



2026 - 2027
Traditional Student
Application for the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship
and the many scholarships within the
Adams County Community Foundation



2026-2027 seniors: One application, numerous scholarship opportunities for Adams County students.

LECS: Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship: due date: by W, Sept 9, 2026, 4:00 PM

ELIGIBILITY for LECS: Adams County, IN resident + Adams Co high school senior + minimums: GPA: 3.8 & **SAT: 1100 or ACT: 21**

ACCF: Adams County Community Foundation: due date: by W, Jan. 20, 2027, 4:00 PM

ELIGIBILITY* for ACCF: Adams County, Indiana high school senior + minimum: GPA: 2.0*(*Some exceptions may apply. Please call the ACCF if you have questions.)

Students are required to computer generate this application (p 6 may be neatly handwritten). Pages must be submitted in the following order:

Check-list: (arrange your pages in this order):

__ Scholarship Eligibility Page / Check-off form:

Available at the student's high school guidance office / only one copy of this form needs to be submitted with your application packet.

__ Scholarship application (numbered pages 1-6) / September applications, include page 7

__ Authorization page (signatures required, page 1)

__ Student's transcripts (unofficial accepted) – six semesters

__ Letter of Recommendation (nonfamily) – one letter of recommendation

__ Student's / Parent's / Guardian's personal employment information

Do: Computer generate (some areas may request to 'circle one' please use black ink). Print completed application, one side.

Do: Staple each set of the application in the upper, left corner.

Do: Submit 10 copies of the completed application (one original plus nine copies or ten copies) in the order given above.

Do: Submit your approx. 11-page application in a bag or with one large rubber band (or ribbon) around the entire set.

Do: (If necessary) contact the ACCF if you have any questions about the application/supplemental requirements.

Do not: Contact any ACCF donor/fund representative / reviewer / scholarship committee member as this may adversely affect your review (full disclosure is required by all reviewers).

Do not: Submit your application in individual folders or with plastic covers as these will be removed (this extra expense is not necessary)

Note: Applications submitted in September will be held for review for the January application process. Students have the option to revise or update their applications if desired. Applications received after the due dates listed will not be considered for an award.

Each year, the ACCF is challenged with a reason for a late application; however there will be no exceptions...please do not call to ask.

If selected (or not selected) for a scholarship: It is the sincere expectation that the students selected (and his/her family and friends) understand the decision made by the Community Scholarship committees, the ACCF Scholarship Committee and the ACCF Board is final. Further, it is the expectation that the students (and his/her family and friends) will fully understand the honor to which the student has been bestowed and will accept the decision with dignity, maturity, and professionalism.

Questions and comments are to be directed to the ACCF at (260) 724-3939 / accf@adamscountyfoundation.org

Instructions and frequently asked questions follow this document on page 8.

Do not include these pages (cover and p. 8) with the copies of the application you submit.

Adams County Community Foundation (ACCF) Scholarship Application for Traditional Students

High School (circle one):

Adams Central North Adams / Belmont South Adams Home School Other: _____

Applicant's name: _____ Yes/ No (circle one) I am an Adams County, IN resident
First Last I have lived in Adams County ____ years.

Email: _____ / Phone: _____

Address: _____ / City: _____, Indiana / zip: _____

After the most recent semester:

Class rank: ____ of ____ / Total SAT: ____ or ACT: ____ / GPA: _____ (using 4.0 scale) example: X.XX (using only three digits).

Authorization

Student signature page/authorization (this page MUST be signed before a scholarship may be awarded)

It is understood that students change their majors. A student who changes their declared major will need to contact the ACCF office as soon as a change has been decided. An example: The Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship is awarded annually to a student majoring in a health care field. Should a student that indicates he/she is majoring in nursing/ pre-med., is awarded the Hospital Auxiliary Scholarship, then changes his/her major to music, then the student will need to surrender that scholarship award.

The provisions of the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act require a school to obtain signed authorization before student information can be released. Permission is hereby given to school officials to release the secondary school record and other requested information to the Adams County Community Foundation for consideration in the Foundation Scholarship program.

Permission is hereby given to the Scholarship Application Review Committee to contact:

- ❖ Listed references, employers, sponsors, coaches, and other organization leaders to verify awards, experiences, and achievements listed herein for the purpose of scholarship award determinations.
- ❖ Local authorities, including staff and/or administrators of my school, as well as area courts, prosecutors, probation department and law enforcement agencies for the purpose of determining whether my behavior has resulted in, or is / was subject to disciplinary action being taken against me.

I specifically authorize the release of information and/or documents by such parties to the Application Review Committee upon its request to allow such information or documentation to be considered in determining scholarship awards (see page X if this describes you)

Possible Narrative:

Have you been subjected to documented disciplinary action at school or been involved in court proceedings or are you currently subject to disciplinary action being taken at school or in court proceedings? (If applicable, please attach this page to the very back of your packet.)

