

Portage High School



**Local Scholarships
2026**

Portage High School

2026 LOCAL SCHOLARSHIPS



This booklet contains scholarships available only to Portage High School and Portage Academy of Achievement graduating seniors.

INSTRUCTIONS

- Read carefully to determine which scholarships you are eligible for.
- Prepare and gather the following pdfs to upload in the application:
 - 1) Career Plan Essay - One page describing your future plan and what has influenced your career decision:
 - interests, skills and talents
 - past memorable experiences
 - PHS coursework preparation
 - community service in that area
 - employment in that field
 - 2) Financial Need Essay - One page describing your family financial background and how you will finance your education:
 - disability or illness in family, extenuating circumstances
 - deceased parent
 - qualify for free/reduced lunch
 - cost of your college tuition, siblings in college
 - your employment, money you've saved for college
 - 3) Resume - One page personalized listing of your high school achievements, include dates and specific accomplishments within each category that pertain to you: (Template in Xello and on website)
 - Academics – honor roll, ACT score
 - Athletics – MVP awards, leadership roles, coaching
 - Clubs / Organizations - officer positions
 - Work Experience
 - Volunteering / Community Involvement
 - Fine Arts – competitions, musicals, performances
 - Special Skills – languages, certifications
 - 4) Three Letters of Recommendation - provided by adults that reflect different aspects of your personal qualities:
 - Academic abilities (teacher)
 - Work performance (employer, coach, supervisor)
 - Community involvement (clergy, scout leader, club advisor, etc.)

- 5) Topic Essay(s) or Attachment - Some scholarships require an additional essay or attachment to complete their application. Refer to the scholarship descriptions in the booklet for specific details.
- 6) Transcript - To access your academic record of Portage High School:
 - Go to your Infinite Campus student portal.
 - On the left, click on "Documents".
 - Click on the entry under "Transcript". This will present the document to be saved.
- 7) General Information - allows donors to get to know YOU and YOUR specific situation

Create your folder with the documents above. In order to restrict access (make sure that other students cannot see your application) complete these steps:

Open Google Drive on your computer.

Find and right-click the folder you want to restrict.

Click "Share" or "Share settings".

To enable limited access, check the "Limit access" box.

Alternatively, you can go to "General access" and change it to "Restricted".

Click "Back".

Add Ms. Kohl (Stephanie Kohl) as an editor to give me access to the folder so I can send it to donors. Otherwise only you can see your application.

Uncheck ""Notify People"

Click "Done" or save your changes.

Complete and access the Local Scholarship Application:

- o Go to the Portage HS website.
- o Go to the ACADEMICS tab, click on "Counseling Office".
- o On the left, click on "Local Scholarships".
- o Click on "PHS Applications" in the right column.
- o After you have restricted access and added Ms Kohl as an editor to the folder, drag and drop your applications into the scholarship folders you want to apply for. If you are applying for scholarships that require additional essays, make separate folders for them.

- **Deadline - Application window closes at 3:30 pm on Feb. 2, 2026.**



PCSD School Board Policy 2260 -

NONDISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

The Board is committed to providing an equal educational opportunity for all students in the District.

The Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex, (including gender status, change of sex or gender identity), or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability (Protected Classes) in any of its student program and activities. This policy is intended to support and promote nondiscriminatory practices in all District and school activities, particularly in the following area: (D) administration of gifts, bequests, scholarships and other aids, benefits, or services to students from private agencies, organizations, or persons.



BACHELOR'S DEGREE SCHOLARSHIPS

(Four-Year College or University)

Llewellyn Breese Memorial - Four Year Scholarships:

One \$1,500, one \$1,000, and one \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors ranked in the Top 20% of their graduating class. The scholarships are based on an academic grade point average from high school English, Social Studies, Math, Science, and Foreign Language courses.

The Greater Portage Youth Education Foundation - Four Year Scholarship:

One \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating senior planning to attend a four-year college or university. Applicant must submit an essay describing a significant experience, achievement, or risk you took and how it impacted you.

Alvina V. Haertel Memorial Scholarship:

One (approximately \$9,000) scholarship awarded to a graduating senior planning to attend UW-Madison or UW-Milwaukee.

Portage Kiwanis Club Penny Kiefer Memorial Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior who has been an active member of Key Club and pursuing a four-year college degree.

Portage Music Boosters Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior who is attending a college or university. Applicants will have demonstrated an exceptional role as a music student at Portage High School and/or plans to integrate music in some form while in college.

Portage Optimist Club - Four Year Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior ranked in the Top 10% of their graduating class planning to attend a four-year college or university. Selection will be based on financial need.

