

PRESENTED IN
PARTNERSHIP BY:



ANNUAL NORTHERN ILLINOIS COUNSELORS MEETING

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21
8:00 - 9:00 AM

MIDWAY VILLAGE MUSEUM
6799 GUILFORD ROAD, ROCKFORD

AGENDA

- Welcome & Agenda – Sarah Lambert, CFNIL
- Rockford Public Library – Zoe Norwood
- Rock Valley College Foundation – Linda Buerger
- Illinois Student Aid Commission – Beth Groves
- Private Scholarship Providers – YWCA, Crossroads Blues Society, Upsilon Chi Zeta
- Community Foundation of Northern Illinois – Gabrielle Sims
- Scholarship Fair & ScholarshipsNI.com Update – Sarah Lambert
- Questions

**Financial Aid for Higher Education:
Materials available from
Rockford Public Library**

**Presentation for School Counselors
Scholarship Meeting**

Thursday, Oct. 21, 2021
Midway Village Museum

Zoe Norwood, librarian

Adult Services Department, Rockford Public Library
815-987-6626, znorwood@rockfordpubliclibrary.org

Books available from Rockford Public Library

- ***Peterson's How to Get Money for College***

2021 ed. reference only (Hart Interim Library, 214 N. Church St. – ask at reference desk)

2020 ed. circulating copies

- ***Peterson's Scholarships, Grants & Prizes***

2021 ed. both reference (Hart Interim Library) and circulating copies

- ***The Ultimate Scholarship Book*** (by Gen Tanabe)

2021 ed. circulating copies

- ***Paying for College*** (Princeton Review, by Kalman Chany)

2022 ed. circulating copy

Searchable Online Databases

- For local scholarships:

scholarshipsni.com, the new database sponsored by the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois, the Illinois Student Assistance Commission, the Rockford Public Library, and the Rock Valley College Foundation.

- For other scholarships nationwide:

Gale Presents – Peterson’s Test and Career Prep, which RPL just started subscribing to. It will likely be searchable by anyone on library computers by October 30th, and it currently has remote access for RPL card-holders through “Research It” in www.rockfordpubliclibrary.org. As well as other test and career prep information, this Gale Database includes College and Scholarship Search, Undergraduate Scholarship Search, Graduate School and Scholarship Search, and Graduate Scholarship Search.

After clicking on “Research It,” click on “A to Z of All Databases.”

The screenshot shows the Rockford Public Library website. The browser address bar displays <https://www.rockfordpubliclibrary.org>. The website header includes navigation links: LOCATIONS, WIRELESS PRINTING, HOW TO GET A CARD, RESERVE A ROOM, MY ACCOUNT, CATALOG, and a Donate button. Social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, YouTube, Instagram, and LinkedIn are also present. The main navigation bar features: HOME, CHECK IT OUT, DOWNLOAD IT, RESEARCH IT (highlighted in orange), EVENTS, VIRTUAL LIBRARY, YOUTH, and ABOUT RPL. A search bar is located in the top right corner with the text "SEARCH" and a magnifying glass icon. Below the navigation bar, a large banner area contains three columns of links. The first column, titled "Research Databases", lists: A to Z List of All Databases, Books & Music, Dictionary, Encyclopedias & Almanacs, Journals & Magazines, Local History, Newspapers, Mobile Databases, and Reference eBooks. The second column, titled "Topics", lists: Automotive, Biographies, Business & Consumer Information, Genealogy, Health, Hobbies & Home Improvement, Literature, Local History, Nonprofits and Foundations, and Social Sciences. The third column, titled "Learning Resources", lists: Education, Foreign Language, Homework Help, Jobs & Careers, Law & Government, Rosetta Stone, and Scholarship Search. Below these columns is a black button with white text that says "CLICK HERE TO LEARN MORE". To the right of the columns, the text "PROGRAM @ RPL" is visible. Below the banner, the "DIGITAL RESOURCES" section is shown with the tagline "Lifelong Learning and Inspiration". It features a horizontal menu with tabs for AUDIOBOOKS, eBooks, MAGAZINES, MOVIES, and MUSIC. Below the tabs, there is a section titled "AUDIO AND DIGITAL BOOK SERVICE!" with a link to "Click here to download an Audiobook from the cloudLibrary." and a note that it is available to all RPL cardholders. To the right of this section, there is a promotional area for the RPL app, stating "CLICK ON THE BUTTONS BELOW TO DOWNLOAD THE NEW RPL APP TODAY!". It includes a "WITH RPL I CAN!" logo and buttons for "Download on the App Store" and "GET IT ON Google Play". The bottom of the page shows a Windows taskbar with the search bar and system tray.

