



Lake City Scholarships

The following Lake City area education scholarships are currently available and are listed in the order they were created. The individuals for whom these scholarships have been established reflect outstanding members of the Lake City community and a sincere desire to provide some financial support to Lake City graduates each year as they embark on their post-secondary educational journey. These scholarships are intended to help defray hidden costs such as gas, supplies, books, etc. Please read their stories to appreciate their generous philanthropy for Lake City students.

BEN JEFFS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Ben Jeffs and his wife Bessie moved from Kansas to Missaukee County around 1916 to oversee operations of the Porter Ranch located between Merritt and Houghton Lake Heights. Because the landowners lived in Chicago, Mr. Jeffs himself managed the farm for 30 years.

Mr. Jeffs, a graduate of Kansas State Agricultural College, had interests in more than just cattle ranching. Over time, he added sheep ranching, muck farming (the growing of celery and mint), a large blueberry operation, and more. Years later, ownership passed to the Department of Natural Resources, and the DNR conducted intensive studies on how to increase the deer herd.

Mr. Jeffs retired in 1946, renting a room at the Willard House, a well-known local establishment in Lake City. His 24 retirement years were active and productive. He served as chairperson of the Missaukee Road Commission, President of the Michigan County Road Association, Executive Secretary of the Road Commission, and as the 1st chairman of the Missaukee County Parks Commission. He was selected as the Lake City Citizen of the year in 1970.

The Lake City Educational Foundation was notified after Ben's death in 1970 that he had willed his oil, gas, and mineral rights to the foundation to be used for educational scholarships. The first scholarship awards were made in 1971.

Award amount: Varies yearly, depending on revenue from the oil, gas and mineral rights. Typically scholarships will be a minimum of **\$500-\$1,000**

CAROL MOOTE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Though she never married, Carol Moote had a sincere interest in young people, as evidenced by her bequest that after her death, a scholarship program be established for deserving Lake City graduates. Carol passed away in 1992, and the first Carol Moote Memorial Scholarship was awarded in 1993.

Carol enjoyed an atypical life for a woman of her time. She attended Western Michigan University after her 1936 graduation from Lake City Area Schools. After receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree, Carol taught for one year at Munising High School and decided that teaching was not for her. She worked a year for an Arizona newspaper before returning to Lake City to work in the hardware store that her parents had purchased as an investment in 1936.

Carol quickly took over the management of the Lake City Hardware, which had become an exciting and fulfilling vocation. Business flourished under her management, and Carol knew the whereabouts of every one of the over 15,000 items in the store, from a single nut or bolt to ropes, window screens, paints and stains.

Young adults gravitated to Carol and the Lake City Hardware was a favorite “going to” location. Carol shared her travel experiences, stock market knowledge, her interests and personal values. She gave them knowledge of the big world, encouragement and a vision of what was available to them after graduation.

Award Amount: Varies yearly, but typical yield is about **\$1,000**.

BRIAN GAYLORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The Brian Gaylord Memorial Scholarship is awarded each year to a worthy Lake City High School senior. In memory of Brian’s courage and strength in his fight against leukemia, this scholarship fund was created. During the summer of 1993, David Gaylord, Troy Green, Todd Petersen and Wayne Seger rode their bicycles 4029 miles from Maine to Washington to raise contributions for the fund.

The contributions were invested and the resulting interest is awarded as the scholarship. While, sadly, Brian lost his fight against leukemia during his freshman year, his resilience and determination is an inspiration to those who knew him. Brian was never able to attend college or trade school, but this scholarship is intended to help a Lake City student do just that. This scholarship was first awarded in 1994.

Award amount: \$1,000

BRANDT FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP

The Brandt Family Scholarship was established in honor of Jeanene Brandt, who taught first grade for 32 years at Lake City Area Schools. Jeanene and Greg Brandt have been very active members of the Lake City community, as Greg also owned and operated Brandt’s Pharmacy.

Greg and Jeanene were both born and raised in the Upper Peninsula and originally planned to return to their home town of Escanaba but while waiting for Greg to finish his Pharmacy program, fell in love with Lake City and made the decision to stay here and raise their two sons, who are both graduates of Lake City Area Schools. Their support for the Lake City Community is unrivaled and this scholarship is an example of their generosity and philanthropy.

The Brandt family wants to support Lake City graduates with this scholarship and encourage young people to further their education in a direction that will help them become productive and caring members of their communities. This scholarship was first awarded in 2022.