Portage Public Library Foundation Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior planning to attend a four-year college or university. The student must have been employed or volunteered a minimum of 20 hours at the Portage Public Library. Applicants must submit an essay explaining how the Portage Public Library has played a role in their life.

Portage Rotary Club - Four Year Scholarships:

One \$4,000 and one \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating senior ranked in the Top 20 of their graduating class planning to attend a four-year college or university.

Women's Civic League Scholarship:

The Women's Civic League of Portage scholarship of \$1,000 is awarded to a graduating student of Portage High School who will attend either a two-year or four-year college/university. To be eligible for the scholarship the student must have attained a grade point average of at least 3.0 at Portage High School and submitted all application materials required by the PHS Counseling Office.

TECHNICAL / ASSOCIATE DEGREE SCHOLARSHIPS

(Two-Year School)



George F. Beasley Memorial Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship for a student attending a technical college or vocational school. George believed in the power of educational opportunities for ALL. This scholarship will give an opportunity to a student:

- Who has a disability, has a sibling with a disability, or a parent/deceased parent who has/had a disability
- Who lacked support in the pursuit of an education
- Who has a financial need
- Whose goal is to enter a career field that will encourage a personally fulfilling life.

Applicant must submit a response to ONE of the following questions:

- How do you intend to put this scholarship to good use?
- What are your future goals and why?
- Why do you think educational opportunities need to be extended to ALL?

Llewellyn Breese Memorial Technical College Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior attending a technical college. Award is based on grade point average (Top 50% of graduating class), leadership, and financial need.

Dells Area Cruisers Car Club Automotive Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship awarded to a graduating senior planning to enter the automotive field.

The Greater Portage Youth Education Foundation - Two Year Scholarship:

One \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating senior planning to attend a two-year college transfer program or technical college. Applicants must submit an essay describing a significant experience, achievement, or risk you took and how it impacted you.

Emma J. McDonald Memorial Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior pursuing a degree from a technical college.

Steven J. Pate Technical College Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior pursuing an associate degree in agriculture, automotive, building trades, construction, or manufacturing at a Wisconsin Technical College.

Portage Optimist Club - Two Year Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior in the Top 50% of their graduating class planning to attend a two-year transfer college or technical college. Selection will be based on financial need.

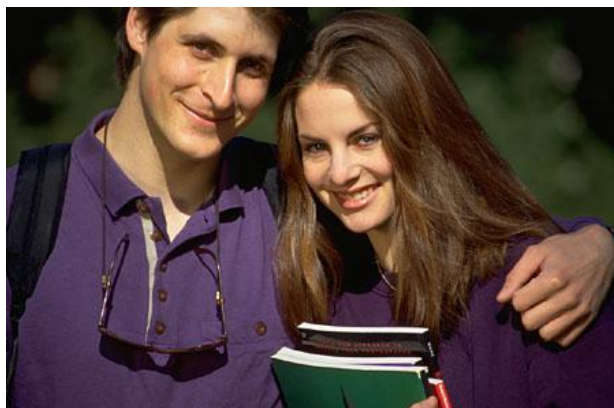
Portage Rotary Club - Two Year Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior planning to attend a technical college or vocational school. Preference given to a student attending Madison College.

Positively Portage - Pat Halasz Memorial Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior who plans to obtain a trades degree or associate's degree (transfer degree not eligible). Students must demonstrate a commitment to public service during high school and include public service in the future. Students must maintain a minimum B- grade point average while in college.

SCHOLARSHIPS OPEN TO ALL SENIORS



Ahlhorn Loan:

A maximum of \$1,000 loan per year.

This loan requires a paper application that can be obtained from the PHS Counseling Office. Does not require any attachments (resume, financial statement and recommendation letters).

American Legion Post #47 - Edward Manthey Memorial Scholarship:

Two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors who are entering the healthcare field.

American Legion Post #47 - Col. Laverne H. Giffin Memorial Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship to a Portage High School student who is age 15 - 19 years old as of January 1st of the calendar year. Must be enrolled in a certified EAA Chapter 371 Portage aeronautics program. \$500 check given upon completion of course and show proof of transcript.

Aspirus Healthcare Medical Staff Scholarship:

Two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors enrolled in or pursuing a healthcare career. Applicants shall have academic excellence with a 3.5 or higher cumulative grade point average and exhibit involvement in the community and extra-curricular activities.

Aspirus Healthcare Volunteer Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a student who is enrolled in a healthcare program at an accredited school. Students must have a 3.0 GPA, and demonstrate financial need. Students must submit a brief essay explaining career goals and desire for healthcare.

