stations to one of the best. Tom was awarded the University of Wisconsin's Distinguished Service Citation for achievement of excellence and outstanding leadership in the nuclear power industry and the American Nuclear Society's Presidential Citation for Special Contributions to the Advancement of Nuclear Science and Technology. He retired in 2001.

Nancy is from Milwaukee. She and Tom met while working together in the dorm kitchen at UW-Madison. She attended three years at Madison. Following their marriage, she finished her undergraduate degree at UCLA receiving a Bachelor of Arts in English. She then received a fellowship to USC where she earned a Master of Science in Education. She had a career as a middle school teacher, primarily teaching science and reading.

In reflecting how Ms. Nairn impacted his life, Tom says, "Thanks to this woman, I had a very good career and life with Nancy and our four children. Looking back, it is quite amazing the effect she was able to have on me. As a result, we have decided to set up this scholarship to honor Ms. Nairn and to hopefully help future students who are pursuing a degree in education."

- Non-traditional student or continuing college student who will be entering junior year of college or higher
- Prior year graduate of Assumption or Lincoln High School
- Accepted or awaiting acceptance for full-time enrollment at an accredited college or university
- Pursuing a degree in the field of education; primary consideration will be given to a student enrolled and pursuing a career as a guidance counselor, grades K-12
- Demonstrates academic achievement, passion towards the field of education, with a primary emphasis on guidance counseling through involvement in school, work, and extracurricular activities
- ESSAY: Share a personal experience or describe any attributes that influenced your career choice.

**Deadline: February 24**

**All deadlines  
are February 24  
unless otherwise  
indicated**

# Scholarship Listing

Investing in education builds a strong community

John Akey Memorial Scholarship *Friday, May 13*  
American Legion Post 9 Scholarship  
Helen L. Arndt Scholarship  
Aspirus Doctors Clinic, Inc. Scholarship  
Brent J. Atkinson Memorial Scholarship  
Edna G. Bach Nursing Scholarship  
Elda Bark Memorial Scholarship *Friday, April 8*  
Tammy Batten Memorial Scholarship  
Bell Family Scholarship  
Elinor G. Benkowski Memorial Scholarship  
Mr. and Mrs. Carl J. Billmeyer Memorial Scholarship  
John & Karen Bingham Scholarship  
Renee J. Bombaci Memorial Scholarship  
Bridget Bord Memorial Scholarship  
Helen Cartwright Graff Scholarship  
CDA STEM Scholarship  
James L. Chaffin Memorial Scholarship  
Children's Choice Elementary School Scholarship  
Fred Dahm Memorial Scholarship  
Michael and Susan Daly "Badger #7" Scholarship  
Chuck Davies Scholarship  
Kathleen Davis Scholarship, in memory of her father, Gordon Krubsack  
Debus Memorial Girl Scout Scholarship, in memory of Dr. Elmer & Frances Debus  
Dempze Family Scholarship  
Elisa Derickson Fund for Writing Scholarship  
Kyle R. Dick Memorial Scholarship  
Betty and Bernell Dye Pittsville Memorial Scholarship  
Betty and Bernell Dye Tri-City Memorial Scholarship  
Elder Health Care Educational Scholarship, Margaret Timm Boles Memorial  
Elks Ladies of Wisconsin Rapids Lodge #693 Scholarship  
Fehrman Family EEN Scholarship  
Fehrman Family Scholarship  
Georgia Fenner Memorial Scholarship  
Lynn and Ruth Feutz Education Scholarship  
Marion Fey Nursing Scholarship  
Dr. Robert "Buck" Gill Scholarship  
Girl Scouts of Woodland Council Alumni Scholarship  
William M. Gleue, Jr. Memorial Scholarship  
Grand Rapids Fire Department Maynard Keuntjes Memorial Scholarship  
Barbara Schmitz Grasser Memorial Scholarship  
Gullick/Naze Medical Scholarship  
Dr. Charles W. Gurtler Dental Memorial Scholarship

