

2017-18 Education Grants

OVER 19,000 GRANTS AWARDED



Blandin Foundation™

STRENGTHENING RURAL MINNESOTA

Important! Please Read!

Changes for 2017-18 awards

- Applications open **October 1**.
- Deadline to apply is now **March 1**.
- Awards will be made in **late April 2017**.

Education Grants are for you

What:

\$1,000 to \$4,500 each year – so you can get the training you need for the future you want.

Who:

Every Itasca area student who wants a better future. You don't have to be the top of your class, or an athlete, or on the yearbook staff.

Why:

To help you "fill the gap" between the cost of your chosen school, and the amount you or your family can afford to pay.

What schools can I go to?

You can go to any accredited program anywhere in the United States – including online. This includes *certificate programs, community college, tribal college, college and university*.

You can apply if you are

- Under age 25 as of September 1, 2017.
- A high school graduate of: Bigfork, Blackduck, Bug O Nay Ge Shig, Deer River, Grand Rapids, Greenway, Hill City, Nashwauk-Keewatin, Northland (Remer), Northome, Northern Lights Community School.
- A homeschooled student who would have graduated from one of these schools.
- Enrolled at any accredited educational institution in the U.S.
- Registered as a full-time student (12 credits per semester or quarter). Part-time students (6-11 credits per semester or quarter) are considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Making progress (GPA 2.0 or higher) toward your degree/certificate.

How often?

You must reapply every year. Awards are not automatically renewed each year.

Going to Itasca Community College?

Do not complete this application. Instead, please apply for a Blandin Foundation Education Grant directly through ICC by following a two-step process.

1. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov and list ICC's school code – #002356. This allows ICC to receive your results. Follow up on any additional paperwork requests from ICC related to your application, if requested.
2. Complete the ICC Blandin Foundation Education Grant application at www.itascacc.edu/forms by **March 1**. Once you have completed both steps, ICC can calculate your eligibility for an Education Grant. Funds are limited, so apply early!

For more information, visit ICC's financial aid webpage: www.itascacc.edu/finaid or call the ICC Student Services Office at (218) 322-2320.

How to apply

Online

At www.blandinfoundation.org/educationgrants. You'll find the online application form and instructions for each step of the process. You don't need to do the entire application at once. You can save your work, log out and return when you have information to add.

Or use this form

Fill out the enclosed Application and Student Release forms. Mail them to the address on the Application, or drop them off at the Blandin Foundation office.

Just like the online form, you can provide the rest of the items that complete your application later.

Download step-by-step instructions to build a complete a paper application at: www.blandinfoundation.org/educationgrants.

Fill out the FAFSA

You can fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as early as **October 1**. This form helps determine your financial need. Get one at www.fafsa.ed.gov or call **(800) 433-3243** to order a paper copy. Once your FAFSA is processed, you will get access to your federal Student Aid Report (SAR). Send your SAR to Blandin Foundation.

Make the deadline - March 1

Your complete application is due on this date. We consider extensions on a case-by-case basis.

Application checklist

Your Education Grant application is complete when Blandin Foundation has these documents:

- Application form
- Financial Aid Information Release form
- Student Aid Report (results from FAFSA)
- **2015** federal tax returns (student and parent(s))

Need help?

Call Diana at **(218) 326-0523** or
email educationgrants@blandinfoundation.org

If your plans change

It is important that you keep us informed of any change of plans during or after the application process: different school, change of address, marital status, etc. Call Diana at **(218) 326-0523** or email educationgrants@blandinfoundation.org.



