

Rock River HR SHRM 2026 Scholarship Application

The Rock River HR SHRM Association is a professional association serving the Lee, Whiteside and Ogle counties and surrounding communities, dedicated to professional development and networking with local HR professionals. Even small businesses without a dedicated HR department can benefit from being a Rock River HR SHRM member.

Each year, we offer a \$500 scholarship to applicants, meeting the following criteria:

- College Freshman, Sophomore, Junior or Senior in the Fall semester
- Reside in Whiteside, Lee, or Ogle Counties, or surrounding communities
- Major/minor in Business with emphasis in Human Resources/Communications
- Participation in extracurricular activities

Required documentation:

1. A completed Rock River HR SHRM Scholarship Application. Please fill in all blanks. "NA" may be entered in spaces that are not applicable.
2. Include a copy of your High School or College transcript
3. We require at least one letter of recommendation. Either from an academic source or an extra-curricular source who knows the applicant well. Letter should include contact information for follow up purposes.
4. At least a 300-word essay discussing what excites you about your future major/minor in Business with emphasis in Human Resources/Communications.
 - Demonstrate clarity and articulation in presenting your opinion on the topic.
 - Within your essay, include your motivation for applying for this scholarship.
 - Please explain why you desire this scholarship and how it will impact your further education.
 - Be certain to introduce yourself and your current school.
 - Entries to this scholarship will be evaluated based on content; what you say and how you say it are important. This is an opportunity for you to provide insight into your story and distinguish yourself from other applicants!

All scholarships applications must be received by April 15, 2026, without exception.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Please DO NOT mail anything that should be sent with this application separate. Everything must be sent in and received together. If anything is missing your application will be considered incomplete.

Scholarship funds are sent directly to the students. The academic institution attending must be accredited by a nationally recognized accreditation group. The academic institution may be a college, university, two-year College, junior college, trade school, or other comparable institution.

Winners will be notified by email or phone in mid-May 2026. The scholarship winning student is strongly encouraged to be available to receive their award in-person at one of our Rock River HR SHRM meetings or events.



ROCK RIVER -SHRM SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2026

8.	College, University or Technical School to be attended: Location:
9.	Have you been accepted to your College, University or Technical school of attendance yet?
10.	Field of Study: Major/Minor:

STATEMENT OF ACCURACY FOR APPLICANTS

I hereby affirm that all the information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also agree that if chosen as a scholarship recipient my picture may be taken and used to promote the Rock River HR Scholarship program. (Recipient may waive photos due to unusual or compelling circumstances.)

I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship recipient, it is my responsibility to remit to RRHPA the appropriate information for my scholarship to be paid directly to my academic institution for the 2025/2026 school year.

I hereby understand that I will not submit this application without all required attachments and supporting information. Incomplete applications or applications that do not meet eligibility criteria will not be considered for this scholarship.

Applicant Signature

Date

Please email complete package to: rrhrpa@gmail.com

For Rock River Scholarship use only:

Checklist:

- Completed Rock River HR Scholarship Application and Signed Statement of Accuracy
- Essay
- At Least One Letter of recommendation
- High School or College Transcripts