

# Science Matters Scholarship

## **Description**

The Science Matters Scholarship Fund was established with a gift from the McHenry family, who all received generous scholarships from the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation when they attended Fort Atkinson High School.

The purpose of this award is to provide a scholarship to a member of the current graduating class of Fort Atkinson High School who is planning to pursue an undergraduate degree in science, technology, engineering, mathematics or computer science. Pursuing a degree in a STEM field is often challenging, but the donors of this scholarship believe anyone with an interest can succeed in this field. Special consideration will be given to individuals from groups currently underrepresented in STEM fields. Several of the initial donors work for technology companies and see the advantages of more diversity in that workforce.

The scholarship is paid over two years.

## **Eligibility**

Eligible students are graduating seniors at Fort Atkinson High School who:

- At the time of application for the scholarship, have completed at least one AP course in either math, science or computer science.
- Are planning to pursue a degree in research science, math, technology, engineering, or computer science. Pre-medical or nursing-related degrees are not eligible for this scholarship.
- Are planning to enroll in a four-year, degree-granting college or university or pursue a liberal arts transfer program at a vocational/technical college with the intention of transferring to a four-year degree granting university.
- Financial need is not required for this scholarship but can be considered by the committee.

## **Selection**

All applications will be reviewed by a selection committee consisting of a representative of the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation, the principal of Fort Atkinson High School (or his/her designee), a McHenry family member if available or a person working in a STEM field, and two community members, one of whom may be a high school teacher.

The student's demonstrated interest in science will be an important consideration in selection. Selection will also be based on the content of the application, academic record, especially in math and science courses, and the applicant's prospect of success in college.

## **Award**

The award will be paid over a two-year period in two equal installments. The first payment will be made to the college the recipient plans to attend upon receiving proof of enrollment. The second payment will be made after completion of the recipient's freshman year if the recipient:

- Earned a first year cumulative gradepoint average of at least 2.75
- Enrolled in a STEM class their freshman year
- Plan to continue studies in a STEM field