Research Databases

- ▶ A to Z List of All Databases
- ▶ Books & Music
- ▶ Dictionary
- ▶ Encyclopedias & Almanacs
- ▶ Journals & Magazines
- ▶ Local History
- ▶ Newspapers
- ▶ Mobile Databases
- ▶ Reference eBooks

Topics

- ▶ Automotive
- ▶ Biographies
- ▶ Business & Consumer Information
- ▶ Genealogy
- ▶ Health
- ▶ Hobbies & Home Improvement
- ▶ Literature
- ▶ Local History
- ▶ Nonprofits and Foundations
- ▶ Social Sciences

Learning Resources

- ▶ Education
- ▶ Foreign Language
- ▶ Homework Help
- ▶ Jobs & Careers
- ▶ Law & Government
- ▶ Rosetta Stone
- ▶ Scholarship Search

DIGITAL RESOURCES
Lifelong Learning and Inspiration

AUDIOBOOKS **eBOOKS** **MAGAZINES** **MOVIES** **MUSIC**

AUDIO AND DIGITAL BOOK SERVICE!
Click here to download an Audiobook from the cloudLibrary.
Available to all RPL cardholders just click here to download best-selling titles and other digital content.

WITH RPL I CAN! **Download on the App Store** **GET IT ON Google Play**

53°F Sunny 12:54 PM 10/18/2021

In the A-Z listing, go to G, clicking on Gale Databases.

[illegible]

Click on Gale Presents: Peterson's Test and Career Prep

The screenshot displays the Gale Product Menu interface within a web browser. The browser's address bar shows the URL: <https://link.gale.com/apps/menu?userGroupName=rockford&prodId=MENU>. The interface features a grid of product tiles, each with a thumbnail image, a title, and a brief description. The tiles are arranged in four rows and three columns. The first row includes 'Gale Business: Entrepreneurship', 'Gale Business: Plan Builder', and 'Gale Directory Library'. The second row includes 'Gale eBooks', 'Gale In Context: Biography', and 'Gale LegalForms'. The third row includes 'Gale Literary Index', 'Gale Literature Criticism', and 'Gale Literature Resource Center'. The fourth row includes 'Gale Literature: Something About the Author', 'Gale Presents: Peterson's Test and Career Prep', and 'Gale Presents: Udemey'. The 'Gale Presents: Peterson's Test and Career Prep' tile is highlighted with a blue border. The bottom of the screen shows a Windows taskbar with the search bar and system clock indicating 1:03 PM on 10/18/2021.

Gale Business: Entrepreneurship
Learn how to start, finance, or manage your small business. Includes sample business plans, how to guides, articles, and more.

Gale Business: Plan Builder
Grow, plan, and optimize a business/nonprofit. Utilize development tools and a step-by-step process to build a business plan.

Gale Directory Library
Search, sort, and export a variety of information from multiple premier directories. Best for researchers and marketers.

Gale eBooks
Explore this database of encyclopedias and reference sources within the Gale eBooks platform. For multidisciplinary research.

Gale In Context: Biography
Discover the world's most influential people by searching narrative biographies, news, magazine, and multimedia content.

Gale LegalForms
Access a wide selection of state-specific (and multi-state) legal forms and resources across the most popular legal areas.

Gale Literary Index
Search this digital master index to find coverage of authors and works in products published by Gale.

Gale Literature Criticism
Explore the most extensive compilation of literary commentary available. Includes analysis from book excerpts, periodicals, and more.

