

# THE STERLING – ROCK FALLS COMMUNITY TRUST SCHOLARSHIPS

## Application Instructions (Revised 12/2023)

The Sterling-Rock Falls Community Trust administers a number of scholarships funds and welcomes the applications of high school seniors and college students. Application forms and additional information can be obtained from guidance counselors at high schools in Sterling and Rock Falls or from Midland States Bank Wealth Management, 4404 East Lincolnway, Sterling, IL 61081, phone (815) 285-5185.

### **Basic Requirements:**

1. **Residency** - Applicants must reside within the boundaries of the Sterling and Rock Falls school district and must be a graduate of an accredited high school in Sterling or Rock Falls.
2. **Certification by school** - A guidance counselor or principal of the high school from which the student has, or will, graduate must sign the last page of the application to confirm eligibility. A copy of the student's transcript must be included as part of the application.
3. **Financial information** - Many of the scholarships are available for up to moderate income families and financial need is a factor in their award. Students applying for any of these need-based scholarships must submit a copy of their FAFSA form with pertinent financial information (if required for need-based scholarship) for the parent who claims student as a dependent; The FAFSA form is preferred with the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) number. Only the page with the EFC amount is required; OR their parents' complete and signed federal income tax return for the current tax year. This information needs to show the income of the person(s) **who claims the applicant as a dependent.** The student's return will be needed if they are not claimed as a dependent on a parent's return.
4. **Enrollment Status**– Scholarships are awarded for the benefit of full-time students for those pursuing a 2- or 4- year degree. Full- or part-time students are eligible for the one-time \$1,000 scholarship for those pursuing a trade or technical certificate or license.
5. **Deadline** – Applications are due **April 1st**. There may be additional funds available for scholarships after the initial awards are made, and the Community Trust accepts applications submitted after **April 1<sup>st</sup> up to July 1<sup>st</sup>**. There is, however, no guarantee that any additional scholarships will be awarded from the July deadline applications.

### **Other information:**

6. **Amount of award** - The scholarship award amounts may vary from year-to-year and are dependent upon the funds and income available that is generated by the Trust. General scholarship awards to a trade or technical certificate or license program could be up to \$1,000, a community (2 year) school could be up to \$1,500, and students attending a 4-year institution could receive up to \$3,000.
7. **Payment of funds** - Scholarship funds will be paid directly to the school that the successful scholarship applicant is attending.
8. **Renewal of Scholarships** - Applications for annual renewal of general scholarship grants for 2- and 4- year degrees are subject to satisfactory progress toward graduation and good academic standing per their educational institution. The deadline for applications is the same as stated above. Scholarships may be available for students entering their fourth year of study at a college or university, depending upon available funds. Scholarships for certificate and license programs are non-renewable.

**Completed applications with pertinent attachments to be submitted to:**  
**Midland States Bank Wealth Management**  
**Attn: Sterling-Rock Falls Community Trust**  
**4404 East Lincolnway, Sterling, IL 61081**

**STERLING-ROCK FALLS COMMUNITY TRUST SCHOLARSHIP**  
**APPLICATION**

**STUDENTS:** Read the Application Instructions and criteria for scholarship. Please print clearly in ink and include all necessary attachments. By submitting an application, the Sterling-Rock Falls Community Trust Board reserves the right to consider the applicant's eligibility for unclaimed scholarships.

**I hereby make application for the following scholarship(s):**

**Scholarships requiring financial information ("need-based"):**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Sterling Rock Falls Community Trust General Scholarship* (certificate/license, 2-year, 4-year degree)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Home Hospital Scholarship* (health-related fields)

