



INDEPENDENT
COMMUNITY BANKERS
OF COLORADO

2026 ICBC Scholarship Competition Application

Sponsored by Colorado's Independent Community Banks and
Independent Community Bankers of Colorado

The Independent Community Bankers of Colorado (ICBC) will award five (5) \$1,750, one-time scholarships, to be applied towards the cost of tuition, fees, or books at a public or private university, college, junior or community college, or vocation/trade school. Awardees will be announced April 24, 2026. Scholarship proceeds will be paid directly to the school following enrollment and after classes have begun. This is a statewide scholarship contest.

Eligibility

In order to be eligible, you must: be a full-time high school senior, have applied to, and will attend a public or private university, college, junior/community college, or vocation/trade school after high school graduation. *Due to the far reaching possible ramifications of Amendment 41, Ethics in Government, that amended Colorado's Constitution, if you or your parent(s)/guardian(s) work for a city, state or county office, you may not be eligible for this scholarship contest. Before applying, please consult with your trusted advisor on this issue.*

Requirements

- Cumulative 3.0 GPA.
- You must attend a university, college, junior/community college, or vocation/trade school after high school graduation.
- You and/or your parent(s)/guardian(s) have a banking relationship at an **ICBC member bank or branch** for at least six months. To find out if your bank is an ICBC member call 720-607-7937 or visit <https://icbcolo.org/scholarship> for a list.
 - **Please note the following financial institutions are NOT members of ICBC:** Credit unions, Wells Fargo, Chase, Bank of America, CitiBank, Community Banks of Colorado, ANB Bank, PNC/FirstBank, KeyBank, USBank, and Vectra.
- Complete application - must be typed and **signed by a bank representative**.
- You must complete the essay question.
- **Deadline for submission to your bank is Friday, March 27, 2026.**

Selection of Scholarship Recipients

The ICBC's independent scholarship committee reviews received applications and selects five \$1,750 scholarship recipients. Recipients will be announced April 24, 2026. Scholarships are *not* based on financial need but on the quality of the application, references, and essay response. Awards will be presented at ICBC's Annual Convention on Thursday, September 17, 2026, at The Hythe, Vail.

Along with the completed application, you must also submit:

1. **Three** (3) letters of recommendation, at least one must be from a school counselor or teacher and one personal reference.
2. Verification of acceptance to a public or private university, college, junior/community college, or vocation/trade school.
3. You may include your ACT and/or SAT scores with your application. (Not a requirement)

Student Checklist

Please submit the following in ORDER as listed below:

1. Completed application and essay. Only single sided applications accepted.
2. **Three** letters of recommendation, one of which must be from a high school counselor or teacher and at least one personal reference.
3. **Official** school transcript. ACT and/or SAT scores are optional.
4. Verification of acceptance to a university, college, junior/community college, or vocation/trade school.
5. Proper signatures where required.
6. Application must be complete and either **printed or typed**. Essay **must** be **typed** and double-spaced.
7. Return pages of application in correct order and do **NOT** copy/print double-sided.
8. Please paper clip your application. Do **NOT** staple or place in a binder.
9. Return completed package to your bank on or before **Friday, March 27, 2026.**

2026 ICBC Scholarship Competition Application

Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

High School: _____

High School Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

High School Telephone Number: _____

Counselors' Name: _____

Counselor's Email: _____

Anticipated Graduation Date: _____

Anticipated major in college: _____

Anticipated future occupation: _____

Father/Stepfather/Guardian (circle one): _____

Employer: _____

Mother/Stepmother/Guardian (circle one): _____

Employer: _____

List the college/s or university/ies you have applied or been accepted to:

College	City	Accepted Y/N
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

List scholarships and/or financial aid you will receive.

