

2020-21 Education Grants

Your future. Wide open.



Blandin Foundation™

STRENGTHENING RURAL MINNESOTA

Important! Please Read!

- Applications open **October 1**.
- Deadline to apply is **March 1**.
- Awards will be made in **late April 2020**.

Education Grants are for you

What:

\$1,000 to \$4,500 each year – so you can get the training you need for the future you want.

Who:

Every Itasca area student who wants a better future. You don't have to be the top of your class, or an athlete, or on the yearbook staff.

Why:

To help you “fill the gap” between the cost of your chosen school, and the amount you or your family can afford to pay.

What schools can I go to?

You can go to any accredited program anywhere in the United States – including online. This includes *certificate programs, trade schools, community college, tribal college, college and university*. Education Grants fund only up to bachelor's degrees. Graduate and doctorate degree studies are not eligible.

You can apply if you are

- Under age 25 as of September 1, 2020.
- A high school graduate of: Bigfork, Blackduck, Bug O Nay Ge Shig, Deer River, Grand Rapids, Greenway, Hill City, Nashwauk-Keewatin, Northland (Remer), Northome, Northern Lights Community School.
- A homeschooled student who would have graduated from one of these schools.
- Post-secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) students who would have graduated from one of these schools.
- Enrolled at any accredited educational institution in the U.S.
- Registered as a full-time student (12 credits per semester or quarter). Part-time students (6-11 credits per semester or quarter) are considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Making progress (GPA 2.0 or higher) toward your degree/certificate.

How often?

You must reapply every year. Awards are not automatically renewed each year.

How to apply

Online

At www.blandinfoundation.org/educationgrants you'll find the application form and step-by-step instructions. You can save your progress, log out if needed and return at a later time to add more information.

Or use this form

Fill out the enclosed Application and Financial Aid Information Release Form. Mail them to the address on the application, or drop them off at the Blandin Foundation office.

Just like the online form, you can provide the rest of the items that complete your application by **March 1**.

Download step-by-step instructions to build a complete a paper application at: www.blandinfoundation.org/educationgrants.

Going to Itasca Community College? Use the steps below to complete the correct application:

Do not complete this application. Instead, please apply for a Blandin Foundation Education Grant directly through ICC by following a two-step process.

1. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) at www.fafsa.ed.gov and list ICC's school code – **#002356**. This allows ICC to receive your results. Follow up on any additional paperwork from ICC related to your application, if requested.
2. Complete the ICC Blandin Foundation Education Grant application at www.itascacc.edu/forms by **March 1**. Once you have completed both steps, ICC can calculate your eligibility for an Education Grant. Funds are limited, so apply early!

For more information, visit ICC's financial aid webpage: www.itascacc.edu/finaid or call the ICC Student Services Office at (218) 322-2320.

Fill out the FAFSA

You can fill out the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) as early as **October 1**. This form helps determine your financial need. Access one at <https://studentaid.ed.gov> or call (800) 433-3243 to order a paper copy. Once your FAFSA is processed, you will get access to your federal Student Aid Report (SAR). Send your SAR to Blandin Foundation.

Make the deadline - March 1

Your complete application is due on this date. We may consider extensions on occasion.

Application checklist

Your Education Grant application is complete when Blandin Foundation has these documents:

- Application form
- Financial Aid Information Release Form
- Student Aid Report (results from FAFSA)
- 2018 federal tax returns (student and parent(s))

Need help?

Call LuAnn at (218) 326-0523 or email educationgrants@blandinfoundation.org

If your plans change

It is important that you keep us informed of any change of plans during or after the application process: different school, change of address, marital status, etc. Call LuAnn at (218) 326-0523 or email educationgrants@blandinfoundation.org.



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100 North Pokegama Avenue
Grand Rapids, MN 55744 USA
www.blandinfoundation.org

2020-2021 Application

You can also apply online at blandinfoundation.org/educationgrants

1. Name _____ Maiden Name *(if married)* _____
(last) (first) (full middle name)

2. Preferred Student
Email Address _____
(please print, this is how we will communicate with you)

3. Daytime Phone _____
(for text or call)

4. Permanent Mailing Address _____
(street) (city) (country) (state) (zip)

5. Date of Birth _____ 6. Student SSN (last 4 digits) _____

7. High School Attended _____ High School Graduation *(month/year)* _____

8. College/Technical College (2020-21) _____
**Cannot leave blank. If undecided, please list the college/technical college you are most likely to attend.
Going to ICC? You will need to complete a different form- find out more in the brochure!**

Institution Address _____
(please notify us immediately if you change schools)

Have you ever received a Blandin Foundation Education Grant? yes no

Did your parent(s) pursue a college education? yes no

9. How did you hear about this Blandin Foundation Program? _____

10. Demographic Information

The following questions help Blandin Foundation better understand who is participating in our programs, including Education Grants. **PLEASE NOTE:** Providing this information does **NOT** affect your eligibility for an Education Grant.

Gender Identity Female Male Prefer to Self-describe: _____

Sexual Orientation _____

Race/Ethnicity *(select all that apply)*

African American/Black Asian Caucasian Hispanic/Latino Native American/American Indian
 Pacific Islander Additional Race/Ethnicity *(please list)* _____

Are you currently experiencing poverty? yes no

Have you ever experienced poverty? yes no

Do you identify as someone with a disability or impairment? yes no

If you answered "yes", please provide more information _____

Please remember to include:

- 2018 federal tax return for parent and student.
(Blandin Foundation reserves the prerogative to request additional financial documentation as needed.)

Note: Please do NOT send us your Minnesota state income tax form.

Unusual Circumstances - Additional Supporting Documents Needed!

Are there unusual circumstances that have a direct impact on your financial need? Has your family experienced a drop in income in recent months due to loss of employment, divorce or death? Has your family experienced high out-of-pocket medical costs during the past year? Part-time scholarships (6-11 credits) are also available to applicants with unusual circumstances, such as illness, courses not offered during a specific semester/quarter or work-related issues. Therefore, if you plan to be enrolled part-time, or have experienced other unusual circumstances, additional paperwork must be completed and returned to the Blandin Foundation.

Please contact LuAnn Robinson at (218) 326-0523 or email: educationgrants@blandinfoundation.org. Your situation will be taken into consideration when award decisions are made during April/early May.

Questions?

Call LuAnn Robinson at (218) 326-0523 or email: educationgrants@blandinfoundation.org.

Certification

In submitting this application, I certify that the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of information may result in termination of any education grant approved.

Date

Signature



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100 North Pokegama Avenue
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(218) 326-0523
(218) 327-1949 (fax)
email: educationgrants@blandinfoundation.org
www.blandinfoundation.org

Financial Aid Information Release Form

Required to complete your application.

Date _____

Dear Financial Aid Director, MOHE Representative and/or Blandin Foundation:

I have applied for an educational award from the Blandin Foundation, a private foundation which administers a number of awards for area students.

Please provide them with any information they request regarding my financial aid package, GPA, need analysis results or information (ISIR) I provided on the FAFSA. This will enable them to determine if I meet the need-based criteria necessary to receive an award. Thank you for your assistance in this process.

I acknowledge and authorize the Blandin Foundation's use of my name, address, educational institution, and scholarship award as required by law on its annual 990PF tax return, as well as the use of my name, educational institution and scholarship award in print and online publications.

Sincerely,

Student Signature

Student Printed Name

Student SSN (last 4 digits)