

**2020
ALSIP SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

The Alsip Industrial Association (AIA) and Alsip Chamber of Commerce (ACC) administer a Scholarship Program to aid high school graduates who exhibit a commendable work ethic and level of ambition, and could benefit from additional financial help for post-secondary education.

The program is equally open to high school seniors or graduates who are either Alsip residents or employees or children of employees of companies that are members in good standing of the Alsip Chamber of Commerce or Alsip Industrial Association. For a non-resident to qualify through their employer, an employee must work at the Alsip location or, if the member firm has no physical presence in Alsip, at the firm's location closest to Alsip. One of these criteria must be met at the time of application and at the time of the award. Proof of either is required. An applicant must be a prospective high school graduate, or an earlier high school graduate entering an adult continuing-education program, who will be attending school full time to obtain a college/university degree or trade school degree/ certification from an accredited post-secondary school.

If pursuing a college degree, students must enroll in a full-time academic program with 12 credit hours or more, or the equivalent, for the upcoming academic year.

If applying to an accredited trade school, the student must enroll in the school's full time training program approved by the ACC and AIA, and meet all of the school's requirements.

If school plans such as major, number of hours attending, or choice of school change or are delayed, between the times of application and enrollment, the application will be re-evaluated and the award may change or be withdrawn.

A successful applicant must show evidence of ambition and a strong work ethic and is encouraged to clearly demonstrate both a need for financial assistance, and enthusiasm to begin or continue post-high school training at the accredited university, college, or trade school.

Applicants who will receive financial support for their continuing education from parents or guardians must include copies of the first page of each supporting parent or guardian's most recently submitted federal tax return. This should include the tax return of the parent or guardian

who claims the applicant as a dependent for income tax purposes, if applicable. Applicants' own federal tax return and form W-2(s) should also be included with the application if applicable.

Certified high school transcripts are required for application. A letter of recommendation from a high school teacher, employer, clergyperson, or other professional must accompany the application. ACT or SAT scores are not required to be submitted.

A photocopy of the applicant's driver's license or other government-issued photo ID must be included. Non-residents of Alsip who are eligible through their own or a parent's or guardian's employment with a company belonging to the AIA or ACC must submit evidence of current employment with that firm.

Information about the scholarship program will be publicized in local papers and in Chamber, Industrial Association, and Village newsletters. Information about the program will be distributed to local private high schools and to public high schools that serve Alsip. In addition the information will be sent to the trade schools in Alsip; other schools may contact us if they are interested.

In the event that any required information is found to be missing from submitted application packets, one reasonable attempt will be made to follow up with the applicant. If neither the required documentation nor an acceptable reason for its omission is then provided by the applicant, the application will be disqualified from consideration. Applications received after the deadline date will not be reviewed. All documentation submitted will become the property of the sponsoring organizations and will not be returned.

APPLICATION REVIEW PROCESS

Applications will be reviewed by a committee, which is comprised of representatives from the business and educational communities.

The members of the Scholarship Review Committee are approved by the ACC and AIA as follows:

2 Business representatives belonging to and selected by the ACC.

2 Business representatives belonging to and selected by the AIA.

1 Qualified representative who is a member of neither the ACC nor the AIA, who has experience as a teacher or school administrator, and who is selected by ACC/AIA.

All completed application packets must be received by Tuesday May 12, 2020 3:00 PM. An initial review by a member of the Scholarship Review Committee against a checklist will determine whether all required materials are included and in good order. If any omissions are discovered, a member of the committee will attempt to contact the applicant to request the missing item(s). Any applications that cannot be made complete through this process, and where no acceptable explanation for the failure to provide missing items is provided, will be disqualified.

Copies will be made of all complete application packet materials received, and distributed only to the five Scholarship Review Committee members/ judges.

Each Committee member will review each application and give the applicant a numerical rating between 1-10, one being the poorest rating, ten being the best. The scores of the five judges will be added together to arrive at a total score for each applicant. The application(s) with the highest number of total points will be selected for a scholarship.

In the case of a tie (i.e. one scholarship left, but two or more applicants with the same score), the recipient will be determined by a majority of votes by the five-person Scholarship Review Committee.

The quantity and dollar amount of scholarship awards will depend on funds available and the joint decision of the four Scholarship Review Committee members who are members of either the AIA or the ACC.

Scholarship money will be issued directly to the student after copies of 1) a letter of acceptance for the educational institution, and 2) the student's personal Fall term class schedule, are received in the Chamber office.

All awards not claimed by December 31st of the scholarship year will be forfeited.