

# The Bridge Scholarship

**Description:** The Bridge Scholarship is intended to provide support to individuals in financial need to continue their education in pursuit of a career in a trade or profession that will give them long term job security as well as a living wage. It is designed to bridge the gap between what is routinely available through standard financial aid and the actual costs of pursuing education beyond secondary school. Recipient selection will focus on the individual's motivation, perseverance and moral character. The scholarship is renewable yearly through the normal duration of the educational program with continued proof of financial need, a GPA of 2.5 or higher, and continuation in the selected program as a student in good standing.

**Amount of the Award:** The scholarship will be up to \$2000 (or more in exceptional circumstances) based on need to be applied towards the recipient's post-secondary education expenses and may cover tuition, books, supplies, and other expenses necessary to allow the recipient to attend and excel in classes. At the appropriate time, the scholarship will be distributed directly to the institution or individual where the expense is incurred after appropriate documentation, verifying participation in the approved continuing education program and proof of expenses, are received.

## Eligibility Criteria:

1. Applicant must be a U.S. citizen, N.C. resident and a resident of Cabarrus County or City of Kannapolis.
2. Applicant must be a graduating senior who has declared a major or a graduate who has been accepted in a post-secondary community college or vocational program that supports training in one of the included full-time programs. (see list)
3. Applicant GPA should be at least 2.0
4. Applicant must show financial need (FAFSA EFC).

## Scholarship Committee:

1. One member from AL Brown HS and one from Cabarrus County Schools appointed by each school system CTE director (initially 2 members from AL Brown HS during pilot year)
2. An adult member of the community appointed by the scholarship donor
3. Two Community College representatives appointed by the Community Colleges

## Application Requirements:

1. Completed application.
2. A minimum 400-word personal statement explaining your educational and vocational goals and how completing them allow you to make a difference in your community.
3. Letter of recommendation from a teacher, coach, employer, or community representative who knows the applicant and can speak to the applicant's character.
4. Possible panel interview at date and location to be determined.