

East Pottawattamie SWCD
16 Main Street
Oakland, IA 51560
712-482-6486 ext. 3

Russ and Phyllis Brandes Scholarship
Available only to Riverside and AHSTW Students
Class of 2026

The Russ and Phyllis Brandes Memorial, along with the East Pottawattamie Soil and Water Conservation District is providing a scholarship to Iowa students interested in conservation and agriculture. Iowa High School Class of 2026 students pursuing programs of study in any field of conservation or agriculture qualifies for the Russ and Phyllis Brandes Scholarship. While this is a wide field and many studies qualify, preference will be given to students pursuing programs of study in conservation. The scholarship must be used for the students' first year of college education.

Instructions

1. Fill in the below portion by typing or clearly hand writing the answers on the lines provided.
2. Answer the 9 questions that follow on a separate page. Do not allow your answers to exceed four, single-sided, single-spaced pages with a minimum of a 12 point Times New Roman font with 1" margins.
3. Have your school official attach to this application your **official** transcript, which must include your school attendance record, GPA and current class ranking. If your school does not provide this information, please have your school official provide a note on school letterhead indicating that information is not available.
4. Attach your ACT, SAT or other standardized test scores.
5. One letter of recommendation from your school or an employer is **required**. Please do not submit more than one letter.
6. Please print and return this application with attachments to the East Pottawattamie Soil and Water Conservation District, 16 Main St., Oakland, IA 51560, or email it to swcdeducation@gmail.com, by **March 2nd, 2026**.

First Name _____ Last Name _____
County _____
School _____
Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Date of Birth _____ Phone _____
Email _____
Parent or Guardian Name _____
Phone _____
Address (If different) _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Planned Date of Graduation _____
GPA* _____ / _____
Class Rank* _____ / _____ Attendance Record* _____
ACT, SAT or other standardized test Scores* _____

****Be sure to provide documentation to support GPA, Class Rank, Attendance Record and ACT, SAT or other standardized test score information entered above. If your school does not provide this information, please have your school official provide a note on school letterhead indicating that information is not available.***

Questions and Instructions

1. List the name, location and dates of attendance of *all* High Schools you have attended.
2. List your school extra curricula activities. Indicate if you had a leadership role.
3. List any community and other activities you were involved in during High School. Indicate if you had a leadership role.
4. What are your career goals? Have you made more than one? Are they compatible with each other and why? How long have you been thinking of this career choice? *Only those pursuing careers in conservation or agriculture qualify for this scholarship. Preference will be given to students pursuing careers in conservation.*
5. What has helped you the most in choosing your potential career?
6. What part-time and summer jobs have you held? Indicate how they have helped in your choice of career. List the position you held, the employer and the location.
7. Do you have personal and business goals for after your formal education? Please elaborate.
8. Why should you be considered for this scholarship?
9. What does soil and water conservation mean to you? *400-600 word essay.*

If you have questions, please contact East Pottawattamie SWCD at swcducation@gmail.com or 712-482-6486.

Selection Criteria

Scholarship applications are judged based on the following criteria:

- **20 points for Involvement, Leadership and Character**
- **20 points for Career**
- **30 points for Scholastic Achievement**
- **30 points for Conservation Message**

Important Notes

- Please remember instructions on 1st page to not exceed 4 pages of writing for your answers to the above questions. Thank you for applying, and good luck.
- Scholarship will be paid at the beginning of your second semester of college, with proof of completion of your first semester.