Gale Literature Resource Center
Find up-to-date biographies, overviews, full-text criticisms, audio interviews, and reviews on writers from all eras.

Gale Literature: Something About the Author
Examine the lives and works of children and young adult authors and illustrators.

Gale Presents: Peterson's Test and Career Prep
Search thousands of college and graduate schools, identify scholarships, take practice tests, create resumes, and explore careers.

Gale Presents: Udemey
Learn and improve skills across business, tech, design, and more. Includes 6,000+ on-demand video courses in multiple languages.

On the search line of Peterson's Test and Career Prep, I typed "scholarships"

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://tcpr.petersons.com>. The browser's address bar and tabs are visible at the top. The website's header includes a navigation bar with links for "Title List", "Tech Support", "Log in", and "New User Signup". Below the header, a dark blue banner features the "GALE PRESENTS" logo and the "PETERSON'S TEST AND CAREER PREP" logo. The main content area has a background image of a young woman looking at a laptop. The text "Get started" is prominently displayed, followed by the subtitle "Find all the tools you need to discover your passion, ace your exams, and excel in your career." A search bar with the text "scholarships" and a "Search" button is centered. Below the search bar, a horizontal line with the word "OR" in the middle separates it from four colored boxes. Each box contains an icon, a title, a description, and a plus sign at the bottom right. The boxes are: "Improve Your Score" (orange), "Find A School" (yellow), "Explore Careers" (green), and "Vocational Test Prep" (blue). At the bottom of the page, there is a "Create An Account" link. The Windows taskbar is visible at the very bottom of the screen.

Welcome Rockford Public Library

Title List | Tech Support | Log in | New User Signup

GALE PRESENTS PETERSON'S TEST AND CAREER PREP

Get started

Find all the tools you need to discover your passion, ace your exams, and excel in your career.

scholarships Search

OR

Improve Your Score

There's a reason why practice makes perfect. Prep for standardized tests, cram for an upcoming exam, or refresh your academic skills, all with Peterson's award-winning educational content.

+

Find A School

Find the colleges and universities of your dreams! Search through nearly 4,200 two- and four-year accredited schools and find your perfect fit.

+

Explore Careers

Whether you're preparing to enter the workforce for the first time, considering a career change, or just looking to brush up on your skills, we're here to help. Create or update a resume or use the career advice tutorials to learn about everything from job searching and interviewing to negotiating salaries.

+

Vocational Test Prep

All that stands between you and a new career is a test. Prepare for your certification, credentialing, or licensing exams for vocations in fields such as nursing, law enforcement, public safety, teaching, and more.

+

Create An Account

Type here to search

57°F Partly sunny 11:31 AM 10/19/2021

These 4 search engines came up, as well as 2 for PSAT study. I clicked on College & Scholarship Search.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL <https://tcpr.petersons.com/search?q=scholarships>. The page is titled "Welcome Rockford Public Library" and features a navigation bar with links for "Title List", "Tech Support", and a search bar. Below the navigation bar, there are four main categories: "Improve Your Score", "Find A School", "Explore Careers", and "Vocational Test Prep". The search results section displays "6 results found" and lists four search engines:

- Graduate Scholarship Search**
By answering questions about yourself and your activities, you can narrow down the scholarships to the ones that match your qualifications. For each award, you'll find a description of the award, the monetary value, eligibility and application requir...
- Graduate School and Scholarship Search**
Begin planning your future by searching for the best graduate programs that fit who you are and what you're looking for. Explore the most comprehensive graduate school databases of accredited graduate programs on the web. Search our listings of gradu...
- Undergraduate Scholarship Search**
No matter who you are, there's money to help you pay for college. With this search, you can find private awards and grants to help cut college costs. Answer questions about yourself and your activities to narrow down the scholarships to the ones that...
- College and Scholarship Search**
Begin planning your future by searching for the best colleges that fit who you are and what you're looking for. Our extensive databases make up a complete college guide of schools throughout the world. Search our listings of undergraduate colleges and...

