Establishing a Scholarship Fund

Community Scholars Program
Start a scholarship fund and be part of putting the needs of students first.

Your generosity can help students fulfill their dreams when you start a scholarship fund to support the Community Foundation of Northeast Iowa’s Community Scholars Program.

The increasing cost of education beyond high school, along with additional financial burdens associated with post-secondary education, have created an even greater need to support students. CFNEIA recognizes that other factors further affect equity in education, especially for non-white, refugee/immigrant, indigenous, disabled, LGBTQ+, and other underserved populations who face systemic barriers throughout society. Scholarships are one of the best tools to address this need in our community.

To create more equitable access to higher education, CFNEIA created the Community Scholars Program, which focuses on a need-based, student-focused approach for scholarships. The Community Scholars Program awards scholarships to students at Black Hawk County high schools with financial need and who have fewer resources at their disposal.

For more information, or to explore establishing a scholarship fund to support CFNEIA’s Community Scholars Program, contact Laurie Everhardt, Director of Development, at leverhardt@cfneia.org or 319-243-1352.

Scholarship funds established in Black Hawk County become part of the Community Scholars Program. Your named fund creates a legacy for you, your family, or a loved one, that supports students overcoming barriers to follow their dreams through higher education. The minimum to establish a named scholarship fund is $25,000.

Providing scholarships that create more equity in our communities is essential. Funds created under the Community Scholars Program provide scholarships for students based on criteria centered in financial need, with additional priorities focused on students of color and first-generation college students.

Students can access these resources by applying through CFNEIA’s online scholarship process and recipients are selected by a volunteer-led scholarship distribution committee with decisions based in the Community Scholars Program’s needs-based criteria.