



APPLICATION FOR THE AAK MECHANICAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

AAK Mechanical Scholarship: for students planning to enroll full-time at an accredited vocational or technical institution of post-secondary education.

- 2 scholarships will be awarded annually
- Past recipients could apply each year to be in the selection processes with new applicants
- Award Amount: \$1,500.00 (One Time Payment)

Application Deadline: Tuesday March 31, 2026.

AAK Mechanical was founded by Steve & Jennifer Coppenbarger in April of 2005. Steve started with 5 employees with operations out of his home garage in Wapella, Illinois. AAK Mechanical expanded in 2006 with opening a full-service fabrication shop located on Jefferson street in Clinton. In 2013, the business relocated to its current location across town on Riddle drive. Today, the business is still owned and operated by Steve & Jennifer and their three children. Throughout the past 18 years AAK Mechanical has expanded services across multiple industries. AAK Mechanical proudly perform the following services coast to coast: mechanical, instrumentation, process piping, insulation, structural steel, maintenance, 3D turnkey design, equipment installation & repairs, and much more. If you can imagine it, our talented and experienced staff can help you build it!

The scholarship provided by AAK Mechanical will be awarded to students who wish to pursue a career by means of a vocational or technical institution. An example of a trade could be welding, pipefitting, cosmetology, HVAC, massage therapy, electrician, plumbing, construction management, and many more.

After many years of business in the trade industry, AAK Mechanical can acknowledge first-hand how skilled trade professionals are in high demand. It is AAK Mechanical's wish to help show students that there are other options to furthering your education other than traditional higher education means.

AAK Mechanical is looking for applicants that are not afraid of a little hard work and who are interested in pursuing a trade that requires hands-on training. We want to provide assistance to those who are willing to adapt the skills required to exceed in a trade that's in demand.

Indicate if you are applying for a first-time AAK Mechanical Scholarship or for a one-time renewal of your scholarship.

I am applying for the _____ Scholarship

AAK Mechanical Scholarship

A Clinton High School graduate may apply for the AAK Mechanical Scholarship. Scholarship candidates are evaluated by completing an application, and submitting an essay to the scholarship committee. A complete application includes:

- **General information Document-** See attached form.
- **Applicant Essay-** See attached form.
- **Personal Resume-** Please list your community and church activities, school extra-curricular, interests and hobbies, employment history and any honors/awards you have received while in high school
- **High School Transcript(s)-** Complete, except for last semester
- **College Transcript(s)-** for any college courses completed while in high school or for renewals
- **Two letters of recommendation** - Request and submit two (2) letters of recommendation, only one of which may be provided by a current or recent teacher or school employee, and **one provided by a contact outside of the school district. Do not use relatives or CCEF board members.**
- **Be sure to include all of the above or the application will be denied.**

Completed applications are to be returned in a sealed envelope to the high school guidance office by the application deadline noted on the application packet cover page. The outside of the envelope must be marked with the student's name and CCEF- AAK Mechanical Scholarship.

Those students selected to receive a scholarship will receive further instructions outlining the eligibility requirements for disbursement of the scholarship award.

The number of scholarships awarded will be two for first-time applicants and/or two for applicants who are renewing. Scholarship decisions are made by the scholarship committee which is comprised of district faculty members, CCEF board members, AAK family members, and/or community members. An interview is not required. The Clinton Community Educational Foundation has the final decision on all scholarship awards.

Questions: Contact the CCEF Scholarship Committee by email at info@ccef15.org.

General Information Document

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

PARENT/GUARDIAN INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP Code: _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

H. S. Grade Point Average: _____ SAT/ACT Composite Score: _____

POST HIGH SCHOOL EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

School/Program attendance plans, include school/institute name and program of study:

COLLEGE STANDING (for renewals) – list GPA and continuing program

APPLICANT CERTIFICATION

I certify that I am currently in my last academic year and graduating from Clinton Community High School. All information provided on this application is true and accurate.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

AAK Mechanical Scholarship

Applicant Essay

In an essay of approximately 500 words, describe the life experiences and/or people that have most influenced your career decision. How do you envision those influences impacting your future?

Please double space and use a legible font 12 pt. or larger. Sign and date below and attach the essay to the back of this form.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

In your letter of recommendation, the writers should mention how long and under what circumstances they have known you. Please comment on the applicant's potential. Please instruct the writers to submit the letter in a sealed envelope. Include the two letters of recommendation with the rest of the application packet. Remember, request and submit two (2) letters of recommendation, only one of which may be provided by a current or recent teacher or school employee, and **one provided by a contact outside of the school district** (a family friend, church leader, coach of non-school related activity, previous employer, etc.). **Do not use relatives or CCEF board members.**

Reference Name/Title: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Applications are due Tuesday March 31, 2026.