

# NEWS RELEASE



*For further information, contact:*

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The Township Officials of Illinois will award seven \$2,000 scholarships this spring. Deadline for filing the scholarship application is March 1. The application/guidelines will be printed in the January and February issues of *Township Perspective*, and are also on the TOI web site, [www.toi.org](http://www.toi.org).

Scholarships will be awarded to graduating high school seniors with a minimum grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale. To be eligible, the student must be a U.S. citizen and resident of Illinois. The student must submit a 500-word essay on *The Role of Township Government in Today's Society and in the Future*, that will include information obtained from an interview with a current township official. The student must plan to enroll at an Illinois school as a full-time undergraduate student pursuing a bachelor's degree.

The scholarships are named for people who have made significant contributions to township government:

- **The William Z. Ahrends Scholarship (Established 1994)** - A strong advocate of local government, William Z. Ahrends served as Rooks Creek Township Clerk in Livingston County from April 1949 to August 1990. Mr. Ahrends was inspired to organize two township officials' associations, the Town Clerks Division of TOI and the Livingston County Association of TOI. A past president of the organization, he is the only person ever appointed director emeritus of TOI.
- **The Troy A. Kost Scholarship (Established 1982, first awarded in 1989)** - Troy A. Kost, Highway Commissioner of Astoria Township in Fulton County, was a dedicated public servant and an active, avid leader devoted to the principles of township government. Mr. Kost spent most of his life working for and promoting township government in several capacities and was known as "Mr. Township Government" throughout the State of Illinois. The first "paid" leader of TOI, he preferred to be called the organization's Secretary/Treasurer.
- **The Barbara Behm Scholarship (Established 1991)** - Barbara A. Behm was an outstanding public official, devoted to her community and dedicated to township government. Serving as Township Clerk of Fremont Township in Lake County and later as the township's supervisor, Ms. Behm also was active with the Grayslake Fire Protection District, the Lake County Township Officials Association, and served on the organization's executive committee. Ms. Behm was also an outstanding member of the TOI Board of Directors.
- **The Carolyn Langan Scholarship (Established 1982, first awarded 1989)** - Carolyn Langan was chief of the Local Government Assistance Division of the Department of Local Government Affairs (now known as the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity). In that capacity, she was responsible for improving the skills of elected and appointed government officials. She was also instrumental in organizing statewide training programs that are still in use today.
- **The Delbert W. Miller Scholarship (Established 1993)** - Delbert W. Miller was a dedicated public servant and leader in township government serving as Algonquin Township Highway Commissioner in McHenry County. In addition, Mr. Miller served local fire protection districts and the Wisconsin Aquaculture Association. Mr. Miller spent many years traveling throughout the State of Illinois searching for ways that township government could better serve the people and TOI's membership. He was also a member of TOI's executive committee and was serving as TOI President when he passed away in 1993.
- **The Township Officials of Illinois Memorial Scholarship (Established 1997)** - Established on June 23, 1997, by the TOI Board of Directors, this scholarship fund memorializes all deceased TOI members who have had money donated to the scholarship program in their names. Through the Memorial Scholarship, deserving students, tomorrow's leaders, will be given the opportunity to further their education.
- **The Robert L. "Bob" Turner Scholarship (Established 2008)** - This scholarship is in memory to the former Belvidere Township (Boone County) Supervisor, longtime TOI Board Member and former President of the Township Supervisors Division.

# TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS OF ILLINOIS

## Scholarship Application

Thank you for applying to the Township Officials of Illinois Scholarship Program. TOI will award seven \$2,000 scholarships this year. Please read the following information carefully. If you have questions, please call (217) 744-2212, or our toll-free number 1-866-897-4688.

### ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

To be eligible for a Township Officials of Illinois Scholarship, you must meet all of the following criteria:

- Must be a graduating Illinois high school senior having a minimum grade point average of 3.00 on a 4.00 scale.
- Must be a U.S. citizen and resident of Illinois.
- Must have a history of extracurricular activities that demonstrates a willingness to accept leadership responsibilities (student government, club officer, etc.) or a commitment to civic responsibility, social consciousness and a willingness to serve the community (community service projects, volunteer activities with local service agencies or charitable institutions, etc.)
- Must submit a 500-word essay on *The Role of Township Government in Today's Society and in the Future* that will include an interview with a township official.
- Must submit two letters of recommendation from teachers, counselors, local officials or business people.
- Must submit an official high school transcript.
- Must submit a cover letter and completed application form.
- Must plan to enroll at an Illinois school as a full-time undergraduate student pursuing a bachelor's degree.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURES

- The deadline for this application and all required documentation is March 1, 2010. Your application MUST BE POSTMARKED by the U.S. Post Office no later than March 1, 2010. Late applications will not be considered.
- You must meet all the eligibility criteria (see eligibility criteria above).
- All parts of the application must be typed or be legible in order to be considered. All attachments must contain your full name.

All items described in the Application Checklist shown below must be submitted together to constitute a complete application. No exceptions will be made and all decisions are final. All applicants should expect to receive written notification of a decision on their application by April 1, 2010. Notification of an award will not be given by telephone. One application will be sufficient for consideration for any scholarship offered by Township Officials of Illinois during the year it is submitted.

### APPLICATION CHECKLIST

- Cover Letter.** The student must submit a cover letter requesting consideration of his/her Scholarship Application.
- Scholarship Application.** All sections of this application must be completed. The student must sign and date the last page of this application.
- Essay.** The student must prepare and submit a 500-word essay on *"The Role of Township Government in Today's Society and in the Future"* that will include an interview of a township official. The official interviewed **must** sign this application for student to be eligible.
- Transcripts.** Submit an official high school transcript indicating your most recent academic work including fall semester 2009.
- Letters of Recommendation.** The student must submit two (2) letters of recommendation.

**A. PERSONAL BACKGROUND – Please Type or Write Neatly with Black Ink**

Mr.  
Ms.  
Mrs.

First Name \_\_\_\_\_ Middle Name or Initial \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

Permanent Home (or Parents') Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

Your Mailing Address (If not living with parents) \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Your Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address (if available) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_  
Month Day Year City State

Township and County in which you currently reside \_\_\_\_\_

Gender:  Male  Female U.S. Citizen?  Yes  No Illinois Resident?  Yes  No

**B. ACADEMIC BACKGROUND – Please Type or Write Neatly with Black Ink**

Name of Your High School \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Graduation Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class Rank: \_\_\_\_\_ out of \_\_\_\_\_

Cumulative Grade Point Average (on 4.00 scale): \_\_\_\_\_ ACT Score (composite) \_\_\_\_\_

College You Plan to Attend in Fall 2010: \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

This is a (check one):  2-Year  4-Year Institution

What will be your major: \_\_\_\_\_

**C. ESSAY – Please Type or Write Neatly with Black Ink**

My essay of not less than 500 words on *The Role of Township Government in Today's Society and in the Future* is attached, with signature, title, township/county of township official who was interviewed.

Interviewee's Signature, Title, Township/County \_\_\_\_\_

