

Bridge to the Future Scholarship Information Guide



What is the Bridge to the Future Scholarship?

The Bridge to the Future Scholarship is a program Tanager offers to help young people who have benefited from Tanager's services achieve their education and career goals. This scholarship supports students pursuing:

- Traditional college programs or courses
- Trade school education
- Community college programs
- Other post-secondary education/certification programs

Scholarships can also cover the costs of books, tools, equipment, certification or licensure fees, and room and board.

This scholarship is made possible through a generous \$1 million anonymous gift to Tanager in 2020.

Why Does the Scholarship Exist?

Tanager believes in empowering youth to build successful futures. The scholarship exists to:

- Invest in the education of students who have overcome challenges.
- Provide financial support to reduce barriers to achieving educational goals.
- Encourage continued learning and growth for those who have been impacted by Tanager's programs.

What Applicants Need to Know Before Applying

Eligibility Criteria:

- **Tanager Client:** Applicants must have been a Tanager client for at least six months in the last two years (New Applicants only)
- **Goals and Plans:** Be able to articulate your academic plans, goals, and the impact of Tanager services on your life.

Key Dates:

- **Application Opens:** February 2, 2026
- **Deadline:** March 31, 2026 (12:00 a.m.)
- **Awards Announced:** May 1, 2026
- **Payments to Educational Institutions:** Scholarship payments are made in 2 equal amounts, one at first semester and one at second semester. Payments are made directly to institution after confirmation of enrollment and attendance.

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Submission Options:

Online: Apply online at <https://tanagerplace.org/bridge-to-the-future-scholarship/>

Paper Applications

- **Download online:** <https://tanagerplace.org/bridge-to-the-future-scholarship/>
- **Pickup locations:**
 - High school counselor offices
 - Tanager Estle Center (1030 5th Ave SE, Cedar Rapids, IA)
- **Submit Completed Forms:**
 - **Mail:** Bridge to the Future Scholarship
Tanager
2309 C St SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
 - **Email:** scholarship@tanagerplace.org **Subject Line:** Application for Bridge to the Future

Full Timeline & Key Dates

- **February 2, 2026:** Applications open.
 - Available on the Tanager website as a downloadable PDF.
 - Paper copies available at high school counselor offices and the Estle Center.
- **March 31, 2026:** Application submission deadline.
 - Submit via online form or mail to:
Bridge to the Future Scholarship
Tanager
2309 C St SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 52404
- **Date TBD: Applicants notified of award decisions via:**
 - Email to the applicant and an additional contact.
 - Phone call to the applicant and/or additional contact.
 - Award determination letters mailed to all applicants.
- **Date TBD: Awardee meeting with Tanager representative (in-person or virtual).**
 - Meeting will review:
 - Required award documentation.
 - Enrollment verification process.
 - Payment schedule.
 - Instructions for future support applications.

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Award Payments

- **First Semester:** Payments sent by (TBD) (after enrollment verification.)
- **Second Semester:** Payments sent by (TBD.)

Additional Notes

- Applicants awarded scholarships must submit enrollment verification after their first day of classes.