# Scholarship Listing

Investing in education builds a strong community

**All deadlines  
are February 24  
unless otherwise  
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Sherry Gurtler Memorial Nursing Scholarship  
Leonard and LaRayne Guth Family Scholarship  
Earl and Vivian Haefs Assumption Medical Field Scholarship  
Earl and Vivian Haefs Assumption Medical Field Continuing College Scholarship  
John L. and Frances M. Harter Memorial Scholarship  
Renny Hartje Scholarship  
Aloysius "Al" Hauck Engineering Scholarship  
Amy O. Hemming Scholarship  
Marian Hill Scholarship  
George Holland Family Baseball Scholarship  
Leo Huber Scholarship  
Incourage Scholarship  
Frank and Illa Ironside Scholarship  
Richard "Dick" Kane Memorial Scholarship  
Terry Kane Scholarship  
Officer Bill Kautzer Memorial Scholarship  
Mary Elizabeth Kellogg Memorial Scholarship  
David A. Kempfert Memorial Scholarship  
Kinsey Family Scholarship, in memory of Karen Kinsey  
Kiss-Hartman Scholarship  
Carl C. and Anna Knudsen Scholarship  
Donald J. Krohn Family Scholarship  
Thomas A. Lenk Memorial Scholarship  
Lincoln High School Achievement Award  
Lincoln High School Alumni Scholarship  
Lincoln High School Class of 1956 Scholarship  
Marshfield Clinic Health Care Scholarship  
Mel Massa Memorial Scholarship  
Lee McCarville Memorial Scholarship  
Helen Mead Veterinary Scholarship  
Meils Family Scholarship  
Mid-Towne Dental McGrath Schindlbeck Education Scholarship  
Monika Moody Memorial Scholarship  
Ruth and Ray Moody Family Scholarship  
Dave Murgatroyd Memorial Scholarship  
Andrew Neitzel "Freak Flag" Scholarship  
Gladys R. Nelson Memorial Scholarship  
Ned C. Norton Memorial Scholarship  
Duane and Valerie Nygaard Scholarship, in memory of Olaf and Ella M. Olson  
T.P. Olson Engineering Scholarship  
Roy E. Peterson, Jr. and Vickie (Peterson) Melville Memorial Scholarship  
Steven H. Peterson Family Memorial Scholarship  
Pittsville High School Alumni Scholarship

*Wednesday, June 1*

**All deadlines  
are February 24  
unless otherwise  
indicated**

# Scholarship Listing

Investing in education builds a strong community

Thomas F. and Nancy Z. Plunkett Scholarship,  
in honor of Frances Nairn, former Guidance Director at LHS  
Margaret Polansky Memorial Scholarship  
Richard Polansky Memorial Scholarship  
Amber Rahn Memorial Scholarship  
RC Scholarship  
Reyes/Ancel Scholarship  
Louie and Libby Rosandick Community Leadership Scholarship  
Russell Rottler Memorial Scholarship  
Rudolph's Little Dears Child Care Center Scholarship  
Bernard and Marlyce Schmick Scholarship  
Robert and Mildred Schmidt Memorial Scholarship  
Elaine Semrow Health Education Scholarship  
Robert Shaw, Jr. Memorial Scholarship  
Snyder 4-H Scholarship, in honor of Ed and Shirley Vruwink  
Ray Speltz Memorial Music Scholarship  
John and Judy Steele Minority Scholarship  
Sunrise Rotary Club of Wisconsin Rapids Scholarship  
Dr. John and Germaine Thompson "Good Citizenship" Award  
Jesse D. Tillery & Matthew T. Grimm Memorial Scholarship  
John Todd Family Music Scholarship  
Mitchell G. Tomfohrde Memorial Scholarship  
Traci Urban Memorial Scholarship  
Romeo and Margaret Villeneuve Family Scholarship  
Ernie Vogler Memorial Scholarship  
Voigtman Family Scholarship  
Edward W. and Shirley J. Vruwink Scholarship  
Pamela and Ryan Walker Agricultural Scholarship  
Ryan Weidman Memorial Scholarship  
Luke Weiland Memorial Scholarship  
James H. Wenzlaff Scholarship  
Brian Wilhelm Memorial Scholarship  
Herbert Williams Future Education Scholarship  
Wisconsin Rapids Optimist Club Scholarship  
Wisconsin Rapids Sunrise Rotary Scholarship and Mentor Award  
Wisconsin Rapids Youth Tackle Football & Cheerleading Scholarship  
Wisconsin Women's Alliance Scholarship  
Art Wittenberg Scholarship  
Russ Wolff Memorial Scholarship  
Earl & Ellen Young Memorial Endowment Scholarship

*Friday, May 13*



# Tips for Scholarship Applicants

## What types of higher education will Incurage scholarships support?

Donors determine the criteria for scholarships. We have scholarships for applicants attending technical colleges, universities, and specialty schools. Most scholarships, but not all, require full-time enrollment.

**What should I know?** It is important to use an email account set up specifically for you. Make it a point to check your email account on a regular basis until scholarship awards are announced as we may send messages that require a timely response.

## How does the application process work?

- Incurage uses an online platform called SmarterSelect. Start by answering a few basic questions to get a list of all scholarships that you may be eligible for. Review the criteria. If you meet ALL the requirements for a particular scholarship, save it to your applications.
- You may wish to concentrate on completing the field specific or those scholarships available only to your high school as there are typically fewer applicants. Go on to complete ALL applications that you qualify for. You cannot receive a scholarship that you did not apply for.
- You are able to save your information and return later to update.
- Information entered in Pages 1-13 serves as the base for nearly all scholarships administered by Incurage. You will only need to complete this section once!