The bottom of the screen shows a Windows taskbar with various application icons and a system tray displaying the date and time as 11:43 AM on 10/19/2021.

From these results, I clicked on Undergraduate Scholarship Search.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with multiple tabs. The active tab is 'College and Scholarship Search' with the URL 'https://tcpr.petersons.com/hub/15'. The page header includes 'Welcome Rockford Public Library', navigation links for 'Title List' and 'Tech Support', a search bar, and 'Log in' and 'New User Signup' buttons. Below the header is a navigation bar with 'GALE PRESENTS' and 'PETERSON'S TEST AND CAREER PREP' logos, followed by buttons for 'Improve Your Score', 'Find A School', 'Explore Careers', and 'Vocational Test Prep'. A breadcrumb trail shows 'Home > Find A School > College and Scholarship Search'. The main heading is 'College and Scholarship Search', followed by a paragraph about planning for the future. To the right is an 'Articles' section with a list of links. The main content area features six search boxes: 'Career Colleges Search', 'Distance Learning Program Search', 'Information Technology Programs Search', 'Undergraduate Nursing School Search', 'Undergraduate Scholarship Search', and 'Undergraduate School Search'. Each box contains a brief description and a 'Select' button. The Windows taskbar at the bottom shows the search bar, taskbar icons, and system tray with weather and time information.

https://tcpr.petersons.com/hub/15

Welcome Rockford Public Library

Title List | Tech Support | Search by keyword... | Log in | New User Signup

GALE PRESENTS PETERSON'S TEST AND CAREER PREP

Improve Your Score Find A School Explore Careers Vocational Test Prep

Home > Find A School > College and Scholarship Search

College and Scholarship Search

Begin planning your future by searching for the best colleges that fit who you are and what you're looking for. Our extensive databases make up a complete college guide of schools throughout the world. Search our listings of undergraduate colleges and universities, distance learning options, and undergraduate nursing programs.

Career Colleges Search

Take the next step in your career education. Explore over 1,000 accredited colleges, universities, and trade schools that offer career-specific education options for students seeking entry into trades, occupations, or professions. Choose the programs...

Select

Distance Learning Program Search

Search a database of accredited schools and programs that offer distance learning options. Choose the courses of study and degree levels that you're interested in and get a list of schools that match your qualifications...

Select

Information Technology Programs Search

Information Technology Programs Search - Undergrad search with an additional pre-added filter for Career....

Select

Undergraduate Nursing School Search

Find the right nursing program for you. Choose the locations and study options you're interested in and get a list of programs that match your qualifications. Learn more about the schools on your list by reading their profiles. When you find schools ...

Select

Undergraduate Scholarship Search

No matter who you are, there's money to help you pay for college. With this search, you can

Undergraduate School Search

Find the colleges and universities of your dreams! Search through nearly 4,200 two- and

Articles

- Choosing Your College: Academics
- Choosing Your College: The Basics
- Creating Your College List
- FAFSA Overview
- Increase Your Chances of Winning a Scholarship
- Surviving the College Admissions Process
- Visits, Research, and Your College List

Type here to search

73°F Mostly cloudy 2:54 PM 10/19/2021

In Undergraduate Scholarship Search, filtering by “female,” “full-time,” and “mathematics” yielded 4.

The screenshot displays the Peterson's Scholarship Search Engine interface. The browser address bar shows the URL: <https://tcpr.petersons.com/search/scholarship?studenttype=UG>. The page header includes the Rockford Public Library logo and navigation links: Title List, Tech Support, Search by keyword..., My Account, and Logout. The main navigation bar features links: Improve Your Score, Find A School, Explore Careers, and Vocational Test Prep. The breadcrumb trail indicates the path: Home > Find A School > College and Scholarship Search > Scholarship Search.

Peterson's Scholarship Search Engine

Find the perfect scholarship

Search filters:

- Type of Award: Undergraduate
- Search by keyword...
- Female (selected)
- Full-time (selected)
- Mathematics (selected)

Filter Your Results

Turbo charge your search by using our filters for customized results in a flash!

