## History of the Foundation

The Selma J. Hartke Community Foundation was organized in January 2001 to act as a community foundation for the greater Litchfield community. Selma J. Hartke was a lifetime resident of Litchfield, Illinois, and devoted her life to helping other people. The Foundation seeks to carry out her wishes through the establishment of the Selma J. Hartke Scholarships.

During the last twenty-five years the Foundation has awarded 1,781 scholarships to deserving students in Macoupin and Montgomery Counties.

## The Board's Guidelines in Awarding a Scholarship

The Board of Directors' goal is to assist deserving high school graduates in Macoupin and Montgomery Counties who want to continue their education.

After a review of the student's application and a personal interview, the Board of Directors determines whether to award a scholarship and if so, the amount.

The amount of the scholarship is based upon the Board's analysis of the student's financial circumstances, merit, and promise of success. In making their determination, the primary concern is the financial ability of the student to pay for his or her education. The total amount of a scholarship shall not exceed 50% of the anticipated annual expenses, including tuition, room and board, fees, and related expenses, for the school the student has chosen.

All awards will be paid directly to a qualified school selected by the applicant. Any community college, college, university, or trade school that is accredited by a recognized and reputable accreditation organization, maintains a regular faculty and curriculum, and has a regularly enrolled student body in attendance will be considered a qualified school. Special consideration shall be given to those students pursuing a career in agriculture or religious studies.

The scholarship will be renewable without further application, semester by semester, for a period equal to the normal completion of the applicable course of study. The scholarship may, at the discretion of the Board of Directors, be transferable to another school. In order to be eligible for scholarship renewal, the scholarship recipient must maintain a satisfactory grade point average at his or her chosen school.

# Instructions for Applying for a Scholarship from The Selma J. Hartke Community Foundation

First Step: Read and review the statement describing the history of the Foundation and the guidelines used by the Board of Directors to award a scholarship. Pay careful attention to the guidelines while you are filling out your Application and writing your short essay.

Second Step: Go on the Internet and find the form entitled "Free Application for Federal Student Aid" ("FAFSA"). With the assistance of your parents or guardians complete the form and submit it in a timely manner to the U.S. Department of Education. The web page for the form is www.fafsa.ed.gov.

Third Step: Carefully read over the Application and thoroughly answer each of the questions, especially those about your financial situation. After completing the Application, write a short essay (300-500 words) which describes your goals and ambitions.

Fourth Step: The final step is to submit to the Foundation the documents:

(1) Your completed Application with the essay attached;

(2) Your high school transcript and if you are currently in college, a copy of your current college transcript; and

(3) Your FAFSA and any response thereto.

These items should be delivered to:

The Selma J. Hartke Community Foundation
P.O. Box 2459
Springfield, IL 62705-2459

**Applications and supporting material must be postmarked no later than February 24, 2027.**

# THE SELMA J. HARTKE COMMUNITY FOUNDATION
# APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP

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Name of applicant:

Age: Home phone: ( ) Mobile phone: ( )

Address: City: ZIP code:

Number of years living in Macoupin or Montgomery County:

Father/Guardian's name and address:

Mother/Guardian's name and address:

FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Father/Guardian's occupation: Annual income:

Mother/Guardian's occupation: Annual income:

Other family income (e.g., investments, benefits):

Unusual demands on family income, if any:

Number of siblings:
If a sibling is/was a recipient of this scholarship, please provide his/her name:

HIGH SCHOOL YEARS:

High school from which you will graduate: ACT/SAT score:
Grade point average: Size of class: Rank in class:

Honors/awards and offices held:

Extracurricular, church, and community activities (include number of hours per week):

(see next page)

FUTURE PLANS:

What school do you plan to attend?

Estimated annual cost: Tuition and fees:

Room and board:

Other expenses: _____

Total:

What other scholarships and financial aid are you seeking?
*(note whether pending, rejected, or approved and the amount)*

PLEASE INCLUDE WITH YOUR APPLICATION A SHORT ESSAY (300-500 WORDS) DESCRIBING YOUR GOALS AND AMBITIONS.

Date: Applicant signature: _____

Parent/Guardian(s) signature(s): _____

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