\_\_\_\_\_ *W. Martin Dillon Memorial Scholarship* (majoring in business; 4-year award)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Robert Propheter Memorial Scholarship* (preference to business or construction trades training)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Helene R. Dillon Memorial Scholarship* (majoring in education; 4-year award)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Charles G. Bosco Memorial Scholarship* (engineering; 4-year award) **Not available in 2024**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Russell & Margaret Koster Agricultural Scholarship* (H.S. seniors only, majoring in agricultural-related field)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Wolens Family STEM Scholarship* (minimum 2.75 GPA, degree in science, technology, engineering, or mathematics; attending an Illinois public school, college or university required references and essay)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Gentry Family Scholarship* (minimum 3.0 GPA, degree in education—majoring in mathematics, vocal music, or elementary education)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Ole Bly Pace Scholarship* (degree in pre-law or leading to a career in law or related field and demonstrated community service; preference given but not limited to financial need)

**Scholarships NOT requiring financial information:**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Clement Hey Memorial Scholarship* (H.S. seniors only, based on academic achievement)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Keeney Fund (Tom, Harry and Loraine) Scholarship* (H.S. seniors only, based on academic achievement & extra-curricular activities; preference to Business, Accounting, Pre-Law)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Cadet Thorp Law Enforcement Scholarship* (H.S. seniors only, preference to SHS, majoring in law enforcement or criminal justice; based on scholarship, athletics, extracurricular activities and personal character)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Lucile Sudbury Memorial Scholarship* (for students attending Knox College **OR** majoring in any of the following: music, creative writing, agriculture, home economics, forestry. 4-year award)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Florence Potter Hankenson* (Sterling H.S. students only, attending University of Illinois) **Not available in 2024**

\_\_\_\_\_ *Sandra Smith Scholarship* (nursing or related field)

\_\_\_\_\_ *Jim & Lenore McKinzie Scholarship* (for SHS seniors only, majoring in education)

**Scholarships for Sauk Valley Community College Graduates ONLY; request an application from SVCC or Midland States Bank Wealth Management.**

**\**Janis Card Memorial Scholarship*** (for students with an Accounting Associates degree, pursuing Accounting, Finance, or Business at a 4-year institution)

**\**Juanita Prescott Memorial Scholarship*** (for students continuing education at a 4-year institution)

### **General Information for All Scholarships**

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

College ID Number (or Social Security Number): \_\_\_\_\_

Permanent address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (cell) \_\_\_\_\_ (home) \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender: \_\_\_\_\_ Marital status: \_\_\_\_\_

Year and school of high school graduation: \_\_\_\_\_

High School Seniors only: Class Rank \_\_\_\_\_ in class of \_\_\_\_\_

ACT Score \_\_\_\_\_ SAT score \_\_\_\_\_

GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ (Weighted or unweighted, circle one)

College currently attending/planning to attend \_\_\_\_\_

Current college academic year (freshman, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

Approximate cost for attending this institution for one year: \_\_\_\_\_

Probable Major/Career Objective: \_\_\_\_\_

Employment information:

<u>Employer</u>	<u>Dates</u>	<u>Type of Work</u>
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Extra-curricular activities, memberships in organizations, offices held (attach separate page if additional space is needed):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Father's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Name \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Mother's Address (if different): \_\_\_\_\_

Father's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Mother's Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of dependent children living in your household: \_\_\_\_\_

Total Number of dependent College children living in your household: \_\_\_\_\_

**Special circumstances:** Please attach a statement of any special circumstances that you believe should be considered by the Board of Trustees in considering your scholarship request (e.g., financial hardships that would not be apparent from review of financial information).

I hereby certify under penalty of perjury as provided by law that the information submitted in this application is true, correct and complete.

**Student Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

***CHECKLIST FOR ATTACHMENTS:***

- (1) Pertinent financial information (if required for need-based scholarship) for the parent who claims student as a dependent; OR a complete FAFSA form with the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) number. Only the page with the EFC amount is required. The FAFSA is preferred.**
- (2) Transcript;**
- (3) Certification by High School (next page)**
- (4) References and essay if applying for Wolens Family STEM Scholarship**

**Certification by High School**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**(Student Name)**

\_\_\_\_\_ The student named on this application will be a graduate this year.

\_\_\_\_\_ The student named on this application graduated in \_\_\_\_\_.  
(year)

Signed this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Principal/Assistant Principal/Guidance Counselor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of High School