Blandin Foundation™
STRENGTHENING RURAL MINNESOTA

100 North Pokegama Avenue
Grand Rapids, MN 55744 USA
www.blandinfoundation.org

2017-18 Application

You can also apply online at blandinfoundation.org/educationgrants

1. Name _____ Maiden Name *(if married)* _____
(last) (first) (full middle name)

2. Preferred Student Email Address _____
(please print, this is how we will communicate with you)

Race/Ethnicity
 African American/Black Asian Pacific Islander Native American
 Hispanic/Latino Caucasian Do not wish to provide

3. Daytime Phone _____
(for text or call)

Other, please specify _____

4. Permanent Address _____
(street) (city) (country) (state) (zip)

5. Date of Birth _____ 6. Social Security Number _____

7. High School Attended _____ High School Graduation (month/year) _____

8. College/Technical College (2017-18) _____
Institution Address _____
(please notify us immediately if you change schools)

Have you ever received a Blandin Foundation Education Grant in the past year? yes no

Did your parent(s) pursue a college education? yes no

9. Please check appropriate box for 2017-18 school year
 Dependent living on campus Dependent living off campus Dependent living with parents (or other relatives) Independent student

10. How did you hear about this Blandin Foundation Program? _____

11. Father's, Guardian's or Spouse's Name _____
Employer _____ Address _____
Mother's, Guardian's or Spouse's Name _____
Employer _____ Address _____

12. Other Siblings in College/Technical College _____
(do not list family members that are considered independent or are enrolled in the Post-Secondary Education Option (PSEO) program)

Financial Information

13a. Parents: Cash (savings & checking) \$ _____ Trust Fund \$ _____ CDs \$ _____
Stocks/Bonds/Mutual Funds \$ _____ Education IRAs \$ _____
(parents: do not include employers 401(k) plans, pension plans, or IRAs)

13b. Students: Cash (savings & checking) \$ _____ Trust Fund \$ _____ CDs \$ _____
Stocks/Bonds/Mutual Funds \$ _____

Remember to Include:

- A copy of your **2015** federal tax return.
- A copy of your parents' (for dependent students) **2015** federal tax return (form 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ)

If your family owns a business:

- Please include the appropriate schedule for that particular business/corporation (form K-1/subcorp)

If your family operates a farm or has experienced high medical costs:

- Include schedules A and F

Note: Please do not send us your Minnesota state income tax form.

(continued on back)

Unusual Circumstances - Additional Supporting Documents Needed!

Are there unusual circumstances that have a direct impact on your financial need? Has your family experienced a drop in income in recent months due to loss of employment, divorce or death? Has your family experienced high out-of-pocket medical costs during the past year? Part-time scholarships (6-11 credits) are also available to applicants with unusual circumstances, such as illness, courses not offered during a specific semester/quarter or work-related issues. Therefore, if you plan to be enrolled part-time, or have experienced other unusual circumstances, additional paperwork must be completed and returned to the Blandin Foundation.

Please contact Diana Daigle at (218) 326-0523 or email: educationgrants@blandinfoundation.org. Your situation will be taken into consideration when award decisions are made during April/early May.

14. List any other scholarships, grants or aid you have been awarded for the 2017-18 school year and keep us informed of any changes or additions to this list.

(\$ amount)

- A. _____
- B. _____
- C. _____

Questions?

Call Diana Daigle at (218) 326-0523 or email: educationgrants@blandinfoundation.org

Certification

In submitting this application, I certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of information may result in termination of any education grant approved.

Date

Signature



Blandin Foundation™
STRENGTHENING RURAL MINNESOTA

100 North Pokegama Avenue
Grand Rapids, MN 55744 USA
(218)326-0523
(218)327-1949 (fax)
email:educationgrants@blandinfoundation.org
www.blandinfoundation.org

Financial Aid Information Release Form

Required to complete your application

Date _____

Dear Financial Aid Director, MOHE Representative and/or Blandin Foundation:

I have applied for an educational award from the Blandin Foundation, a private foundation which administers a number of awards for area students.

Please provide them with any information they request regarding my financial aid package, GPA, need analysis results or information (ISIR) I provided on the FAFSA. This will enable them to determine if I meet the need-based criteria necessary to receive an award. Thank you for your assistance in this process.

I acknowledge and authorize the Blandin Foundation's use of my name, address, educational institution, and scholarship award as required by law on its annual 990PF tax return, as well as the use of my name, educational institution and scholarship award in print and online publications.

Sincerely,

Student Signature

Student Printed Name

Student's Social Security Number