



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
OF NORTHERN ILLINOIS

*Honoring the legacy of  
Howard D. Colman by  
awarding local students  
who possess an innovative,  
entrepreneurial spirit and  
who are invested in  
supporting the Rockford  
community through industry.*

## TO APPLY

The Howard D. Colman Scholarship has a separate application and timeline from other CFNIL scholarships. **The online application opens November 1st and closes January 4th.** The application also includes more essay questions than a typical scholarship, to allow the selection committee to learn more about each applicant and their experience with and interest in innovation and industry in Rockford.

In addition to the online application, finalists have an in-person interview with the selection committee.



Visit [cfnil.org/scholarships](http://cfnil.org/scholarships) to learn more about this and all available awards and [cfnil.org/scholarship-resources](http://cfnil.org/scholarship-resources) for guidance about how to apply. When you are ready, click the "Apply for a Scholarship" button found on the top of CFNIL's website.

## QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!



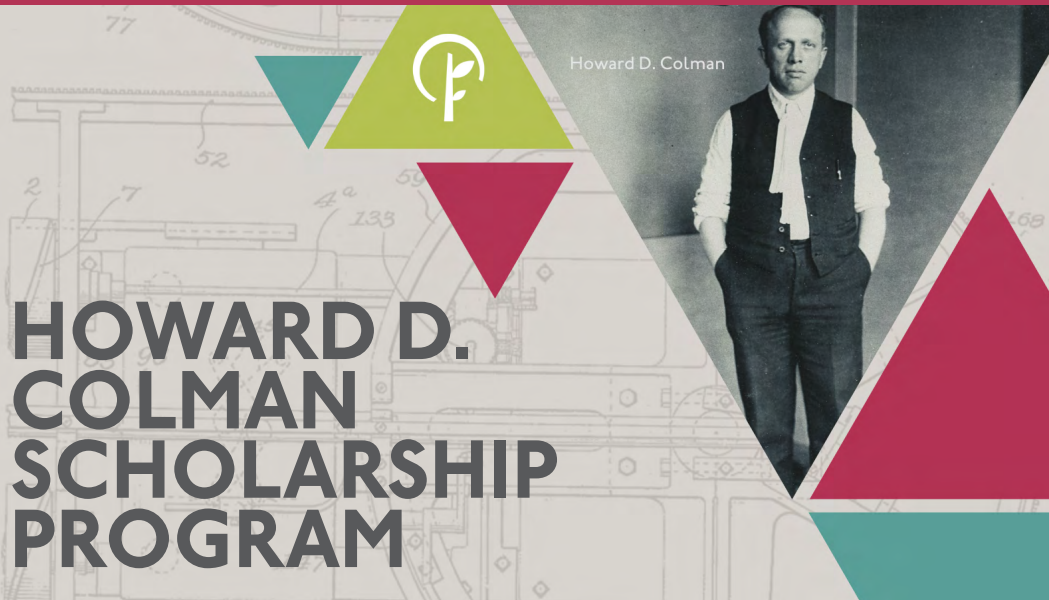
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# HOWARD D. COLMAN SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

Howard D. Colman was one of the most gifted American inventors of the 20th Century, though little recognized in his lifetime and all but forgotten since his death. A scientific prodigy who made his own earliest hand tools and taught himself the fundamentals of mechanics and physics, he solved the last great puzzle of textile automation as a young man and eventually launched a machine-building business that dominated the international market.

Colman was a person of amazing conceptual abilities and uncanny insights into the dynamics of force and motion. His experiments in the fields of small motors, temperature controls, textiles, machine tools, and telecommunications earned him 149 U.S. patents and a substantial personal fortune, but practically no other type of popular recognition because of his aversion to publicity.

In 1987 Colman's eldest daughter, Ruth Colman Tower, named the Rockford Community Trust (now known as the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois) as the beneficiary of a charitable remainder trust. Upon her death that trust endowed the Howard D. Colman Memorial Scholarship. **It was Ruth's desire that this award support local students who possess an innovative, entrepreneurial spirit and who are invested in supporting the Rockford community through industry.** Over time what began as a scholarship has grown into a full-fledged career development program, connecting honorees with one-of-a-kind internships at local firms and providing opportunities to embody the spirit of Howard Colman as ambassadors for his legacy.

Each year up to four recipients will be selected for the Howard D. Colman Scholarship, which includes not only a \$2,500 award but also personalized placement with a local firm for a paid internship. Additionally, one of the prior year's recipients will be named the Howard D. Colman Scholar and receive a \$10,000 renewable scholarship and have the opportunity to continue their scholarship. **Total award over four years could be as much as \$32,500.**

**Full details about the Howard D. Colman Scholarship may be found on the back side of this page, or visit [cfnil.org/howard-d-colman-scholarship-program](http://cfnil.org/howard-d-colman-scholarship-program) to learn more and start your application.**



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Howard D. Colman



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Finalists will complete an in-person interview with the selection committee.

## PROGRAM SELECTION

### Applicants must:

- Be a high school graduating senior that resides in Boone or Winnebago County,
- Major in engineering, computer science, applied science, or a comparable technology field,
- Have a minimum GPA of 3.0/4.0, and
- 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.

### In addition, applicants will be considered based on their:

- Demonstrated connection and commitment to the Rockford region,
- Willingness to commit the four summers to doing a 20-30 hour per week internship, and
- Willingness to take at least one local internship, ideally in the first year of the program.

## PROGRAM AWARDS & BENEFITS TO RECIPIENTS

Each year up to four students will be selected for the **Howard D. Colman Scholarship**, a \$2,500 award, and provided with personalized placement at a local firm for an internship in engineering, computer science, applied science, or a comparable technology field.

Additionally, each year one of the previous year's four scholarship recipients will be selected as the **Howard D. Colman Scholar** and receive a \$10,000 scholarship which is renewable up to two times provided program criteria continue to be met. The Scholar also has the opportunity to continue their internships up to three more years. The remaining three students may receive a one-time honorarium award.

Criteria for selection as the Howard D. Colman Scholar include those listed above in addition to positive evaluation from the student's internship supervisor and positive program participation review from FurstStaffing and CFNIL representatives. CFNIL works with FurstStaffing to facilitate internship placements. Past placements include: University of Illinois – Chicago College of Medicine at Rockford, Leading Edge Hydraulics, Raytheon Technologies, Woods Equipment, and the City of Rockford.