1. If so, briefly explain this incident on a separate piece of paper and attach this page to the very back of your application. The committee will focus on the second paragraph/part of this page:
2. What life-lesson did you learn from this misjudgment?

Note: It is very unlikely this will affect the student's eligibility for any scholarship. More importantly, revealing any 'serious youthful indiscretion of this nature allows the scholarship committees to make insightful decisions.

Why is this question on the application? In the past, the Foundation has been contacted regarding the unfavorable activities of students. The Foundation is aware that this information may or may not be factual, and may become an issue if the committee has not been fully informed.

Applicant's signature: _____
required

Date: _____

Parent/Guardian's signature _____
required

Date: _____

NOTE, grids: This is a fillable doc. The font size will fill the cell, please do not be distracted by these various font sizes.

Development of Work Ethic

List any PAID POSITIONS

Grade Levels: 8/9,10,11,12

ex: 4hr/week, summer

Grade levels student participated	Activity	Place of Employment	Supervisor's Name	Estimated hours worked / list time frame

Community Service / Community Involvement

Community Service definition: a volunteer position that provides assistance to a nonprofit organization or for a non-relative.

This activity does not provide the student with any monetary benefits, exchange of goods or services.

Grade Levels: 8/9,10,11,12

ex: 4hr/week, summer

Grade levels student participated	Activity	Organization / volunteer services	Supervisor's Name	Estimated hours worked / list time frame

Need to report more? Use this area for development of work ethic, community service and school activities.

Grade Levels: 8/9,10,11,12

ex: 4hr/week, summer

Grade levels student participated	Activity	Organization / volunteer services	Supervisor's Name	Estimated hours worked / list time frame

Extra Curricular Activities / School Activities

List all school-related activities you have participated in over the past four years and note any leadership positions

Grade Levels: 8/9,10,11,12

ex: 4hr/week, summer

Grade levels student participated	Activity	Organization / volunteer services	Supervisor's Name	Estimated hours worked / list time frame

Need to report more? Use this area for development of work ethic, community service and school activities.

Grade Levels: 8/9,10,11,12

ex: 4hr/week, summer

Grade levels student participated	Activity	Organization / volunteer services	Supervisor's Name	Estimated hours worked / list time frame

All scholarships associated with the Adams County Community Foundation:

Your initials indicate you have read, understand, and will comply with these requirements.

_____ I will keep the Adams County Community Foundation (ACCF) apprised of my academic status during college until the expiration of the scholarship awarded, by providing a transcript of my grades and receipts for my stipend each semester (if applicable).

_____ I will provide for the ACCF any change of address to include postal mail and electronic mail.

_____ The ACCF shall reserve the right to withdraw the scholarship if the recipient should conduct himself/herself in such a manner that would result in and reflect an unfavorable image upon the Adams County Community Foundation and/or any other scholarship associated with the Foundation.

_____ I certify that the information provided on this application (and all paperwork to the ACCF) is complete, true, and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of information and/or use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) may result in the termination of any scholarship and/or repayment of any funding misappropriated to me as a result of a later discovered impropriety or illegality.

_____ I agree to account for and return any amount of the special allocation for required books and required equipment remaining at the end of each school year.

_____ I understand that I have given the ACCF permission to share my scholarship application with other committees so that I may earn scholarship(s) beyond the Foundation's selection committees.

_____ By signing this application (p 1), I agree to abide by all ACCF guidelines and decisions as determined by the IRS and/or the ACCF Board.

Do include this page with your application

Narratives

We want to get to know you....

Scholarship committees use many components of this application to make their final decision. Committee members use these questions to review a student's life experiences and choices. Students are reminded that this information will be reviewed by several scholarship committee members, therefore, use discretion when providing information.

Please answer the following questions and limit your responses to the space provided for each question. For narratives (1-5), font: 10 (mini) / word count: **50-150 (max)**. Hint: Leaving a narrative blank is not recommended. Reviewers focus on the content of your response vs. the length. Stay focused with your narratives. (example: these instructions = 98 words)

1) Your application indicates you wish to attend: _____ school and major in _____*.

Please explain how you came to your decisions for this college and major.

(Write 3-5 sentences about why you want to attend this **college** and 3-5 sentences about why you selected this **major**.)

*NOTE: If you report your school/ major on the Sept application then change it for the Jan. application, this narrative must match these revisions. Please rework.

2.) Health, academics, personal challenges, etc. (not limited to these topics), please share a challenge you have identified and managed to accept or overcome.

3.) Some students have a background, identity, interest, religion, or intellectual / skillful talent that is so meaningful they believe their 'description-of-self' would be incomplete without it. Please share this information.

4) What motivates / impresses you? (or) What discourages / disappoints you?

