



Dear Parents:

The staff and officers of WILLIAMSVILLE STATE BANK and TRUST appreciate the challenges of funding advanced education for your high-school senior. As one way to help, we are participating in a state-wide essay-writing contest, sponsored by the CBAI Foundation for Community Banking. A monetary award in the amount of \$1,000 a year for up to four years of higher education will be awarded to the author of the best entry submitted to the Foundation by a participating Illinois high-school senior. Up to 11 additional first-place \$1,000 awards and 12 second-place \$500 awards are available in each of the regions of the state. An additional \$500 will be awarded to the high school of the overall winner.

Your child could be one of the 21 statewide winners of at least \$500!

Students are asked to write one-paragraph on each of the three topics.

- *The impact/importance of community banking to me or someone I know.*
- *The impact/importance of community banking to a business or agricultural concern in my area*
- *The impact/importance of community banking to my community in general*

Length of the entry must not exceed two pages of typewritten copy; double-spaced using the font Times New Roman with 10-12-point size.

The school will give him or her directions on the deadline and other particulars; or, contact Louella Crim at the bank at 217-698-9728 for information.

We wanted you to be aware of this rewarding program being made available to your student. The high school may also know of other such scholarships.

As a community bank, we're dedicated to furthering the quality of life in our community. The education of our young people is an essential part of our community's future. We hope your student decides to participate.

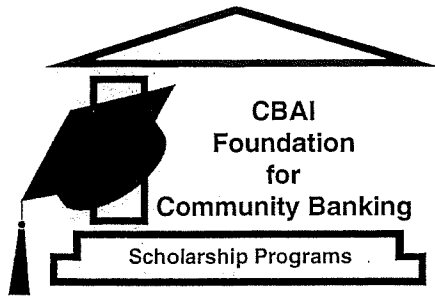
Sincerely,

Dennis Shackelford
Business Development Officer

512 W. MAIN STREET
P.O. BOX 379
WILLIAMSVILLE, IL 62693
FAX: 217-566-3438

3341 OLD JACKSONVILLE ROAD
SPRINGFIELD, IL 62711
FAX: 217-787-5150

480 S. CROSSING DRIVE
P.O. BOX 267
SHERMAN, IL 62684
FAX: 217-496-2961



CBAI FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY BANKING 2019 ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM GUIDELINES

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217/529-2265
800/736-2224
FAX 217/585-8738
www.cbai.com

Administrator

Andrea C. Cusick
CBAI
Springfield

The **CBAI Foundation for Community Banking** provides monetary awards for top high-school seniors statewide. The total awards available this year by the Foundation is \$21,000. These awards help deserving students highlight the importance of community banking to the local economy. ***You could win up to \$4,000 for higher education, and your school is eligible to win \$500!***

Judges will select the top entries statewide written by high-school seniors who best capture the three assigned topics.

Judges will be looking for an understanding of what a community bank is and its role in the local economy. The entry should emphasize the philosophy of community banking, but **MAKE NO REFERENCE TO A SPECIFIC BANK, BANKER, NOR CITY; ALSO NO REFERENCE OF THE MOVIES: IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE OR FORREST GUMP.**

Competition: Competition is open to Illinois high-school seniors who are sponsored by a CBAI member bank; it is not based on financial need. Students must be U.S. citizens and residents of Illinois. ***Student bank employees, plus the immediate families of any bank's employees, board members, and CBAI employees are ineligible.*** Students are asked to write one-paragraph on each of the three topics. Length of the entry **must not exceed two pages** of typewritten copy; double-spaced using the font Times New Roman with 10-12 point size. ***Do not submit your essay to more than one bank or you will be disqualified.***

Researching the Entry: Contestants will find that the most meaningful research about the subject will be gained from a tour of a local community bank and an interview with a bank officer.

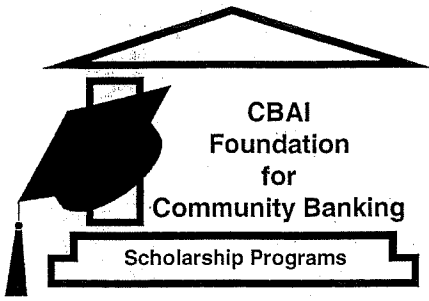
Entries: An original and two copies of the assignment, the Official Application, and the Background Information Form are to be submitted to a designated high-school counselor, English teacher, or other designated person at the school (if applicable). If the local school is not involved, students should return these documents to the sponsoring bank. A special local committee will review all manuscripts and select the local contest winners, if applicable, and send as many as entries to the CBAI Foundation for the statewide competition as the bank is allowed.

Entry Integrity: Entries must be written entirely by the student, without additional correction, grading or enhancement by any other party, including teachers and parents. Students may not collaborate with one another. Students may not view other students' work prior to submission. Use of the Wikipedia definition of a community bank will result in points taken off. Violation of any of these rules will be cause for ineligibility of entry.

Judging Criteria: Judges will use the following criteria to evaluate each entry: understanding of community banking philosophy, accurate information, clear and concise sentences, logical organization, proper grammar, correct punctuation and spelling, and conclusion/summary.

