



MHMS Chicagoland Scholarship Application – 2026

Mission Statement: MHMS (Material Handling Management Society) Chicagoland is dedicated to advancing education, professionalism, and community engagement within the material handling industry by supporting students who aspire to build meaningful careers in this field.

What is Material Handling & Supply Chain?

Material handling and supply chain is how products move safely and efficiently, from raw materials to finished goods, using smart processes, people, and technology. It includes the movement, protection, storage, and control of goods inside factories and warehouses, plus the planning and coordination that link suppliers, manufacturers, distributors, and customers.

Why it matters (and why it's exciting)

Supply chains literally keep the world running, such as food, medicine, tech, and everything in your cart. As companies adopt automation, robotics, data tools, and new logistics strategies, this field keeps evolving and needs curious problem-solvers.

This aligns with MHMS Chicagoland's mission to grow and recognize professionals who plan, design, deploy, and operate the systems that move, store, control, and protect goods safely and productively.

What can you do in this field? (Career paths & opportunities)

- **Logistics / Operations (Logistician):** Coordinate how products flow, manage inventory and transportation, solve delivery hiccups, and keep operations on schedule. Projected U.S. growth is *much faster than average* over the next decade.
- **Supply Chain Planning:** Forecast demand and build plans that match supply to customer needs across sourcing, production, and distribution.
- **Warehousing & Distribution:** Lead teams and technology (from racking to AS/RS and conveyors) to receive, store, pick, and ship efficiently and safely.
- **Transportation & Network Design:** Optimize routes, modes, and facility locations to cut cost, time, and emissions while meeting service goals.
- **Material Handling Sales (Account Management / Sales Engineering):** Partner with distributors/integrators and manufacturers to solve real customer problems, which translate operations needs into engineered solutions, build relationships, and



quantify ROI/TCO; roles range from sales engineer (technical solution selling) to account manager/business development, with strong earning potential and steady demand for technical communicators who can bridge customers and engineering.

- **Procurement & Supplier Management:** Source materials, negotiate with partners, and build resilient supplier relationships.
- **Automation, Robotics & Systems Integration:** Apply robotics, AGVs/AMRs, sensors, and software to streamline material flow and data visibility.
- **Quality, Safety & Continuous Improvement:** Use data and process thinking to reduce risk, errors, and waste while boosting throughput and customer satisfaction.

Logistics roles are found in nearly every industry (manufacturing, government, consulting, wholesale, e-commerce, and more), with solid median pay and full-time career paths.

If you enjoy teamwork, tech, and making systems run better, material handling and supply chain lets you **design how the world moves** and there's real demand for your skills.

Applicant Information

Date:	
Last Name:	
First Name:	
MI:	
Address:	
City:	
State:	
Zip Code:	
Cell Phone:	
Email:	



Scholastic Information

High School/Trade School/College:	
Years Attended:	
Year Graduated:	
Year in College for 2025–2026 School Year:	
Major/Area of Study:	

Extracurricular Activities / Awards / Memberships / Community Service:

Essay Requirement

Attach a double-spaced, one-page essay responding to the following prompt:
Describe your educational and professional goals, including what you plan to study and why you are pursuing a future in or connected to the material handling industry. Share experiences, motivations, or aspirations that demonstrate your commitment, and explain how this scholarship will support your journey.



Attachments Checklist

- Unofficial Transcript
- Essay
- Completed Application

Marketing & Media Consent

By submitting this application, you agree to allow MHMS Chicagoland to use your name, image, and submitted photos for marketing purposes, including but not limited to our website, social media, newsletters, and event materials. Scholarship recipients are required to submit at least one photo for publication and to post on social media tagging MHMS Chicagoland as part of award acceptance.

Scholarship Details

Up to three scholarships valued at \$3,000 each are available for the Spring 2027 academic term. Applicants must be Illinois residents, full-time students in Spring 2027, and may not have previously received an MHMS Chicagoland scholarship.

Certification

I have read the scholarship guidelines, completed this application, and certify that I meet the eligibility requirements. I agree with the marketing and media conditions stated above.

Signature:

Date:



Essay Page