Richard "Dick" Beckett Memorial Scholarship - Wrestling:

One \$500 scholarship to an individual of the High School Wrestling Team, including managers. In order to receive this scholarship, the student must have at least a 2.5 GPA after the first semester of college. Funds will be awarded by January 31st.

Shane Daniel Biech Memorial - Agriculture Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship for a student pursuing a bachelor's degree - OR - One \$500 scholarship for a student pursuing an associate's degree. The scholarship is for a student majoring in agriculture or an agricultural-related field.

Caledonia Farmer Scholarship:

Two scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors attending an approved post-secondary institution. The payments will be made upon satisfactory completion of 15 credits, 30 credits, 45 credits, etc., not on a calendar basis. The first four payments will be \$500 each and the last four payments will be \$1,000 each. Attendance need not be continuous and you may change institutions. Applicants should have between 2.5 and 3.5 cumulative grade point average. Students must demonstrate the ability to achieve goals through a strong work ethic, academics, and employment.

Class of 1975 Memorial Trades Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior who will be attending a two year technical college for the trades or going directly into the workforce for a trades career. Please provide your volunteer experience in the community.

Joe Cleary Memorial - Baseball Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior who has been involved in the high school baseball program. Must have a 2.5 cumulative grade point average or higher. A letter of recommendation from a baseball coach is required describing the athlete's leadership and sportsmanship traits.

Colette's Challenge Memorial Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship awarded in the name of Colette Carr-Larson to a deserving student attending a two- or four-year college or university. The scholarship will be offered to a student:

- Who has overcome extenuating circumstances in their personal life or academic career; or
- Received extra help from a teacher (other than their classroom teacher) for two or more years in order to meet grade level expectations; or
- Whose goal is to enter a career field that will benefit "at-promise" or special needs students.

Applicant must submit a short essay explaining:

- The extenuating circumstances they overcame in their life or academic career; or
- Describe the career field he/she wishes to enter and how he/she feels this program will benefit "at-promise" or special needs students.

Community Bank of Portage - Outstanding Citizen Scholarship:

Two \$3,500 scholarships will be awarded to a socially-responsible graduating senior who demonstrates a strong commitment to improving the quality of life for people in his or her school and/or community through community service involvement and personal integrity. Applicants must have at least a 2.0 cumulative grade point average, submit an essay detailing their community involvement efforts, and submit a letter of recommendation from a credible representative from the organization the applicant is involved in.

Compass Counseling - Human Services Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship awarded to a graduating senior pursuing a career in mental health or human services. Preference given to applicants who demonstrate a commitment to community involvement.

Devine Family Foundation Scholarship:

One \$2,000 scholarship per year (up to 2 years) will be given to a graduating senior who has shown improvement in academics with a cumulative grade point average between 2.5 and 3.5 (unweighted scale). Actively participates in volunteer activities, community service or given above average help to their family, has a financial need, and demonstrates a strong desire for more education. Students with additional challenges will be given additional consideration.

Charles J. Drury Memorial Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior pursuing a degree in law (attorney), education, or economics.

Endeavor Lions Club Scholarship:

Up to four \$1,000 scholarships awarded to graduating seniors living in **Endeavor**.

W.J. "Dietz" & Marion Eulberg Memorial Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior going into a healthcare career or participated in the high school football program. Applicants must show scholastic achievement and school/community involvement.

Earl Galle Memorial Music Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior who participated in the high school music program. Preference is given to a student pursuing a career in music or music education.

The Greater Portage Youth Education Foundation - Arthur & Eleanor Docter Memorial Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior planning to attend a two- or four-year university or college. Applicants must have volunteered or provided community service to the school or community. Additional consideration will be given to those students with financial need. Applicants must submit an essay describing your favorite volunteer or community service project, your involvement in the project, and how it enhanced or added value to your high school education and future college major / career choice.

The Greater Portage Youth Education Foundation - William Hansen Memorial Scholarship:

One \$2,500 scholarship to a graduating senior planning to attend a two- or four-year university or college pursuing a Maintenance Technician degree. Preference will be given to applicants who have completed relevant Technology and Engineering courses. Applicants must submit an essay describing your interest in the trades, what inspired you to explore a career in the Maintenance Technician area and how do you see yourself contributing to advancement in technology or the industry?

Joshua Allen Halverson Memorial Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship awarded to a graduating senior planning to attend a technical college, a university or enlist in the military immediately following high school graduation.

Joshua Allen Halverson Memorial - Outdoor Life Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship awarded to a graduating senior planning to attend a technical college or university and was a Portage FFA member. Financial need will be taken into consideration. Include an additional essay detailing your love of the outdoors and passion for fishing (photos are encouraged).

