



THE MIDWEST BUILDERS EXCHANGE (MBEX) is dedicated to supporting the construction industry and its future workforce. Individual memberships and member companies represent design, construction, and support industries associated with the commercial construction sector throughout Minnesota and the surrounding five-state area.

MBEX is committed to keeping its members on the leading edge of project information via its Online Plan Room and the sharing of plans, creating connections and community throughout the construction industry, and offering educational opportunities to advance skills needed in today's workplace. As MBEX continues to grow and advance as an organization, so has its commitment to encouraging and supporting students to pursue careers in the trades and construction-related fields.

SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Embarking on a career within the construction and building industry presents both incredible opportunities and significant challenges. In recognition of this dynamic landscape, the Midwest Builders Exchange (MBEX) and its partner, The Builders Group Education Foundation, want to support and empower the next generation of industry leaders and innovators.

MBEX will award multiple scholarships ranging in value from \$1,000 - \$5,000* to future carpenters, electricians, HVAC specialists, masons, tilers, elevator technicians, plumbers, utility workers, and all specialized trades workers. Those studying construction management, construction engineering, and construction administration are also welcome to apply.

In addition to the cash scholarship prize, MBEX will also provide complimentary invitations to all MBEX-sponsored social events and educational opportunities for scholarship winners.

**MBEX reserves the right to adjust the number and monetary values of its scholarships.*

SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA

- 1.) Applicants must be pursuing a construction-related field of study at an accredited post-secondary educational institution, be it a trade school, a two-year technical or community college, or a four-year university.
- 2.) Applicants must be entering the Fall 2026 semester as a freshman, sophomore, or junior. For students completing their degree beyond the traditional four years, you may also be eligible to apply.
- 3.) Applicants must be studying at an accredited post-secondary institution located in Minnesota, Iowa, North Dakota, South Dakota, or Wisconsin.
- 4.) Applicants must be maintaining a GPA of 2.5 or higher.
- 5.) Applicants must possess a strong passion for the construction industry.
- 6.) Applicants must agree to attend a minimum of **ONE** MBEX-sponsored event, such as the MBEX Fall Social, MBEX Annual Meeting, MBEX Spring Social, Golf Tournaments, or other events. (For applicants living outside of Minnesota, further conversations will be had if awarded a scholarship.)

Previous scholarship recipients are also welcome to reapply as long as they continue to meet the scholarship criteria and are not entering their final semester of study.

The MBEX Scholarship Committee will review applications from qualified applicants and rank them based on a merit-based scoring system.

SUBMISSION PROCESS & TIMELINE

- Applications must be submitted online through MBEX's Kaleidoscope scholarship portal:
<https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/program/MBEXScholarshipApplications2026>.
- Completed applications and all supporting documents must be submitted by 11:55pm on Friday, May 29, 2026.
- The MBEX Scholarship Committee will review and score all qualified applications in early June 2026.
- The MBEX Scholarship Committee will then meet afterward (also in June 2026) to discuss and award scholarships.
- All applicants will be notified of scholarship status in July 2026.
- Awarded applicants are expected to attend a minimum of **ONE** MBEX-sponsored social event throughout the 2026-2027 academic year.

EVALUATION

Applicants will be evaluated on:

- Written Essay (600 words or fewer): This will be the most heavily evaluated piece of an applicant's submission. Originality and grammar matter!
- Two Short-Answer Questions (between 250 and 300 words) regarding MBEX and an applicant's current relationship with the construction industry.
- Construction-Related Work Experience
- Letter of Recommendation from a professional / industry contact, community leader, organizational representative, academic instructor, or academic advisor
- Involvement in construction-related student organizations or activities.
- Applicant's most recent educational transcript confirming current GPA.

CONTACT

If you have questions regarding the 2026-2027 MBEX / TBG Construction Scholarship, please contact Ashlee Hartwig at (612) 381-2631 or ah@mbex.org.

Additional information about the scholarship program can be found by visiting www.mbex.org/scholarship.