

Scholarship Opportunities from *The Daily Iowan*

The Daily Iowan has awarded more than \$1.3 million in scholarships since 1987. The program was started to help bring outstanding high school journalists to the University of Iowa and to work in the *DI* newsroom.

\$2,000 a year for up to four years

Bill Mertens Memorial Daily Iowan Scholarship

- Eligibility: High school seniors entering college in Fall 2026
- Renewable on a semester-by-semester basis for a maximum of four years
- Merit-based scholarship

Students who are from **historically underrepresented populations** are encouraged to apply:

- Alaskan Native, American Indian/Native American, Black/African American, Hispanic, Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander, two or more underrepresented races
- Individuals with disabilities
- First-generation college students

Renewal requirements for both scholarships include:

- Satisfactory newsroom performance, as evaluated by the executive editor and the publisher
- Completion of at least nine credit hours per semester
- Minimum grade-point average of 2.70

Scholarships are independent of any University of Iowa financial aid package and provided in two equal payments at the beginning of each semester.

Application Process

Application deadline is January 31, 2026

Scholarship committee reviews applications and finalists will be invited for a campus visit/interview in February.

The recipient(s) will be notified in March.

About *The Daily Iowan*

The Daily Iowan is the independent, nonprofit student newspaper located on the University of Iowa campus. The newsroom is entirely student-run and student-managed.

The *DI* earned several top awards in the last year, including a Newspaper Pacemaker award from the Associated Collegiate Press. *The Daily Iowan* was also named 2025 Newspaper of the Year in Iowa, competing directly with the largest professional newspapers in the state.

Our media properties include:

- **The Daily Iowan print newspaper:** published Wednesdays during the fall and spring, plus Pregame football edition on Fridays in the fall
- **dailyiowan.com:** multimedia website with daily news updates
- **DITV:** live newscasts three days per week during the fall and spring
- **Community newspapers:** the *DI* owns and operates the *Mount Vernon-Lisbon Sun* and *Solon Economist*, weekly community newspapers close to Iowa City

Questions?

Jason Brummond, Publisher
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Go to **dailyiowan.com/scholarships** or click on the Scholarships link at the bottom of our homepage to learn more about the scholarship opportunity and review the application requirements.



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Complete the online application form, including the checklist of materials to submit with your application.

- ✓ Two letters of recommendation (including one from a journalism advisor/teacher)
- ✓ One-page statement on how working at *The Daily Iowan* will fit into your educational and career goals
- ✓ Three examples of your journalistic work (i.e. writing/reporting, photos, photo slideshow, graphics/design, video)
- ✓ A copy of your high school transcript



We prefer digital submissions for the examples of journalistic work (URL or a full-page PDF), but understand your school or references may want to send materials directly to us.



Any printed materials (including transcripts and letters of recommendation) can be sent to the address below and **must be postmarked by January 31, 2026**

Daily Iowan Scholarship Committee
Attn: Jason Brummond, Publisher
Adler Journalism Building, Room E131
Iowa City, IA 52242

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You will hear from us in February/March regarding your application status.