Scholarships/Financial Aid

Name: _____

Employment

Employer	Contact Person and Phone Number	Dates Employed	Job Description	# of Hours Worked

Student Activities

Awards or Honors Received

Name: _____

Community Involvement

Community Involvement											
Organization or Agency, City & Phone				Description and level of involvement							
Total Volunteer hours grade 9		Total Volunteer hours grade 10		Total Volunteer hours grade 11		Total Volunteer hours grade 12		Cumulative hours:			
Community Involvement											
Organization or Agency, City & Phone				Description and level of involvement							
Total Volunteer hours grade 9		Total Volunteer hours grade 10		Total Volunteer hours grade 11		Total Volunteer hours grade 12		Cumulative hours:			
Community Involvement											
Organization or Agency, City & Phone				Description and level of involvement							
Total Volunteer hours grade 9		Total Volunteer hours grade 10		Total Volunteer hours grade 11		Total Volunteer hours grade 12		Cumulative hours:			
Community Involvement											
Organization or Agency, City & Phone				Description and level of involvement							
Total Volunteer hours grade 9		Total Volunteer hours grade 10		Total Volunteer hours grade 11		Total Volunteer hours grade 12		Cumulative hours:			
Community Involvement											
Organization or Agency, City & Phone				Description and level of involvement							
Total Volunteer hours grade 9		Total Volunteer hours grade 10		Total Volunteer hours grade 11		Total Volunteer hours grade 12		Cumulative hours:			
Community Involvement											
Organization or Agency, City & Phone				Description and level of involvement							
Total Volunteer hours grade 9		Total Volunteer hours grade 10		Total Volunteer hours grade 11		Total Volunteer hours grade 12		Cumulative hours:			

If you need extra space to report any of the above information you may make additional copies as needed.

Name: _____

If there is anything additional you want the scholarship selection committee to know about you, include that information here:

Using a separate sheet/s of paper, type an essay on:

Select a recent article from your ***local*** news source and write an essay of about 500 words (double-spaced, 12-point font) explaining how the issue in the article could affect your community's economy. In your essay, clearly describe the main issue or event, possible economic effects on local jobs, government services or household finances, and whether these effects are beneficial or harmful overall, and why you think so. Support your points with specific examples from the article.

ESSAY GRADING CRITERIA

Essays will be graded using these five criteria: 1. **Comprehension:** Does the essay reflect a thorough understanding of the economic issues of the topic? 2. **Organization:** Does the essay follow in a logical and easily understood progression? Does the corroborating evidence support the essay's main points? 3. **Conclusions:** Do the conclusions follow logically from the argument? Are the conclusions compelling? 4. **Creativity:** Were diverse resources and ideas used to develop the main points? 5. **Writing Style:** Was concise language and correct grammar, spelling, and punctuation used?

**RETURN THIS APPLICATION AND ESSAY, WITH REQUIRED DOCUMENTATION,
TO YOUR BANK BY FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2026.**

Bank Name: _____

Bank Address: _____

City/State/Zip Code: _____

Bank Representative Name: _____

Bank Representative Signature: _____

Account Holder's Name: _____

Students' Signature: _____

Your Parent(s)/Guardian(s) Signature: _____

Thank you for banking with and visiting your Colorado independent community bank and participating in the ICBC scholarship program. We wish you the best in your college career and future.

For bank:

ICBC will award at ***least five*** \$1,750 scholarships to deserving high school seniors. Applicants are divided into two categories – category 1: Child of a bank employee or an employee of the bank and category 2: Customer or the child of a bank customer. This contest is available only to ICBC members. There is NO cost to participate in this program.

Keep this application. If you receive more than one application for either category, select ***one*** application to send to ICBC. ***One scholarship from each category may be submitted per bank*** (not per branch). Please coordinate with your locations. Once you have selected your application/s, either scan and email to mlewis@icbcolo.org or mail to: ICBC, 6732 West Coal Mine Avenue, #640, Littleton, CO 80123. Questions? Contact Maelynn Lewis, 720-607-7937. **Applications must be received or postmarked on or before Friday, April 3, 2026.**