Filters:

- Award Amount: >
- School Type: >
- Ethnicity: >
- Gender: >
- Female (checked)
- Male (unchecked)
- Study Type: >
- Full-time (checked)
- Part-time (unchecked)
- State of Residence: >

Showing 1 to 4 of 4 Scholarships

- Scholarship**
Landmark Pest Management-Women In STEM Scholarship
Varies
Landmark Pest Management
Amount: Varies
Deadline: 7/1
- Scholarship**
Colonel Kathleen Swacina Scholarship
Varies
Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association, Educational Foundation
Amount: Varies
Deadline: 5/31
- Scholarship**
Science Ambassador Scholarship
Varies
Cards Against Humanity

I clicked on Colonel Kathleen Swacina Scholarship. This shows description, application deadline, amount awarded (if available), eligibility, and link to the website for more detail or to apply.

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL https://tcpr.petersons.com/scholarship/colonel-kathleen-swacina-scholarship-111_228127.aspx. The page is titled "Colonel Kathleen Swacina Scholarship" and is presented by GALE. The header includes navigation links for "Title List", "Tech Support", and a search bar. The main content area features a breadcrumb trail: Home > Find A School > College and Scholarship Search > Scholarship Search > Colonel Kathleen Swacina Scholarship. The scholarship details are as follows:

Varies	224	May 31 2022	N/A
Avg. Amount Awarded	DAYS	Application Deadline	Renewable

The page also includes a "Description" section with the following text: "The COL Kathleen Swacina Scholarship Fund awards one female college student a \$1,000 scholarship to be applied toward the student's ongoing higher-level academic education at an accredited four-year school. Community college students in their first two years are eligible if they will continue on to an accredited four-year college or university. Kindly visit the scholarship site for the comprehensive list of requirements and more information."

The "Amount Details" section shows a "Low Amount Awarded" of \$1,000.

On the right side of the page, there is a sidebar with a list of requirements: "Application Form", "Recommendations Or References", and "Transcript". Below this list is a green "Apply Now" button.

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- Community Foundation of Northern Illinois – Gabrielle Sims
- Scholarship Fair & ScholarshipsNI.com Update – Sarah Lambert
- Q&A



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS



SCHOLARSHIPS





Who do I contact?

Gabrielle (Gabby) Sims

Scholarship Associate

gsims@cfnil.org

(779) 210-8209



CFNIL Scholarship Program

- Northern Illinois' largest provider of grants and private scholarships
- Created by donors
- Approximately 90+ different scholarships awarding up to \$350,000 this year
- A scholarship for just about everything:
 - Athletic
 - Academic
 - Field of Study
 - Financial Need
 - Community Service
 - And more!



Why should my students apply?

- Scholarship dollars are worth more
- 1 in 3 chance of receiving an award
- Can qualify for multiple scholarships at once
 - Each applicant applied for an average of 3 scholarships
- Scholarships go unawarded every year
- They've already done most of the work! (FAFSA and Common App)
- Only 1/3 of scholarships have financial aid requirement



The Process

The student will...

1. Register for an account (write down login and don't use school email)

See <http://cfnil.org/how-to-register-apply/> for specific instructions

2. 1st stage of application

1. Provide basic information
2. Provide contact information for a reference
3. Upload transcripts and fill out courses
4. Include financial aid data (SAR) to be considered for need-based scholarships
5. Be matched with the scholarships for which they are eligible

3. 2nd stage of application

1. Write an essay for each scholarship you would like to apply for
2. Submit!



Then what happens?