## How many Letters of Recommendation do I need?

- You need only two letters of recommendation, regardless of the number of scholarships that you apply for through Incurage.
- Ask someone who knows you well and can write about your characteristics or activities with first-hand knowledge.
- Online, enter contact information in the Letter of Recommendation section as soon as possible. Doing so early in the process will help ensure your recommenders have sufficient time to complete their recommendation letter. You may need to follow up with your recommender.
- Parents and immediate family members are NOT eligible to write letters of recommendation.
- The first letter of recommendation may be, but does not have to be, from someone who knows you academically. The second letter of recommendation MUST be from someone outside of your normal school day activities. This could include a coach, club advisor, employer, neighbor, or someone you have worked with during on a volunteer activity, etc.

*Continued on page 10*

# Tips for Scholarship Applicants (continued)

## Importance of essays:

- A well-written essay can make the difference between receiving – or not receiving a scholarship. The best essays give the reader a better picture of you. Tell your story.
- We recommend that you compose your essay in a Word document first, and don't indent your paragraphs. When you paste your essay online, indentations don't transfer well from online into our application merge, so please enter a blank line space between paragraphs.

**Is there a minimum GPA?** Incourage has a wide variety of scholarships – some have GPA requirements, many do not. If a minimum GPA is stated, we do NOT round in determining eligibility. Example: Applicant who has a cumulative GPA of 2.98 would not be eligible to apply for a scholarship with a requirement of 3.00.

## Proofread before you submit your work:

- Follow the directions carefully. Incomplete applications may not be considered.
- Use proper spelling, capitalization, and punctuation.
- Ask someone to review your application for accuracy and completeness.

## When will I be notified if I have been selected to receive a scholarship?

For most scholarship awards: High school students will receive their award letter at their school awards program; continuing college and non-traditional students will be notified via U.S. Postal Service near the end of May.

## What do I need to do to receive my scholarship award?

- Your award letter will contain the details of your award and any special conditions.
- Multi-semester awards require some form of documentation like transcripts or proof of enrollment for the next semester.
- Keep a copy of the Recipient Agreement and make a notation on your calendar. It is your responsibility to provide documentation. Reminder letters will NOT be sent!

## What other scholarships are available?

- We suggest students visit their guidance/student services office for applications, assistance, and updates on new scholarship opportunities as they become available.

## Need help?

- Students: If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Incourage at 715-423-3863. We are happy to help you.
- We request that parents with questions encourage your student to contact us.

# Important Dates to Remember

*Dates and times are subject to change*

HIGH SCHOOL	FINANCIAL AID	AWARDS PROGRAM	GRADUATION
Assumption High School	Monday, January 18 6:30 p.m.	Tuesday, May 17 1:30 p.m.	Saturday, May 28 10:00 a.m.
John Edwards High School	Thursday, January 28 6:30 p.m.	Wednesday, May 18 6:30 p.m.	Sunday, May 29 2:00 p.m.
Lincoln High School	Wednesday, January 20 6:00 p.m.	Wednesday, May 18 6:30 p.m.	Sunday, June 5 2:00 p.m.
Nekoosa High School	Monday, February 1 6:00 p.m.	Wednesday, May 11 6:00 p.m.	Sunday, June 5 2:00 p.m.
Pittsville High School	Tuesday, January 26 6:00 p.m.	Wednesday, May 25 7:00 p.m.	Saturday, May 28 10:00 a.m.

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## A Note from Incouragement

Since being established in 1994, our permanent commitment to the south Wood County area and its people who live here has only grown. We believe that in order for our community to realize its full potential, every person within it must have the opportunity to realize their own potential.

As we've learned through *Vital Signs*, a report commissioned by Incouragement, building skills and credentials at all levels of the educational spectrum is important. Such assets will be needed to build a strong and inclusive local economy and a community that works well for all people.

We thank individuals and businesses for investing through Incouragement. Their investments provide scholarship opportunities for young people in this community who are pursuing higher education, helping those same young people realize their own potential.

This publication lists scholarships administered by Incouragement. Please visit our website at [incouragecf.org](http://incouragecf.org); scholarship applications and information are available online. This year's bulletin offers more than 120 different scholarships for graduating seniors, college and non-traditional students from Nekoosa, Pittsville, Port Edwards, Rome, Rudolph, Vesper, and the Wisconsin Rapids area.

*For more information, call our office at 715.423.3863 or visit our website at [incouragecf.org](http://incouragecf.org).*

incourage

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