

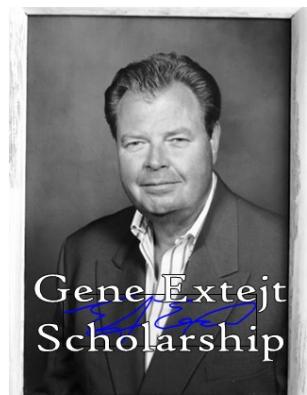


# Construction Scholarships

Tools of the Trade  
Planning a career in construction?



Let us assist you!



[www.cdbia.com](http://www.cdbia.com)

Charlotte Desoto Building Industry Association leaders have created a scholarship fund to assist in addressing the pressing need for a better educated and trained construction industry workforce.

Since 2007, the CDBIA has awarded over \$182,500 in scholarship funds to students interested in a career in the construction industry including our innovative “Tools of the Trade” Scholarship Award to those students going directly into the work force.

**PURPOSE:** Scholarships are and will be paid directly to the educational institution for books, tuition and lab fees. Tools of the Trade Scholarships will be handled on an individual basis to ensure that the recipient will have the proper tools for employment in a successful career in construction.

**ELIGIBILITY:** This scholarship application is open to all students in Charlotte and DeSoto counties and children of members of the Charlotte-DeSoto Building Industry Association who want to pursue a career in construction.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Due March 27, 2026. Mail or drop off application to the following address:

CDBIA 17984 Toledo Blade Blvd. Port Charlotte, FL 33948

#### **SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE:**

##### **Gene Extejt Scholarship**

Gene Extejt was one of the founding fathers of the local builders association. Gene founded Charlotte County Seawalls and with the help of his family and built a marine contacting powerhouse based on quality work and materials combined with ethical business practices. Gene was a talented golfer and had the good fortune to enjoy the experience shared on the golf course with his friends, family, and colleagues often.

Gene could be counted on to be a mentor to the individuals who were lucky enough to have him share his personal experiences and knowledge that he acquired over years of hard work and his dedication to excellence in business and sport. In memory of Gene Extejt, a scholarship fund was set up to continue his legacy of helping the next generation of construction workforce.

##### **CDBIA Professional Women in Building Scholarship**

The CDBIA Professional Women in Building Council implemented a scholarship fund specifically to assist women with financial assistance for a successful career in construction

##### **CDBIA Tools of the Trade Scholarship**

The Tools of the Trade Scholarship is available for students who would like to work in construction right after school. This scholarship will help assist in purchasing the tools you would need to start your exciting career in construction

Please let us know which scholarship you are applying for (check all that apply):

**Gene Extejt Scholarship**

**CDBIA Professional Women in Building Scholarship**

**Tools of the Trade Scholarship**

**SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA:**

Student Essay (See Attachment B)

Teacher/Professional Recommendation (See Attachment C )

ATTACHMENT A: Recommendation Form

ATTACHMENT B: Student Essay Document

ATTACHMENT C: Student Transcripts

ATTACHMENT D: Letter from Teacher/Employer

**ATTACHMENT A: RECOMMENDATION FORM****SECTION 1:** To be completed by applicant

APPLICANT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT PHONE NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL CURRENTLY ATTENDING \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL PLANNING TO ATTEND: \_\_\_\_\_

MAJOR: \_\_\_\_\_

OR, PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT: \_\_\_\_\_

WHAT DO YOU HOPE WILL BE YOUR CAREER: \_\_\_\_\_

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**ATTACHMENT B: STUDENT ESSAY**

Directions: Please explain why you are interested in becoming a professional in the construction industry. Identify and describe your experience with the construction industry and your career goals. Please also identify what scholarship you are seeking (Tools of the Trade or Continuing Education) (Minimum font size is 12pt.) If written, please print. Use this sheet if handwritten or attach a sheet to this form.

If you are a returning scholarship recipient, please let us know how you have been involved in construction through your studies or employment.

**ATTACHMENT C:**  
**School Transcripts**

For current seniors: Please send a copy of your transcripts.

For students already enrolled in a secondary school: Please send a copy of your transcripts, highlighting your major and minor.

**Attachment D:**  
**LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FROM TEACHER/EMPLOYER**

To the educator/employer

Please let us know more about the student/employee and their construction career plans.

**The applicant must submit your recommendation as part of his/her completed application by the receipt deadline (March 27, 2026).**

If you do not know the applicant well or are unable to make a judgement in a particular category, please indicate this. Such frankness will not prejudice the candidate's application for funding.

How long have you known this applicant

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In what capacity?

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What type of career in construction have they shared with you they are interested in? Employer:  
What is their current position and how do you see this scholarship benefiting them

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What contributions if any has the applicant made on campus or to the community?

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Recommender's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Recommender's Name (Please PRINT)

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School /Company

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Title/Position \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

*CDBIA may reach out to you with additional questions. Thank you for supporting the applicant.*