

Purpose

The Ivan K Blough Scholarship for Skilled Trades provides funding to assist young adults with vocational skill development and trade school education.

Examples of trade careers include but are not limited to:

- Agriculture
- Automotive Service Technician
- Carpentry
- Construction Management
- Cosmetology
- Culinary Arts
- Dental Hygienist
- Electrician
- Fire & EMS
- HVAC
- IT Support
- Nursing Assistant
- Pharmacy
- Police
- Plumbing
- Welding
- And more!

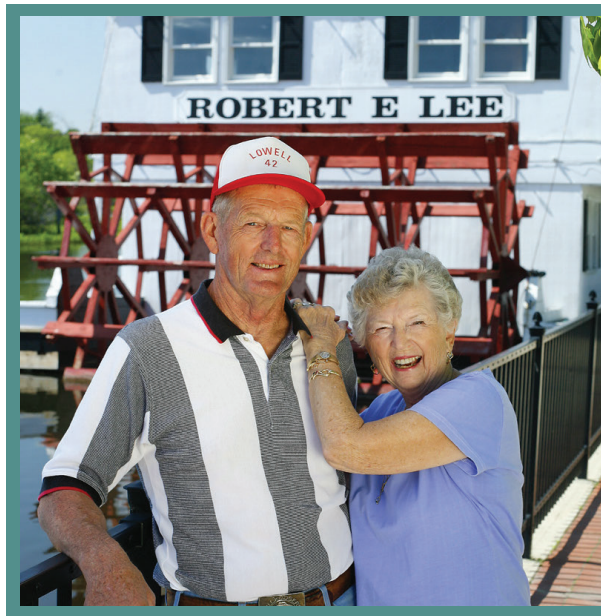
Eligibility

ELIGIBLE PROGRAMS:

- Two-year certificates or technical certificate programs for trade skills development will be considered.
- Four-year college programs will not be considered.

FUNDING ELIGIBILITY:

- Current Lowell Area School district seniors and graduates. This includes home school, non-traditional, and private school students within the Lowell Area School District boundaries.
- Graduates may apply for funding if they graduated within the past four years from the date of application.
- Funding is NOT determined by GPA.



The Legacy

In June 2010, the Lowell community lost a beloved figure, Ivan K. Blough. To honor his legacy and passion for hands-on service and community involvement, the Greater Lowell Chamber Foundation and the Blough family established a perpetual scholarship endowment through the Grand Rapids Community Foundation. This scholarship reflects Mr. Blough's strong belief in volunteerism, aiming not only to support the next generation of skilled trade professionals but also to cultivate engaged, empathetic individuals through meaningful community service.

The Ivan K. Blough Scholarship Fund empowers community members to develop valuable career skills across various industries while gaining life experience that fosters leadership, responsibility, and personal growth. By supporting this funding program, we invest in the future of our local workforce, strengthen employee development and retention, and help to build a resilient, thriving local economy - all in the spirit of Ivan K. Blough's enduring legacy.

IVAN K BLOUGH SCHOLARSHIP for Skilled Trades

Funding for high school seniors & graduates seeking education in the trades.



How to Apply

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

- Provide a written letter or brief essay (1-3 paragraphs) introducing yourself and your education/training goals or funding needs. Alternative: Instead of a written letter, video introductions may be emailed to info@lowellchamber.org. Please ensure your video has adequate lighting and sound quality before submitting.
- Demonstrate a history of volunteer service and/or employment.
- Two or more letters of recommendation (ex: teacher, counselor, work supervisor, church leader, etc.)

APPLICATION & SELECTION PROCESS

Lowell High School seniors: The school's common application, volunteer/employment history, and required attachments are to be received at Lowell High School by the third Friday in March by the end of the school day. Eligible students may be asked to attend a brief interview, during the school day, with a member of the Scholarship Committee. If funding has been awarded, students will be notified before the Lowell High School Honors Night in May.

All other eligible applicants: Funding requests should be submitted electronically online at DiscoverLowell.org/ikb-scholarship.

ANNUAL APPLICATION SCHEDULE:

The Scholarship Committee meets as needed to review submitted applications.

APPLICATION DUE DATE	DECISION FINALIZED
Third Friday in March	By May 31
Third Friday In June	By August 31
Third Friday in September	By November 30



Delivery of Scholarships

Funding will not be provided until proof of enrollment in the certification program or acceptance to classes from a vocational or trade school has been provided. Most often, the committee will award partial funding to start your program (paid directly to the school/training provider) and final funding upon successful completion of the approved program (reimbursed to the student). Successful completion may be demonstrated with a course certificate or other acceptable documentation.

If your course/training fees have been secured from another source, the Committee will consider funding requests for work-required equipment such as tools, boots, safety gear, or gas cards for transportation assistance, for example. Please provide a detailed list of needs and estimated costs. All material requests must be coordinated through the Chamber in advance of purchase or reimbursement.

All scholarship awards are at the discretion of the Scholarship Committee.

LEARN MORE AND COMPLETE YOUR SCHOLARSHIP REQUEST AT discoverLowell.org/ikb-scholarship.

NEED HELP? Lowell Area Chamber of Commerce / Greater Lowell Chamber Foundation
PO Box 224, 113 Riverwalk Plaza, Lowell MI 49331
(616) 897-9161 • info@lowellchamber.org
discoverLowell.org/ikb-scholarship

