

## Shawano Area Community Foundation James L. Popp Scholarship

### Background:

This scholarship was established by James (Jim) Popp to help Bonduel High School graduates planning to pursue an engineering or skilled trade career. Jim grew up on a dairy farm in Bonduel, WI, and attended parochial grade school and Bonduel High School. As a teen, Jim worked at a cheese factory, a blacksmith, and at a bowling alley as a mechanical pin setter. All the while he made sure the farm's mechanical devices and machinery were operating smoothly. He pursued a chemist career at UW-Stevens Point, and in July 1960 he began life as a West Point cadet and graduated in 1964 as an officer in the U.S. Army. He trained as a U.S. Army Ranger and a parachutist and became an artillery officer with the 101<sup>st</sup> Airborne Division. After completing Jumpmaster School to become a senior parachutist, Jim was accepted into the U.S. Army Helicopter School and did two tours in Vietnam as a troop carrier and a gunship pilot. He then became an Operations Officer at Fort Hood, TX. He went back to school at the Army's Command and General Staff college in Kansas. He then became an Executive Officer in a test battalion of nearly 900 soldiers. He completed a 3-month tour in Germany, and was assigned to Army Chief of Staff, Operations, at the Pentagon, in new artillery equipment research and development.



The next assignment was a dream come true for Jim. He became the Battalion Commander of a 600+ man tracked field artillery battalion in Germany. Jim later returned to the Pentagon and was selected for the Army's National War College. Before retirement he served as Inspector General of the Minnesota National Guard. Throughout his 27+ years of service, Jim has been passionate about the need for soldiers and civilians to be technically trained in their duties. He still believes that technical expertise is vitally important to self-satisfaction and performance.

### Eligibility: (taken into consideration to determine recipients)

- Graduating seniors from Bonduel High School planning to attend an accredited 2- or 4-year college or university as a full-time student pursuing an engineering program or planning to attend an accredited 2-year technical college pursuing a skilled trade career (Carpentry, Electrician, Welder, Mason, etc.)
- Minimum cumulative 2.5 GPA
- Participated in a Bonduel High School Technical Education course or are an active member of SkillsUSA
- Demonstrates the following: motivated and well-rounded student who is active in school and community activities, potential to succeed in becoming a productive member of today's workforce

### Award Amount:

Two \$500 non-renewable scholarship awards for tuition expenses.

### Selection:

Recipients will be selected each spring by Bonduel Community 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 register as a full-time student for the first semester at a college/university or technical college with an approved major.

### Further Information:

- Bonduel High School Guidance Department
- Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region
  - Website [www.cffoxvalley.org/scholarships/](http://www.cffoxvalley.org/scholarships/) / Email [scholarships@cffoxvalley.org](mailto:scholarships@cffoxvalley.org) / Phone 920.702.7629