

2021 Herb Kohl Initiative Scholarship

On a 7-year rotation, this scholarship is awarded to one Loyal High School Senior (it is awarded to 100 seniors yearly in Wisconsin).

\$10,000 will be awarded in the spring, 2021, directly to the recipient's higher education institution.

The intent of the Herb Kohl Student Initiative Scholarship is to recognize students who are putting forth **extraordinary effort** to do their best in the classroom and **have overcome significant obstacles or adversity**, but whose class rank, GPA, or status is likely to make them ineligible or not competitive for any academic scholarships.

The Initiative scholarship is meant to be transformative for a student, and possibly his or her family, as he or she graduates and moves into the next phase of life to attend an institution of higher education. Often, this scholarship removes a significant financial barrier for a student to continue their educational journey beyond high school. Worthy candidates are often the kind of student whose story brings a tear to your eye; it's the story of a student who has struggled and succeeded despite long odds or many challenges.

Here are some **sample student situations** which would fit the spirit or intent of the scholarship:

- A student who may be the first in his or her family to attend higher education, and who might not fulfill that dream without the scholarship;
- A student who has had a significant negative life event or events early in his or her academic career that contributed to their early lack of success, but who has shown great efforts and persistence in moving forward beyond his or her circumstances (even if they don't have the best GPA or class rank) to achieve graduation;
- A student who has struggled through significant illness or tragedy, which has kept them from fully engaging in the high school experience and limited his or her participation in classroom activities, extracurriculars or athletics, but who has also shown personal initiative in achieving success.
- A student who has overcome significant traumatic experiences, no matter the source, and has shown resiliency and fortitude in their educational journey.
- A student who has worked to resolve many of their own personal barriers to graduation, and who has overcome their decisions from the past to ensure that they can graduate successfully.

REQUIRMENTS:

Submit a one-page essay to the school counselor by **Friday, January 8, 2021**. Your essay should cover the following topics:

- Why are you deserving of this scholarship/what are your qualifications/what is your “story”?
- Where are you planning to attend school and what is your intended major?
- What are your future goals?
- Anything else that you wish the committee to consider when reviewing your essay.

EVALUATION PROCESS:

The following items will be considered when evaluating essays:

- Grammar and overall presentation.
- Creativity.
- Essay effectiveness.
- How well your story “fits” the Herb Kohl Initiative Scholarship purpose.