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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**ERIE COUNTY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION NOW ACCEPTING 2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS**

**Sandusky, Ohio, February 17, 2026**—Erie County Community Foundation is now accepting scholarship applications from high school seniors, college students, & other non-traditional students for various scholarships the Community Foundation manages.

Erie County Community Foundation manages 46 named scholarship funds for the benefit of Erie County students. A complete list of scholarships available, requirements, and applications can be found online at [www.eriefoundation.org/scholarships](http://www.eriefoundation.org/scholarships) or in Financial Aid and/or Guidance Offices at Erie County high schools.

Students must submit scholarship applications online through the Universal Application available on our website [www.eriefoundation.org/scholarships](http://www.eriefoundation.org/scholarships). We cannot accept paper applications. **Universal Applications are due by 11:59 pm ET on March 1.**

In 2025, Erie County Community Foundation awarded nearly \$225,000 in scholarships to 80 Erie County high school and college students. Since the Community Foundation's founding in 1995, it has awarded over 1,400 college and post-secondary education scholarships worth nearly \$2.25 million to Erie County high school and college students.

**About Erie County Community Foundation**

Erie County Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit dedicated to building a thriving and vibrant Erie County, Ohio. The organization, which celebrated its 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2025, addresses community needs, provides leadership, and cultivates resources for a lasting impact. The organization's primary purpose is to provide a means for people to make permanent gifts of assets to enhance the quality of life in Erie County and Sandusky, Ohio—today, tomorrow, and forever.

Erie County Community Foundation is governed by an independent Board of Directors and Officers, comprised of Erie County business, civic, and non-profit leaders. The Board of Directors employs the Foundation's President & CEO, establishes policies and priorities, and directs final grantmaking decisions. The Board's strength lies in the diverse range of knowledge and expertise of its members, and in their shared commitment to improving the quality of life in Erie County, Ohio.

Since Erie County Community Foundation's founding in 1995, the Foundation has grown from assets totaling \$1.8 million to more than \$52.9 million in 2025. During this time, the Foundation has distributed over \$27 million to area non-profits and students for local projects, programs, scholarships, services, and initiatives to improve the quality of life in Erie County, Ohio.

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