5) Give an example of one newsworthy article you've read recently associated with national or local news.
(Write 1-2 sentences on the topic of the newsworthy article and the following information why you believe this to be interesting.)

Appendix 1

Employment Information, Etc.
Adams County Community Foundation

Appx 1: Please submit this completed form (this page may be neatly handwritten) include with each copy of the ACCF application.

Student / Parent / Guardian Information:

Applicant' name: / Employment: / Approx. # hrs worked / week: / wk

and

Mother's / guardian's name: / Email address:

Address: City: ,IN Zip: / Phone: (cell)

Employment: City / St: # hours worked / week:

and

Father's / guardian's name: / Email address:

Address: City: ,IN Zip: / Phone: (cell)

Employment: City / St: # hours worked / week:

Siblings / dependents: (living with you and those supported by your household >=50% or more of the time):

Table with 8 columns: Name, Age, yr in school / presently attending college, Name, Age, yr in school / presently attending college. Rows 1-6 for data entry.

Family Matters: Is there anything more you would like to share regarding your family's financial status? (i.e. lay-off, illness, parent(s) in college, grandparent/foster child lives with your family, etc.) If you need additional space, please attach this computer generated separate page.

The following information is necessary as some committees use this info to determine eligibility or selection. Please check all that apply:

Family / College Information:

I am the first person (to include my siblings and parents) in my family to attend college.

I have older sibling(s) in my family who have college experience. / I have older siblings who have college experience.

My parents have college experience:

- My father has college experience / My father has a college degree.
My mother has college experience / My mother has a college degree.

Public assistance received during the past 12 months (check all that apply):

- Temporary Assistance to Families Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
Trustee's Assistance Food Stamps
Free or Reduced Lunch Other:

September 2026 Applicants only:

Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship:

If selected ... Your initials indicate you have read and understand these requirements.

___ “If I receive this scholarship, it is my intent to pursue four years of undergraduate study on a full-time basis leading to a baccalaureate degree at an Indiana college.”

___ “I understand that the total maximum amount of my scholarship is calculated on the basis of my chosen college’s tuition and required fees beginning with the **2026-2027** school year.”

___ “To assist with the processing of my scholarship payments each semester or quarter and to avoid late fees, I will forward to the Adams County Community Foundation immediately upon receipt all invoices for tuition and any eligible fees that may be covered by my scholarship.”

___ “I understand that the special allocation provided to me is to be used to pay required books and required equipment for my courses of instruction. I will personally keep receipts and other documentation to verify that the special allocation was used only for this intended purpose and will provide those receipts and documents to Independent Colleges of Indiana upon request. If the amount remaining exceeds \$25, I will return to Independent Colleges of Indiana the balance of the special allocation at the end of each school year.”

___ “I agree to notify Independent Colleges of Indiana of any scholarship awards I may receive for tuition or required fees from a source other than the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship.”

___ “I will keep the Adams County Community Foundation apprised annually by June 1st of my enrollment and academic status during college by completing and returning any surveys or forms as may be provided by the community foundation.”

___ “Upon graduation, I will keep the Adams County Community Foundation apprised annually by June 1st of my education and/or employment status for at least ten years after graduation by completing and returning an alumni survey or other forms as may be provided by the community foundation.”

To Lilly applicants *(please initial that you have read and understand these):*

___ Should the candidate conduct himself/herself in such a manner that would result in and reflect an unfavorable image upon the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship or the Foundation, the ACCF shall reserve the right to recommend to the ICI (the governing organization for the Lilly Scholarship) that this (and/or any other scholarship associated with the Foundation) be withdrawn.

___ I understand that I will be removed from the scholarship applicant pool for any other scholarships administered by the Adams County Community Foundation (ACCF) if I am selected as an ACCF Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship recipient.

___ Check here if you are a child, grandchild, great-grandchild (to include steps) of an ACCF Board of Director, employee, or scholarship committee member within the past five years.

Note: this is a requirement for the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship and does not disqualify the student from this or any other scholarships within the ACCF. However, disclosure for purposes of conflict-of-interest is required by Lilly Endowment, ICI, and ACCF.

September Applicants only: page 7, include this with your packet.

Frequently Asked Questions

For other questions not listed here, please email: accf@AdamsCountyFoundation.org / or call: (260) 724-3939

Question: Why are there two due dates? When are they?

- September 2026:** For the academic school year 2026-2027, the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship (LECS) will have an earlier due date (as directed by LECS). This year's due date for the LECS is by 4:00 pm, **Wed., September 9, 2026.**
- January 2027:** All other ACCF / Adams County Scholarships will have the **Wed., January 20, 2027** due date (before 4:00 pm). The ACCF will maintain two due dates for this academic year. Upon request, the ACCF will visit each high school in August / September to announce these due dates and to answer questions. You may also email the ACCF with your questions. All questions are to be directed to the ACCF. Applicants / parents are not to contact scholarship committee members or scholarship donors.