Deadline: Entries must be received by the CBAI Foundation via the sponsoring bank by 5 p.m. on Wednesday, February 6, 2019, to be eligible for judging. Check with the local sponsoring bank for its preliminary judging deadline. Entries received by the CBAI Foundation after February 6 will not be accepted for judging. **NOTE: Semi-finalists will be required to make a presentation of their submissions to a community group of no fewer than five individuals; the purpose is to increase the understanding of our profession. Semi-finalists will also sign an Intent form indicating they intend to continue their education at a college, university, or accredited trade school.**

Scholarship Amounts: Monetary awards will be given in addition to any other grants or awards the student may receive, and will be made directly to the winners. However, the winner must sign a statement that he/she will use the award to further his/her education. The monetary awards awarded for the overall winner will be \$1,000 per year for up to four years of higher education, with up to 11 additional awards of \$1,000 and up to 12 second-place awards of \$500 each, depending on the quality of the entries. A check for \$500 will be presented to the winning student's school. Non-monetary "Honorable Mentions" may also be awarded.



**CBAI FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY BANKING
2019 ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
ENTRY ASSIGNMENT 2019**

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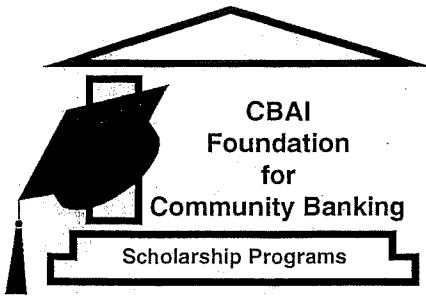
Director
Ryan Heiser
The Fisher National Bank

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800/736-2224
FAX 217/585-8738
www.cbai.com

Administrator
Andrea C. Cusick
CBAI
Springfield

PLEASE WRITE ONE PARAGRAPH DEMONSTRATING EACH OF THE FOLLOWING

- *The impact/importance of community banking to me or someone I know*
- *The impact/importance of community banking to a business or agricultural concern in my area*
- *The impact/importance of community banking to my community in general*



CBAI FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY BANKING 2019 ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CHECKLIST

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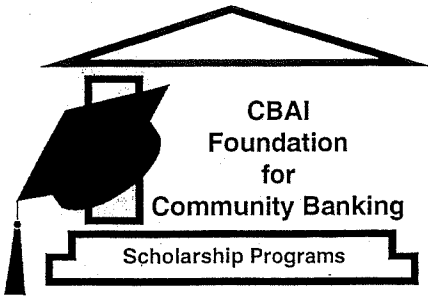
MAKE SURE:

- You complete the entry form and background information form
- You submit one-paragraph on each of the three assignment questions
- The names of a specific bank, banker, and/or city, are **NOT** in the your entry.
- The entry must **NOT reference** the movies: *It's a Wonderful Life* or *Forrest Gump*
- Your name is **NOT** on the entry; Only on Student Application
- You send **TWO** copies of the entry
- Include your e-mail address and cell phone number (if applicable)
- Your submission should be made through a CBAI member bank
You may not submit an entry to more than one bank or you will be disqualified

ESSAYS MUST:

- Be Double-spaced
- Not exceed two pages
- Be in Times New Roman font
- Be in 10-12 point size
- Be Sponsored by only one CBAI Member Bank

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Bobbi Watson at 217/529-2265 or by e-mail bobbw@cbai.com.



**CBAI FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY BANKING
2019 ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
OFFICIAL STUDENT APPLICATION**

BANK DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION: Jan. 25, 2019
(Date by which entry must be at Foundation Headquarters is 5 P.M. FEBRUARY 6, 2019)

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The Fisher National Bank

Administrator
Andrea C. Cusick
CBAI
Springfield

FOUNDATION USE ONLY

Manuscript # _____

Group # _____

Date Received _____

Questions? E-mail:
bobbw@cba.com

Please complete the information requested below, and affix this application to **TWO** copies of your entry. Return the application and the **two** copies of your entry to your high-school counselor or English teacher (if applicable), or your local sponsoring community bank. **DO NOT INCLUDE YOUR NAME ON EITHER COPY OF YOUR ENTRY!**

Student's Name _____

Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

E-mail _____

Name of Parent(s) _____

Sponsoring Bank /City _____

Sponsoring Bank Contact/Title _____

Bank Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Tel. No. _____ E-mail _____

Note: You may not submit through more than one bank or you will be disqualified.

IF APPLICABLE:

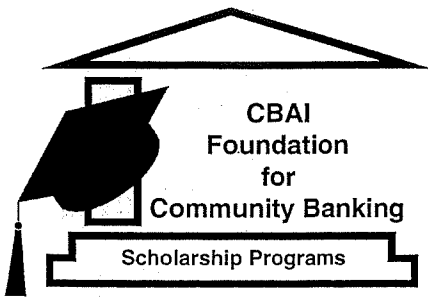
School Name _____

School Contact _____ Title _____

School Address _____

City / State / Zip _____

Tel. No. _____ E-mail _____



CBAI FOUNDATION FOR COMMUNITY BANKING 2019 ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

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Administrator

Andrea C. Cusick
CBAI
Springfield

Personal Data

Name: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____ Cell Phone: _____

E:mail: _____

Please attach an essay as required by the scholarship instructions.

GPA as of most recent semester: _____

Special Awards & Other School Activities

Please list:

Community Service

Please describe:

Planned Educational Pursuits

Name of school: _____

Career Interests: _____

The information on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that this information and all supporting documents will be held in the strictest confidence by the CBAI Foundation for Community Banking. I further understand that all scholarships are awarded at the discretion of the aforementioned Foundation and that all decisions are final.

Signature: _____ Date: _____