- Applications reviewed anonymously by committees in March and April; the CFNIL Board of Trustees approves their recommendations
- Recipients notified by the end of April via letter and email that they've **received** an award
- Status of all applications available in Web Portal after May 1
- CFNIL's Scholarship Night on June 16th, 2022. Location TBD
- Checks sent directly to the school by early July



References

- Deadline: **February 22nd at 8:00 a.m.**
 - You can work on the forms before the applicant deadline!
- Two kinds of reference forms: Academic Verification and Student Recommendation
 - Don't refer to student by name
- **cfnil.org/counselors-references**
 - Walkthrough video (before Thanksgiving break)
 - Written instructions

Step 1

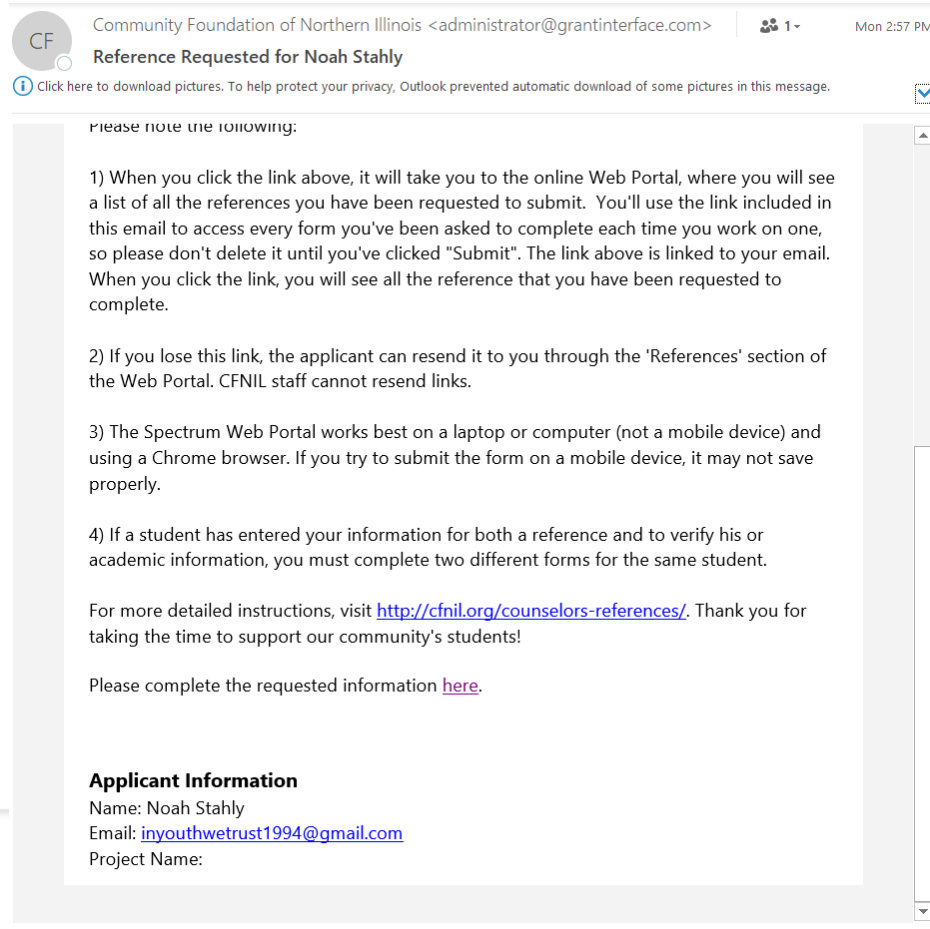


Step 2



Third Party Dashboard

	APPLICANT	FOUNDATION	PROCESS	ASSIGNED
!	 Louise Lane	Community Foundation of Northern Illinois Scholarship	2019/2020 CFNIL Scholarship Application	09/10/2019
!	 Louise Lane	Community Foundation of Northern Illinois Scholarship	2019/2020 CFNIL Scholarship Application	10/21/2019
✓	 Sierra Stahly	Community Foundation of Northern Illinois Scholarship	2019/2020 CFNIL Scholarship Application	09/10/2019
✓	 Noah Stahly	Community Foundation of Northern Illinois Scholarship	2019/2020 CFNIL Scholarship Application	10/21/2019





Grades & GPA

- Reporting Grades:
 - Current high school students should submit their **unweighted** grades (on a 4.0 scale) from *second semester junior year*
 - Academic verifiers should submit **both weighted and unweighted** grades from *first semester senior year*
 - GED students can now submit their scores
- Only graduating high school seniors will use academic verification; everyone else must provide transcripts
- Students that graduated more than five years ago will only need to provide the name of their high school and their GPA