Question: If I submit my application for the September due date, do I have to fill out the application again for the January due date?

No. The ACCF will hold the September applications for the January due date. However, if a student wishes to update or revise his/her September application for the January review, this is allowable, but the student will need to maintain the due date listed.

Questions: 1. I want to apply for all the scholarships for which I am eligible. Can I put an 'X' for all of the listed scholarships? (and) / 2. Where do I get this Eligibility / Check off form?

Several scholarship committees will review your application. You need to review the eligibility of each scholarship. (Example: Rosanne Miller Memorial is for North Adams students who attended St. Joe School. If your academic history does not fit this description, you are not eligible). Please read the eligibility requirements carefully. Some require additional material to be turned in shortly after the ACCF application has been submitted. Don't forget this supplemental material. (Example: Essay required for Trooper Elson, Officer Wyss, Bryan Miller, Junior Ach., etc).

The *Eligibility / Check-off* form is available at each high school guidance department after **January 1.**

Question: I will not get my most recent SAT/ACT scores back until after the September / January due date. What should I do?

Submit your application on time. When you receive your scores, submit them in writing to the ACCF. **How?** Email this to the accf, include your name, high school, test type, and score. It is not necessary to pay extra to get your test results earlier.

Question: I want to report my GPA scores to the third digit, but the field will not allow this. What should I do?

If your computer / application will not allow this, you may neatly write this digit on the application.

Question: I don't have a major. Is this a problem?

It is important for you to commit ... at least for now. On the *Eligibility / Check-off form*, report your first and second planned major field of study. If possible, list the **school** in which you think you may pursue a degree (example: School of Education, School of Business, School of Agriculture). It is understood this may change, but it is helpful to give the reviewers an idea of your planned major.

Question: I want to put more information in the narrative pages (pp. 4, 5 of the application), but the computer programmed application refuses to allow me to do this. What do I do?

Admittedly, this is a problem for a select few, and it is certainly frustrating and unfair to these students. If you have this problem, the easiest way to approach this is to create your response on a separate Word document (within the areas / words allowable on the application), print it out, and literally cut and paste this onto your original application. The subsequent copies will pick up the information. We apologize, in advance, if you are one of these few.

Question: The application pages, when printed, do not line up like the pages on the computer monitor. What do I do?

This fillable document is set up to agree with PC and MAC. However, some students have reported problems. It is recommended that you print a copy to see if your application and the application on the monitor appear to be the same. If your computer experiences this concern, you may want to handwrite the application and then use a computer at your school that does allow for compatibility. This is another reason a student would want to practice good time management for the completion of this application.

Question: (1) A signature is missing, (2) a narrative has not been addressed, (3) GPA score is missing without explanation (4) anything else ... Will these oversights adversely affect my chances of an award?

- (1) Please consider this an 'agreement'. You must read the agreement pages and sign these (cover page and page 7). If you are under 18, a parent or guardian signature is also needed. If requested, the Foundation reserves the right to share the application with the legal parent who has not signed the application.
- (2) It is very important to address each of the narratives, even if you write only a sentence or two.
- (3) GPA scores: Some scholarship committees are guided to review GPA scores. If these are missing, the student would not be eligible for these few scholarships.
- (4) For the scholarship committees to do their job, it is very important to address each and every component of this application. It is recommended that the student fill out all areas of the application.

Question: I cannot get the application to the ACCF during office hours (M – Th, 8-4 pm / Fri: 8-1). What should I do?

Understanding the due date is important, the Foundation staff will call the Atomic Clock number (724-1234) at 4:00pm to confirm the time. Applications that arrive after this date / time will not be considered for review. Do not miss this due date.

Mail slot: **24/7:** The ACCF, Madison St. Mail slot always available. Students may also have a friend or parent drop off their application.

Question: "I had an accident on the way to the ACCF, on the due date at 3:55pm. My application will be late, will you please take it?"

Yes and No: Late for the Sept due date? We will hold this application for the January scholarship process. Late for the January* due date? Please plan ahead. (Example: A few years ago, in Adams County there was a major ice storm that closed all county schools for several days – the due date week. Some high school guidance departments opened specifically to assist their students who waited until the final few days to collect their letters of recommendation and transcripts. However compelling, we cannot accept a late application. That application is in competition with an application that was submitted days prior to the due date. It is unfair for the ones who planned accordingly. *Plan on something going too wrong:* cartridge runs out on the last page, electric storm knocks out your power, your computer locks up, your locker is stuck, your application material is inside, etc. *Plan on something going too right:* your high school has a major competition, and you are on the team, you got an unexpected invitation to a great event, etc. These things happen – don't let it be you. Good Luck!

*The ACCF will hold the Sept. application for the January scholarship cycle. Late January applications will be held for the November cycle.

Do not include this page with your application.