

# **Ralph and Clara Rutledge Memorial Scholarship**

## **Description**

The Ralph and Clara Rutledge Memorial Scholarship is funded by a gift made to the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation by Ralph and Clara Rutledge. The Rutledges were long-time residents of the Fort Atkinson area and, though they did not have children, they lived near the high school and maintained an interest in local students and their advanced educations. Although their retirement years were spent at the Fairhaven Retirement Community in Whitewater, the Rutledges chose to endow a scholarship fund through the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation in recognition of their hometown and their interest in helping further the education of its young people.

Full payment of the scholarship is made in one year; the scholarship is not renewable but recipients may apply again in subsequent years.

## **Eligibility**

Eligible students are residents of the Fort Atkinson area or graduates of Fort Atkinson High School who:

- Are accepted into a graduate school at an accredited college or university in a program leading to an advanced degree, i.e. masters, doctorate, or professional.
- Are full- or part-time graduate students with registration on an ongoing basis and making steady progress toward a degree.

## **Selection**

All applications will be reviewed by a selection committee consisting of a foundation director, two community representatives, a high school teacher, the Superintendent of the Fort Atkinson School District, and a former scholarship recipient (if possible). This committee will recommend the number and monetary value of awards as well as recommending recipients.

The committee will consider the applicants' academic achievement as well as their interest in, and potential for, community involvement (recognizing that at the current stage of their life, graduate students may not have the time or opportunity for community involvement). Financial need will not be a primary criteria.