

3. Please share your five and ten year goals and how this scholarship is related to these goals.

4. Is there anything you would like to the committee to know about you or your family?

Employment information:

Place of employment: _____ Title: _____

Full time: _____ Part time: _____ If part time, approx. # hours worked/week: _____

Scholarship payment arrangements:

If awarded a scholarship, payment will be made (at the ACCF’s discretion) in one of the following ways:

- 1. Check processed and mailed to the trip planning organization (applicant’s school, church, etc.) Please provide the following information for processing:

Name of organization: _____

Address: _____

Contact person at organization: _____ Phone: _____

- 2. Check picked up by applicant or applicant’s parent at the ACCF office

The Foundation 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 community, Adams County Community Foundation, and any other scholarship associated with the Foundation.

I certify that the information provided on this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of information may result in termination of grant to the student. By signing this application, you give the ACCF permission to contact your guidance department to verify the information listed.

Applicant’s signature:

Printed name

Signature

Date

If under 18, a parent’s signature is required:

Printed name

Signature

Date

Attach to this application:

- 1. Applicant’s transcripts
- 2. Applicant’s letter of recommendation (non-family)
- 3. Applicant’s essay (information to follow on page 3)

Due date: Wed., April 15, 2026 by 4:00 pm in the ACCF office (no exceptions).

Only a single copy of this application (2 pages with attachments) is necessary to submit.

Please submit this application to the Adams County Community Foundation (ACCF)
102 N. 2nd St. / Decatur, IN 46733. Hours: M-Th, 8-4 pm and F, 8-1/ Phone: (260) 724-3939
Applications dropped off before or after hours may use the ACCF mail slot on the Madison Street door.

This application may also be electronically submitted to the ACCF: accf@adamscountyfoundation.org

If submitting this application via mail or electronically, please contact the ACCF to confirm receipt of application.

End

School year: 2026

Adams County students

Eric Richard Mies Memorial / Travel and Adventure Scholarship

Essay required

Eligibility and Student requirements:

Spring 2026: This will be the thirteenth year for this scholarship.

Details of the **Eric Richard Mies Memorial Scholarship Fund** are: Student must:

- + Be an Adams County student or alumni (HS or On-Track, out of High School 1+ years)
- + Have intentions to participate in an exchange, study abroad, educational, or international travel
- + Complete the application process prior to the ACCF due date (date may vary depending upon travel programs associated).

The **Eric Richard Mies Memorial Scholarship** committee will:

- + Review all applications and essays/letters of recommendation of applicants to verify eligibility
- + Make their recommendation to the ACCF Scholarship Committee on scholar(s)
- + The Adams County Community Foundation (ACCF) Scholarship Committee is the final decision maker of this scholar to ensure all IRS and ACCF guidelines have been followed.

It is understood that no family member of the scholarship committee may be a recipient of this scholarship, to consist of: child, grandchild, great-grandchild, to include steps

Brief Award History: In Spring 2025, two scholarships awarded: 1 \$1,000 travel award, 1 \$500 travel awards

Scholarship will be awarded based on: Eric Richard Mies essay and application information

Essay Requirements:

Student must submit 1 copy (total) of the essay to the ACCF along with the application and other required materials / Format: max. two pages, double spaced, margins: 1" / font size: 10 min. / 12 max.

- U Author: Applicant's name, high school/college, & anticipated travel destination (top, right corner of essay pg. 1)
- U Essay title: Eric Richard Mies Memorial Scholarship (centered, below author info, top, pg. 1)
- U Due: by **4:00 pm, third Wednesday in April** (late applications will not be considered)

Note to applicant: This essay must be computer generated.

Eric thoroughly enjoyed his travel experiences. This scholarship is intended to memorialize Eric and to promote the excitement and adventure of travel. Knowing that travel can fully influence a person, Eric's family wishes to encourage this experience.

Please address how *you view the importance of travel* by completing **one** of the following topics:

Essay questions:

1. One of Eric's most memorable characteristics was his ability to connect, befriend and maintain contact with people of all cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds. How do you believe that diverse travels and adventures can influence YOUR personality to connect more openly with others?
2. Although Eric's life was cut short, one of his "bucket list" items was to mentor high-school age students interested in international entrepreneurship. His idea conceptualized an organization that would sponsor local entrepreneurship clubs, based on the principles of "think-tank" or "business incubation" centers. Assuming you were to organize and promote a pilot chapter at your school or in your community, how would you encourage cultural diversity and participation?
3. Pending: Of the many stories you will hear of Eric's life and how he touched others, which one stands out to you as inspiration to lead a life of travel and adventure? (The Mies family will provide a packet with info about Eric, including stories). This component is not completed yet.

Thank you for your interest. Please contact the ACCF if you have questions.