



Women in Science Scholarship

Background:

Larry Sawyer and Debra McDowall have high hopes that the Fox Valley remains strong and vibrant, especially for the next generation. The Women in Science Scholarship Fund was established in March 2007 to benefit female seniors graduating from Appleton, Menasha or Neenah High Schools who plan to pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in pure or applied science.

"We do feel we owe our community a debt of gratitude, as it has been so kind to us," says Larry.



The two began their relationship with the Community Foundation in 2003 by establishing the Sawyer Family Fund, a donor advised endowment fund to benefit their many charitable interests in organizations supporting the arts, environment, and especially education opportunities for young people. A few years later they looked into establishing a scholarship fund.

"In many of my graduate school classes, I was the only female, and so I felt very passionate about trying to do something for a future generation of women in science," says Debra.

Eligibility: (taken into consideration to determine recipients)

- Graduating female senior of one of the public high schools listed below:
 - Appleton Area School District High Schools
 - Menasha High School
 - Neenah High School
- Planning to attend a 4-year private or public college or university as a full-time student to earn a Bachelor of Science degree in applied or pure sciences (engineering, chemistry, physics, biology)
- Minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA
- Financial need will be considered

Award Amount:

One \$1,000 per year renewable scholarship award for up to four years (total \$4,000).

Selection:

Recipients will be recommended each spring by the Community Foundation Scholarship Selection Committee.

Collecting the Award & Payment Procedure:

Recipients must fill out and submit Scholarship Acceptance Form and Scholarship Verification Form through the [Scholarship Portal](https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=cffvrscholar) (<https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=cffvrscholar>). Recipients are required to provide supporting documents *as instructed* in the Scholarship Verification Form, such as class registration/list **with** credits listed, proof of major, grade transcript, etc.

After approval of online Scholarship Verification Form, the scholarship check will be paid directly to the school the recipient will be attending. The **Community Foundation communicates with students via email**; it is the student's responsibility to keep their Scholarship Portal account updated with their current email address.

Loss of Eligibility:

Failure to maintain full-time student status and remain a science major throughout the undergraduate years maintaining a 2.0 GPA (on a 4.0 grade point system) during the freshman year of college, a 2.5 GPA during the sophomore year, and a 3.0 GPA during the junior and senior years of college. *Student changing their major should contact the Community Foundation to verify continued eligibility.*

Further Information:

- Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region
 - Website cfoxvalley.org/scholarships/
 - Email scholarships@cfoxvalley.org
 - Phone 920.702.7629