2027 WILLIAM A. LEE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP
Academic Competition Application

The Chicago Federation of Labor will award 10 William A. Lee Memorial Scholarships, valued at $2,000 each, to five winners of the Academic Competition and five winners of the Random Drawing. The funds may be used at any accredited college or university in the United States.

DEADLINE

Completed applications must be sent electronically to the Chicago Federation of Labor by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 19, 2027. Applications and all supporting materials should be emailed all together to scholarship@chicagolabor.org.

Scoring System

The winners will be determined based on both their academic achievements and their personal essay. The academic achievements will count as 75 percent of the overall score, with the essay making up the remaining 25 percent. For more information on the academic and essay requirements, see page 2 of the application. The top five students who score highest based on their overall academic achievements and their essay will win the scholarships.

Eligibility

- The applicant must be a senior in high school and graduating in the spring of 2027.
- Either the applicant or the applicant's parent must be a member in good standing of a CFL-affiliated union. To confirm a union's affiliation status, please call 312.222.1000.
- The applicant must choose to enter **either the Academic Competition or Random Drawing** for the William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship. Students are not eligible to enter both categories. **APPLICANTS ATTEMPTING TO ENTER BOTH CATEGORIES WILL BE DISQUALIFIED FROM BOTH CATEGORIES.** Scholarship winners will be notified by email in April 2027.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

RESULTS AND DECISIONS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE AND ACADEMIC COMPETITION SHALL BE FINAL. The scholarships are entirely unrestricted as to race, religion, political affiliation, or choice of accredited college or university. The awards will be paid by checks to the winners. There is no restriction as to income of the family nor the acceptance of other scholarship awards by the winners. Any problems must be resolved by the students. Winners will be contacted by the CFL. The names of the winners and their union affiliation will be posted to the CFL website, and excerpts from their essays may be used for promotional purposes as the CFL deems appropriate.

The William A. Lee Memorial Scholarships will be awarded to the winners as soon as possible after selection. Winners must be present at the William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship presentation to receive their checks. The presentation will be held in Spring 2027. Once all winners of the Random Drawing and Academic Competition are determined, a date will be chosen by the Scholarship Committee and sent to the scholarship winners.

HOW TO APPLY

All applicants must complete the William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship Academic Competition Application and the personal essay. Email the COMPLETED application, including electronic copies of high school transcripts; ACT and/or SAT, or other college entrance examination scores; completed Activity Page; and personal essay to: **scholarship@chicagolabor.org.**

APPLICATION FORM

Both pages 4 and 5 of the William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship Academic Competition Application must be completed to qualify for the scholarship.

APPLICANT INFORMATION:

This section of the application must be completed on both pages and signed by the applicant. Once the applicant has completed the top section, the applicant must obtain the signatures of a Chief Executive officer of the applicant's (or applicant's parent's) Local Union and the principal of the applicant's high school, as outlined below.

CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF LOCAL UNION:

This section of the application must be completed and signed by a Chief Executive Officer of the applicant's (or applicant's parent's Local Union (example: President, Recording Secretary, Financial Secretary or Business Manager).

Please note: Business Agents, stewards and delegates do not qualify as a CEO.

CERTIFICATION OF HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:

This section of the application must be completed and signed by the principal of the applicant's high school or other authorized high school representative.

PERSONAL ESSAY

In a PDF document, all applicants must answer the question: ***How has the Labor Movement impacted my life?***

Essay Guidelines:

- 500 words or less, typed, single-spaced. Font should be 12 point Times New Roman, or similar sized font
- Upper left corner should include applicant's name and phone number only, as listed on application

APPLICATION SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Email the following items to *scholarship@chicagolabor.org* by **5:00 p.m. Friday, Feb. 19, 2027**

1. Completed Application with appropriate signatures from union CEO and high school principal
2. Official ACT or SAT Report (in addition to school transcript listing, if provided)
3. Transcripts that provide 7 semesters of academic work (6 semesters will be considered incomplete/ unacceptable record.)
4. Completed Activity Page (see page 3)
5. Personal Essay

Students should email appropriate signature page from the CFL Application to both their high school principal and union chief executive officer separately to request signatures from both. Once they receive the signatures back from the principal and CEO, **all materials** should be emailed using the following guidelines:

- *All documents should be in one email*
- *All documents should be in their own PDF document as **attachments**/do not put in the body of the email/no links to other accounts*
- *All documents should be labeled with student name and item (i.e. John Smith_ACT Report)*

Chicago Federation of Labor William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship Activity Page

Applications due Friday, February 19, 2027

Activities include: NHS, Honor Roll, Clubs, Organizations, Committees, Volunteer, Arts, Sports, Employment, etc. 1 = Freshman 2 = Sophomore 3 = Junior 4 = Senior

Name of Activity (School Related)	Active Years	Title Held if Applicable
Example: Soccer	3, 4	Captain
Name of Activity (Community Related)	Active Years	Title Held if Applicable

Chicago Federation of Labor William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship Academic Competition Application
Certification of Chief Executive Officer of Local Union

Applications due Friday, February 19, 2027

APPLICANT INFORMATION (Please complete)

Name of Applicant: _____
(First, Middle, Last Name)

Applicant's Home Address: _____
(Address, City, State, Zip)

Phone: _____ (Home)

Phone: _____(Cell)

Email: _____
(Winners will be notified by email)

Name of Union Member
(Either Applicant or Parent): _____
(First, Middle, Last Name)

Relationship of Union Member to Applicant: _____

Address of Union Member: _____ _____
(Address, City, State, Zip)

Local Union Name and Number: _____

I hereby apply for the William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship Academic Competition and agree to abide by the decision of the judges as published in the announcement.

_____
(Signature of Applicant)

CERTIFICATION OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER OF LOCAL UNION

(Affiliate of the Chicago Federation of Labor)

Chief Executive Officer should print this form, sign it, then scan and email back to the applicant for submission

I certify that I examined the statements of the applicant named on the above form. Statements in regard to the union membership of the applicant or the applicant's parent are in accordance with our records. The union member is a full member of this union and in good standing.

Signed: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Local Union Name and Number: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Chicago Federation of Labor William A. Lee Memorial Scholarship Academic Competition Application
Certification of High School Principal

Applications due Friday, February 19, 2027

APPLICANT INFORMATION (Please complete)

Name of Applicant: _____
(First, Middle, Last Name)

Applicant's Home Address: _____ _____
(Address, City, State, Zip)

Phone: _____
(Home)

Phone: _____
(Cell)

Email: _____

Name of Applicant's High School: _____

Address of High School: _____

Date of Graduation: _____

Accredited College or University you would like to attend (include city & state): _____

CERTIFICATION OF HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

Principal should print this form, sign it, then scan and email back to the applicant for submission

I certify that _____
(Name of Student)

will be graduating from _____
(Name of High School)

on _____
(Date of Graduation)

Signed: _____

Title: _____

Principal should print this form, sign it, then scan and email back to the applicant for submission