Lily Hebel Memorial Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship to be awarded to a graduating senior who will be pursuing a degree in the mental health/human services field OR a student who has been involved in one of the following: archery club, cheerleading/dance OR has taken 3 or more years of German. Mental health issues in high school students have worsened over the past decade and are further compounded by bullying and harassment. To apply, please tell us how you have demonstrated an act of kindness or generosity in your school, community or personal life OR how bullying has had an effect on your life or the life of someone close to you and how you have made a difference or plan to make a difference to prevent bullying in your community.

Harold A. Johnson Memorial Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior attending a technical college, two-year college or four-year university. Financial need preferred - evidence and proof of financial need must be stated clearly in the "financial need essay" of the application.

Midge Graham & Russell Jorns Memorial Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship awarded to a graduating senior planning to attend a technical college, two-year college or four-year university majoring in engineering, education, or agriculture. Recipient should be a student in good standing, be of good character, and demonstrate a solid work ethic. Financial need will also be a priority.

Journey of the Strong Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship awarded to a graduating senior planning to attend a community/technical college or university. Preference given to students of single parent households and have career goals to focus on improving community and/or the environment. Include an essay explaining how you fit this criteria and your goals when you complete your degree(s).

Edward C. & June M. Lenz Memorial - Business Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior pursuing a college degree in business.

Jule Marachowsky Memorial Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior.

Masonic Fort Winnebago Lodge #33 Scholarships:

One \$1,000 and two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors.

Larry Millard Memorial Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior entering a career in firefighting, emergency medical services, law enforcement, or healthcare.

Helen L. Moe Memorial Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior attending a two- or four-year college or university and has a 3.0 or higher cumulative grade point average.

Christian B. Muniz Memorial Scholarships:

Two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors pursuing a career in the service of those with a disability (e.g., teacher, therapist, social worker, doctor, nurse, etc.). Applicant must have a 3.0 or higher cumulative grade point average, one of the three letters of recommendation must be from a teacher or community member, and write two essays: 100-word essay on why you are pursuing your chosen field of study; AND 100-word essay on what would the benefit be for a disabled student in a regular education classroom?

Odd Fellow Lodge Scholarship:

Two \$500 scholarships to a graduating senior attending a technical school or college that demonstrates financial need. The organization has been a Fraternal and Benevolent order in Portage since 1851. One of the letters of recommendation is required to be from a religious or community leader or active Odd Fellow member from any lodge.

Pepsi-Cola Scholarships:

Two \$500 scholarships will be given to graduating seniors that demonstrate financial need.

Portage Alumni Curling Scholarships:

Scholarships awarded to graduating seniors who were active participants in the high school curling program. Number of years in the high school curling program is a factor as well as volunteering for club related activities.

Portage Education Association - Russ Gerstenkorn Memorial Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior planning to pursue a technical field degree. Preference will be given to students entering the field of machine tool, welding, building trades, architecture, engineering or automotive. Award will be presented at the PEA year-end recognition event.

Portage Firefighters Association - Portage Fire Department:

One \$1,000 scholarship or two \$500 scholarships to a graduating senior(s) planning to attend a two-year college, four-year college or university or attending a fire academy (technical school) intending to major in fire science. The applicant must have a 3.0 or higher cumulative grade point average to apply. Completed application packet will be forwarded to the Portage Firefighter's Association Scholarship Committee for selection. Application packet should include: (1) career plan; (2) resume; and two or three letters of recommendation.

Portage Knights of Columbus Dr. C.W. Henney Council #1637 Scholarship:

One \$1000 scholarship to a graduating senior who demonstrates a financial need.

Portage Lions Club - Healthcare Scholarships:

Two scholarships (approximately \$1000 each) to graduating seniors who plan to attend a two- or four-year college or university pursuing a degree in a healthcare field.

Portage Lions Club - Dorri Engebretson Memorial Scholarship:

One \$1000 scholarship to a graduating senior who plans to attend a college or university pursuing a degree in education/music.

Portage Lions Club - Trades Scholarship:

One \$1000 scholarship to a graduating senior who plans to attend a two or four year college and going into the trades.

Portage State Bank Scholarship

Two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors who are planning to continue their education at a university or technical college. Must have a GPA of 3.0 or higher.

Portage Touchdown Club Scholarships:

Two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors who participated in the football program during their junior and senior years, and received a varsity letter for at least one of the years. Must have displayed desire, dedication, good sportsmanship and supported the team philosophy while contributing to the promotion of the sport of football in the Portage community. Students must attend a four-year university/college or technical college the fall immediately after graduation.

Portage Youth Basketball Scholarships:

One \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior who participated in the youth basketball program either as a player or referee. Applicants must attend either a two- or four-year college/university.

