

2025-2026 Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce

Scholarship Application

The Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce is pleased to announce that a \$1,000 scholarship will be available to graduating high school seniors in the Clear Lake area affiliated with the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce (see Chamber Connection section of the scholarship application, most students can draw a connection). Scholarships are funded from generous donations of Chamber members.

Applications and supporting materials must be emailed, mailed or delivered to the Chamber office no later than 5 p.m. Monday, April 6, 2026. Interested applicants should email, mail or deliver their application, essay, and transcripts to: stacy@clearlakeiowa.com or Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce, c/o Stacy Doughan, 205 Main Avenue, Clear Lake, Iowa 50428.

Criteria

- The applicant must be pursuing post-secondary education at either a two-year or four-year educational or vocational institution.
- The applicant must have maintained a minimum of a 2.5 GPA.

Selection Process

- Recipient will be selected based on:
 - Participation and leadership in extra-curricular activities and/or work experience;
 - Record of community service and volunteerism;
 - Academic achievement; and
 - Response to the essay question

Notification

- The applicant selected to receive the scholarship will be notified by the end of April.
- The selected recipient and his/her parents or guardians will be invited to the June 19, 2026, Quarterly Chamber Coffee at 7:30 a.m. to be recognized.

General Rules

The entire application should be completed by the applicant. Electronic submissions are acceptable. All applications must be signed by the applicant and his/her parent or guardian or will be deemed incomplete.

The essay portion of the application should be neatly typed and double-spaced, preferably using 12-point easy-to-read font.

Applicants will be scored 5 points for each of three categories—participation and leadership in school activities and/or work experience; record of community service and volunteerism; academic achievement; and 15 points for the essay question response. A total of 30 points are available.

Applications, including the essay and supporting documents will become the property of the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce and will not be returned. By signing the application, you agree to allow the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce to utilize your name and essay for publicity opportunities related to the scholarship or Chamber program. Winning applicants agree to have their photograph taken with Chamber representatives and agree to release all rights to the photo to the Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce for promotional activities.

Member Application

National companies may only send applications from local offices. This is a local scholarship for Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce members. Applicants from outside this area may be disqualified. Any student of parents or guardians who are employed by a Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce member in good standing, any employee of a member in good standing, or any Chamber volunteer is eligible to apply. Scholarships can be utilized for full-time tuition to any undergraduate, technical, or community college program. A tuition statement or proof of enrollment must be provided to Stacy Doughan prior to release of funds.

Submissions Must Include All of the Following in One Package

- Application form completed.
- Essay as described on the application.
- Copy of most recent report card.

Questions?

Call Stacy Doughan at 641-357-2159 or email stacy@clearlakeiowa.com.

Clear Lake Area Chamber of Commerce

2025-2026 Scholarship Application Form

(Please Print or Type)

Name: _____
Last Name First Name Middle Initial

Address: _____
Address City Zip Code

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

High School: _____ GPA: _____
(Applicant must include a copy of most recent report card.)

Planned Major/Course of Study: _____

Chamber Connection

(Must complete to be considered.)

Please check the line that is appropriate and provide information where required.

_____ I am an employee of the following Chamber Member:

Chamber Member Business Name: _____

_____ I am the child of an employee at the following Chamber Member:

Chamber Member Business Name: _____

_____ I am a volunteer for the following Chamber event (Color the Wind, Earth Day, Thursdays on Main, TRI Clear Lake, July 4th, Harvest Festival, or Christmas by the Lake):

Event Name: _____

Extra-Curricular Activities and Work Experience

Please complete in detail. List most recent first. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Organization, Activity or Business	Position(s) Held	Dates	Leadership Roles, Honors or Awards

Community Service and Volunteerism

Please complete in detail. List most recent first. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

Dates	Organization	Role and Responsibilities

Honors, Awards and Academic Achievements

Please complete in detail. List most recent first. Attach additional sheet if necessary.

School	Award or Honor (Provide Details)	Organization (if applicable)

Essay Question

(Response must be typed and be no more than 500 words in length, attached to this application).

If you were to return to your community following your education, how would you be involved in the community and what would you do to improve it?

Applicant Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Date: _____