



Building Community Supporting Business

Waterloo Chamber of Commerce Annual Scholarship Application

The Waterloo Chamber of Commerce is interested in supporting and advancing educational opportunities for youth in the Waterloo community. To help our dynamic local students cover the costs of pursuing higher education, the Chamber will offer two \$1,000 scholarships to graduating seniors. The Chamber of Commerce is now accepting applications for this annual scholarship.

To be considered, the applicant must meet the following criteria:

- The student must reside within the Waterloo Community School District #5 or attend Gibault Catholic High School.
- The student must be a senior this year and plan to enter an accredited college, university, community college, or vocational school in the fall of this year.
- Submit a completed application, including a written response to the essay question.
- Submit a current transcript indicating performance, honors, and class rank.
- Demonstrate involvement in community service and volunteerism, work experience, and school activities.
- Demonstrate character and personality – maturity, motivation, moral character, and leadership skills.

Your application will be graded based on the following: Work Experience, Community Service, School Participation and Activities, Written Statements, Essay, and GPA.

All completed applications are due by 3:00 p.m. on Monday, April 6, 2026.

Applications received after the deadline will not be considered. The scholarship winners will be announced at a Chamber of Commerce membership meeting. The Chamber of Commerce Executive Director will notify the winners.



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General Information

Date: _____

Applicant's Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Email Address: _____

Phone Number: _____

High School Attending: _____

College, University, Community College, or Vocational School you plan to attend:

Work Experience

Describe your role in your job(s) and specify how many hours per week you are employed. What are your responsibilities in your employment? What are your strengths at your job, and what did you learn from this position?

Community Service

Describe your involvement in community service work and/or volunteer groups in which you have actively participated during high school.

Describe a community service project or volunteer experience that mattered to you.

Why is giving back to your community important?

School Participation

List all sports, clubs, and organizations you actively participated in during high school. Include offices held and years of membership. What amount of time per week was spent on extracurricular activities, and what leadership roles did you have?

List your top 3 academic accomplishments.

What subject do you enjoy most and why?

Written Statements: (Be clear and specific)

1. What is your future goal for yourself, and how does your goal make a positive impact on yourself and others?
2. What steps have you taken to help you reach your goal?

Essay: On a separate sheet, please respond to the following question. (300 – 500 words) Be clear and specific with your vision.

The Waterloo community is growing and changing. What does the future of Waterloo look like to you? What changes would you like to see in Waterloo, and what would you like to preserve? How do you see yourself contributing to the future of Waterloo?

Please attach an official copy of your current transcript.

I certify that the above statements are factual. If I get awarded a Waterloo Chamber of Commerce Scholarship, I will enroll in a college, university, community college, or vocational school in the fall of this year.

Further, I grant permission for my name and image to be included in press releases, photos, and other materials that recognize the event.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature of Parent (if the applicant is under 18 years of age) Date

Return completed application on or before April 6, 2026, to:
Waterloo Chamber of Commerce
118 E. Third St.
Waterloo, IL 62298