Howard D Colman Scholarship Program

Scholarship Criteria

- Be high school graduating senior that resides in Boone or Winnebago County
- Major in engineering, computer science, applied science or a comparable technology field
- Minimum GPA of 3.0/4.0
- Personify the innovative spirit of Howard D. Colman
 - Local students with an innovative, entrepreneurial spirit who are invested in supporting the Rockford community through industry

Program Criteria

- Demonstrated connection and commitment to the Rockford region
- Willing to commit the next four summers to doing a 20-30 hours per week internship
- The student must be willing to take at least one local internship



Howard D Colman Scholarship Program

Application Deadlines

- Application is open November 1st–January 1st (This is a separate application!)
- Reference letter due January 10th at 5pm
- In person interviews for 6 finalists: Week of February 7th

Award Amounts

- \$2,500 for the first year
- After the first year, one individual is chosen to be the scholar and receive \$10,000 for the next three years



8 New Scholarships

Daniel Edwards Memorial Scholarship

- Be a Byron High School graduating senior;
- With plans to study auto mechanics, diesel mechanics, or any other trade

Fred Peterson Scholarship

- Graduating senior from Hononegah Community High School
- Unweighted GPA of 2.5/4.0
- Must have plans to attend a 4-year college or university
- Must demonstrate a commitment to their community through service and activities
- Quality of essay



8 New Scholarships

Irene Karsk Memorial Scholarship

- Graduating senior of Pecatonica High School
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0/4.0
- Have been involved in community activities/service.

John D. and Melinda (Mindy) L. Stadel Scholarship

- Be a high school graduating senior
- Be a resident of Winnebago, Boone, Ogle or Stephenson County
- Have a minimum unweighted GPA of 3.0/4.0
- Be a Christian actively involved in their faith community
- Have a minimum of 75 community service hours during high school



8 New Scholarships

Rockford Historical Society Scholarship

- Graduating high school senior with a permanent address in Winnebago County, IL
- Preference will be given to applicants who plan to pursue a degree in history-related field

Winnebago County Veterans Association Scholarship

- Resident of Winnebago County
- Graduating high school senior
- Cumulative unweighted GPA of 2.5/4.0
- Related to an Honorably Discharged Veteran, National Guard Reservist, US Army Reserve, or a current active duty servicemember.



8 New Scholarships

David L. Johnson Scholarship

- Graduating senior from Byron High School
- Plans to study music education

Pay It Forward Scholarship

- Applicant must have demonstrated grit and the ability to overcome obstacles
- Applicant must have permanent residence in Boone, Ogle, Stephenson, or Winnebago Counties
- No essay required



COVID-19 Considerations

- Scholarship can be held for up to one academic year
- Students can attend a fully online program, if it is an accredited nonprofit institution
- Question “Special Financial Circumstances”

Please contact me if you have
any questions or concerns!

Gabrielle (Gabby) Sims

Scholarship Associate

gsims@cfnil.org

(779) 210-8209

P.S. I do visits!

IN THE MARKET FOR COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS?

FIND INFO ABOUT OVER **\$600,000** IN LOCAL AWARDS AT A
ONE-STOP-SHOP WEBSITE FOR ALL THINGS SCHOLARSHIPS



Scholarships for Local Students

Connect to details about dozens of scholarships designed for students in Northern Illinois. Over \$600,000 in individuals scholarships are available for students of all ages, backgrounds, and intended majors.



Information & Resources

Find extensive information about the full realm of financial aid, from the FAFSA to choosing a college/career and more!

Visit **ScholarshipsNI.com** today!

ScholarshipsNI.com | scholarshipsnorthernillinois@gmail.com | 779-475-3052

Scholarships Northern Illinois was established and is managed by a coalition of organizations who seek to ensure that every person in our region has access to the information and resources they need to achieve their educational aspirations.

SAVE THE
DATE:
Dec. 7, 2021