Award Amount: \$1,000

JOE W. ELLIOTT SCHOLARSHIP

Mr. Elliott was an elementary school teacher and administrator at the Lake City Area Public Schools from 1967 until his retirement in 1988. He not only taught his students, he also entertained them as they learned. He was a veteran of the Korean War where he was injured and spent time recovering in the hospital

Outside of his educational endeavors, Mr. Elliott was a very well-known and successful strawberry farmer for many years in Lake City. He was also an explosive expert and a certified court reporter. He was a very generous man, and very pro-education. His generosity reached many over the years, from students, to families in need. This scholarship was established in 2023.

Award Amount: \$1,000

ST. JOHN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

The St. John Lutheran Church was organized in 1912 by a group of Finnish people that lived in the area. Services were held in a small wooden church that was moved to Lake City from Jennings. As the congregation expanded and grew, it became a vibrant part of the Lake City Community. To keep the history of this important community organization alive, the St. John Memorial Scholarship was established in 2023. This scholarship is to encourage young people to further their education in a direction that will help them become productive and caring members of their community.

Award Amount: \$1,000

General Information

- The Cadillac Area Foundation oversees the management of the financial investment to ensure ongoing funds are available each year. The Lake City Education Fund Committee reviews all applications and selects recipients for each Lake City scholarship. All scholarships are reviewed in a “Blind” format.
- Applicants must be Lake City High School Seniors who plan to attend a post-secondary program in a university, college or trade school.
- Applicants must complete the application according to the guidelines provided on the next page. **Deadline for submission is March 1.**
- Scholarship awards are contingent upon proof of registration for the second term or semester of college or trade school, in addition, earning a cumulative grade point average of no less than 2.0. Recipients must provide a copy of first semester transcripts to the Cadillac Area Foundation per their instructions to claim a Lake City Education Scholarship.

Essay Should Address

The format for each application is an essay that will address areas such as growing up in a small town, your academic areas of interest, resiliency, personal experiences or situations that have most impacted you. Think about how you see your life up to this point in time, changing as a result of higher education and include your career goals. **You only need to submit one application/essay to apply and be considered for any or all the LC Scholarships.**

Please complete the following identification data and submit this page with your essay:

APPLICANT NAME: _____ **DATE OF BIRTH:** _____

ADDRESS: _____

CONTACT #: _____ **EMAIL ADDRESS:** _____

Please read the directions carefully and check the scholarship/scholarships you are applying for.

_____ **BEN JEFFS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSH**

_____ **BRANDT FAMILY SCHOLARSHIP**

_____ **JOE W. ELLIOTT MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

_____ **BRIAN GAYLORD MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

_____ **CAROL MOOTE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

_____ **ST. JOHN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The format for this application is an essay that will address areas such as resiliency and determination and how those traits and experiences will help you to attain your educational and career goals. The successful applicant will submit a thoughtful, personal essay that exhibits self-reflection and personal growth. Do not attach any additional documents such as letters of reference or acceptance, pictures, etc.

Your application essay will be evaluated on the following criteria:

Format:

- Typed, double-spaced in a 12 point font.
- Margins should be 1"
- Length of the essay should be a minimum of two pages, not to exceed four pages.
- Do not attach any additional information such as letters of reference, awards, pictures, etc.
- Readability: Avoid spelling, grammatical or sentence structure errors.

Content:

- **Personal Experiences and their impact. Please address at least one (or more) of the following topics as they pertain to you and your personal story:**
 - What do you think are the advantages and disadvantages of growing up in a small town? How have each limited or encouraged your opportunities for service, leadership, extracurricular activities and developed your work ethic and character?
 - What extra-curricular activities did you participate in during high school and why were they significant to you?
 - Describe a significant challenge you have experienced and how it changed your perspective. How did it impact the person you are today?
 - Describe your proudest achievement during the last four years. How much did your resiliency and determination factor into this achievement?
 - A situation that is unique to your story, or something that few people know about you.
- **Please address the following post-secondary education-related questions as they pertain to you:**
 - Choosing an area of study and making a career plan
 - Why do you wish to further your education?
 - What are your educational and career plans? What academic or technical institution do you plan to attend? What will you study?
 - What are your future aspirations? Where do you see yourself in 5-10 years?
 - Financial Need
 - Please explain why you need this money and/or why this is important to support your educational goals.
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- **Communication of Ideas:** It is important to convey your thoughts and ideas in a clear and articulate manner. For example it is easy to just list accomplishments, but the successful applicant will expand their thoughts to express some level of analysis of the examples they provide. It is important to reflect how you have grown as a person and where you see yourself in the future.

The application deadline is March 1.