

# Continuing Education

The Indiana Library Federation maintains certain funds to support library education and training. Award amounts may vary from year to year, depending upon fund availability and the number of credits taken by the student. Monetary awards and scholarships are managed and awarded based on donor intent and include specific criteria and expectations for reporting outcomes to ILF. Scholarship deadline is April 30, with intent for awards for fall semester.

## Scholarship for Professional Development

### David Dickey Continuing Education Award

Awarded to individuals who are new to the academic library profession and seeking support for continuing his or her education. An award of up to \$250 may be provided each year to attend a professional conference, such as the ILF annual conference, or to obtain additional training. Indiana Library Federation membership is not required. Previous recipients of this award may reapply. Deadline: April 30.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- Nominee must have received his or her library degree no more than five (5) years ago
- Nominee must be working in a professional capacity
- Provide documentation and supporting information that describes the continuing education experience sought and its potential benefits to the recipient and institution.

## Scholarships for Higher Education

**The Esther Schlundt Memorial Scholarship Fund** is named in honor of an outstanding reference librarian at Purdue University. This scholarship provides scholarship funding for one or more applicants entering or currently enrolled in an ALA-accredited graduate degree program in library and information science. This scholarship is typically awarded in the amount of \$1,000.

**The Sue Marsh Weller Memorial Scholarship Fund** provides funding for at least one scholarship for applicants entering or currently enrolled in an ALA-accredited program of graduate study specializing in children's librarianship. This scholarship is typically awarded in the amount of \$1,000.

**The William Gresh Memorial Scholarship** provides funding for at least one scholarship applicant entering or currently enrolled in a program to receive educational certification in the field of Library Media Services. A scholarship of up to \$1,000 is awarded to use toward an MLS or certification.

Minimum Criteria for Consideration:

- 1) Applicant is currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate certification program for Library Media Services.
- 2) Applicant's program of study must meet the current criteria as set by the Indiana Department of Education and the Indiana Professional Standards Board (see [IN Teacher Licensing standards](https://www.doe.in.gov/licensing), with link to <https://www.doe.in.gov/licensing>).

## Scholarships for Higher Education, continued

### Guidelines for Scholarship Applicants

Minimum criteria for consideration:

- 1) Currently accepted to or enrolled in an an ALA accredited library science program;
- 2) Applicant's program of study must meet the current criteria as required by the Indiana Professional Standards Board or, if for a school library, Indiana Department of Education licensing.
- 3) Required minimum grade point average of 3.0 for graduate work. Candidates with undergrad GPA less than 3.0 *may* qualify by demonstrating current and plans for future success.

All scholarship recipients are chosen on the basis of:

- (1) Interest in librarianship as a profession
- (2) Individual's potential in the library field
- (3) Academic record
- (4) References
- (5) and/or a personal interview or video submission.

Applicants must be residents of Indiana. Each must accept employment in an Indiana library within one year after completing his or her library education and must continue to work in an Indiana library for at least one year after accepting employment. If a recipient does not comply with these conditions, the scholarship must be repaid as a loan.

Applicants are responsible for making sure that the materials requested in the scholarship application are received by the Indiana Library Federation office by the posted deadline of April 30.

The following items are necessary for an application to be considered:

- Three (3) letters of recommendation are required. At least one recommendation must be from a librarian. All letters of recommendation should be of a professional nature. References from current or previous employers, library trustees, current or previous teachers or professors, or others who comment on your potential as a library professional are acceptable. The letters should comment on one or more of the following:
  - o potential in the library profession;
  - o employment performance;
  - o participation in volunteer and community activities;
  - o academic performance.
- For master's candidates:
  - o a transcript or copy of official grade report for any library science courses already completed;
  - o minimum grade point average of 3.0 for graduate work;
  - o transcripts of all undergraduate education;
  - o transcripts from other graduate work may be included, but are not required.
- For [public library certification candidates](#):
  - o Documentation of enrollment in an approved public library certification program;
  - o transcripts from undergraduate education and/or high school, and if GPA is less than 3.0, plan for future success;
  - o transcript or copy of official grade report for any course already taken toward library certification with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 .
- For school library media candidates:
  - o a transcript for any education and/or library science courses already completed; including at least three (3) library credits toward certification);
  - o a transcript for all undergraduate or graduate work completed, with a minimum grade point average of 3.0 for graduate work;
  - o transcripts from high school may be included by candidates who have not yet completed any graduate or undergraduate work.
- A short essay that describes the applicant's specific interests and goals in pursuing librarianship, including the

anticipated library type and area of specialization, if known. The essay should be no more than about one page, single-spaced, typed, and formatted professionally..

- A video recording that takes the place of an interview, helping the committee know the applicant. The video should be an MP4 file of no more than 3 minutes, should be a professional-style of presentation, and may be recorded on a smart phone or online meeting software (professional production is not expected). The video should address how the scholarship will benefit the applicant and how the applicant will contribute to the library field. The ILF office will help with format for submission.

Questions? Contact the ILF office at (317) 257-2040 or e-mail [tdavis@ifonline.org](mailto:tdavis@ifonline.org).