Portage Youth Softball Scholarship:

Two \$500 scholarships to a graduating senior who participated in Portage softball as a player or manager. Recipients must be planning to attend military, trade, 2 year or 4 year college/university after graduation. Must have displayed dedication, desire, good sportsmanship and volunteered in some manner to promote or enrich the youth softball program. Submit an essay that describes how Portage Softball has impacted you as well as how you have promoted softball in the community. Include what your future plans are as well. Students must submit a log of volunteer hours related to softball.

Portage Youth Soccer Scholarship:

Two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors who plan to attend a two- or four-year college/university with a minimum 2.5 cumulative grade point average. Student must have participated in the PYSA soccer program either as a player or referee.

Portage Youth Wrestling Club Scholarships:

One \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior who participated in the PHS wrestling program as a wrestler or manager during their junior and senior years, received a varsity letter in wrestling, have a minimum of a 2.5 cumulative grade point average (unweighted scale), contributed in a positive way to the promotion of the sport of wrestling, displayed desire, dedication, good sportsmanship, and supported the team philosophy throughout their wrestling career.

James & Alice Richardson Scholarship:

Two \$1,000 scholarships to a graduating senior with a 2.0 or higher GPA and evidence of service to others (extracurricular or community). Two recommendations (one teaching staff member and one community member). Required essay describing your plans after graduation, career goals or objectives, summarization of extracurricular and/or community activities, financial need if any (including documented financial information only if required), and an explanation of why you should receive this scholarship.

Andrew T. Rosin Memorial Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior who attends a Wisconsin college majoring in Journalism or Education.

Rhyme - Jack Steinhoff & Steve Ennis Memorial Scholarship:

One \$2,000 scholarship to a graduating senior who has been affected by cancer personally or by a family member. \$500 per year up to \$2000. Please include a summary or story of how cancer has affected you.

St. Vincent de Paul Society Scholarships:

Three \$500 scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors in the Top 50% of their graduating class and is required to prove financial need (e.g., free/reduced lunch, disabled/deceased parent, health expenses, etc.) - not just a statement that college is expensive.

Cody Schmidt Memorial Scholarship - Mental Health Field:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior who is planning to continue their education at a university or technical college in the mental health field. Students must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher. Attach a one-page essay describing their future goals and plans.

Cody Schmidt Memorial Scholarship - Baseball:

Two \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors who are planning to continue their education at a university or technical college. Students must be a member of the PHS Baseball team for their entire junior and/or senior year. Must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 or higher. Must have involvement in one other sport/club/extracurricular activity aside from baseball. Attach a one-page essay describing their future goals and plans.

Trecek Automotive of Portage Scholarships:

Up to five \$500 scholarships awarded to deserving graduating seniors who are pursuing either a technical college or four-year college degree.

V.F.W. Post 1707 Scholarship:

One \$500 scholarship awarded to a graduating senior attending a college, university, trade school, or technical college. Applicant must be a relative of a veteran who is a past or present member of the VFW - OR - meets the VFW eligibility requirements. Student must name the serving relative (parent, sibling, grandparent, etc.), which foreign war the veteran served in, and how many relatives have served in a foreign war in their financial statement.

V.F.W. Post 1707 Auxiliary Scholarship:

Two \$500 scholarships awarded to graduating seniors who have a parent, sibling, grandparent, aunt, or uncle who served in the military. You are required to name the serving relative in your financial statement.

John & Lila Waldman - Portage History Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship to a graduating senior attending a four-year college/university or two-year technical school. Applicant must write a short 250-word essay on "*Why is the Museum at the Portage and the Portage Historical Society important to our community?*" along with one of the letters of recommendation being from a Social Studies teacher. Recipient is required to volunteer 6 hours over the summer (open April-October) at the museum prior to receiving their scholarship funds.

Walleye North America:

One \$500 scholarship to a graduating senior attending a technical college or two-year college, preferably. Students must have a 2.0 or higher cum GPA.

Women's Civic League Of Portage:

The Women's Civic League of Portage scholarship of \$1,000 is awarded to a graduating student of Portage High School who will attend either a two-year or four-year college/university. To be eligible for the scholarship the student must have attained a grade point average of at least 3.0 at Portage High School and submitted all application materials required by the PHS Counseling Office.

Zimmerman Plumbing, Inc. Scholarship:

One \$1,000 scholarship is offered to a graduating senior who plans to pursue a career in the trades. Check will be mailed to the student's home following completion of his/her first semester of college (student must provide college transcript and class schedule to contact person above) or if not attending a program, employment verification in the trades for 6 months will be required.