

The word "IOWA" in a bold, yellow, sans-serif font.

JOHN DEERE



DAVENPORT
Community Schools
GROWING EXCELLENCE

John Deere Scholars High School Program

What is the John Deere High School Program?

A free college and career readiness program for Davenport high school seniors. Through weekly meetings and special events, seniors will actively engage in programming [or activities] related to leadership, critical thinking, and listening skills. All essential skills for college transition, future employment, and becoming contributing members of a global society and workforce. Assistance with the college and scholarship application process will also be provided.

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Program Information

Program Website:

<https://provost.uiowa.edu/johndeerescholarshighschool>

Program Manager Contact Information:

Katie Licht, M.S. Ed. (she/her/hers)

John Deere Scholars Program Manager

Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost

Office Phone: 319-335-2026

Email: katherine-licht@uiowa.edu

DCSD Locations:

Monday-Central (Counseling Office)

Tuesday-West (Counseling Office)

Wednesday- North (Counseling Office)

Thursday- MidCity (Room 304)

Friday-Remote/Make-up

Field Trip-Student Eligibility Requirements:

- Must be registered for the John Deere Scholars High School Program
- Permission granted by guardian to attend field trip via email
- Passing all classes
- No major referrals for current quarter



John Deere Scholars High School Program

A free college and career readiness program for **any** DCSD senior
planning to attend **any** college

Program Support Services

- College and Scholarship Discovery Application Process
- FAFSA Completion
- Workplace Readiness Skills
- Personal Growth and Development

Registration Open Now

Who: Davenport Community
High Schools, Class of 2027
Program Start: September
2026



Scan the QR Code

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You must participate in the high school program to be considered for the
John Deere Program Scholarship

**See scholarship details on back*

✉ Contact: Katie Licht | Email: lichtk@davenportschools.org | Phone: 319-335-2026



JOHN DEERE SCHOLARS SCHOLARSHIP

The John Deere Foundation, University of Iowa, and Davenport Community Schools are united in empowering Iowa's youth to excel and thrive in the workforce and global society!

Twenty Davenport high school seniors with financial need will be selected as University of Iowa John Deere Scholars, covering all four years of University of Iowa tuition, fees, room, and board.

Financial need is federally defined using FAFSA data. A student qualifies when their Student Aid Index (SAI) is less than the University of Iowa Cost of Attendance (SAI < COA).

Eligibility

- ✓ Apply and be admitted to the University of Iowa
- ✓ Complete the FAFSA by December 1
- ✓ Participate in the John Deere Scholars High School Program
- ✓ Complete general scholarship application
- ✓ Complete JDS scholarship application

Application Timeline

-  **August:** UI Admission Application Opens
-  **August-December:** Complete the scholarship application on Iowa's scholarship portal
-  **October-December:** Complete the FAFSA
-  **January:** Interviews for top candidates
-  **February:** Announcement of winners
-  **April:** Celebration banquet

How to Apply

Once admitted, complete the scholarship application on the University of Iowa Scholarship Portal: uiowa.academicworks.com

 **Contact:** Katie Licht | **Email:** lichtk@davenportschools.org | **Phone:** 319-335-2026

*STEMM focus preferred (not required)



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Calendar Overview

- **August 2026**

- College applications open & are accepting applications.
- Start working on Unit 1 SchoolLinks tasks.

- **September 2026**

- **17- Welcome Meeting- you will be invited the kickoff meeting at your school**
- **CREATE FSA-ID (<https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id/create-account>)**
- **30- University of Iowa Campus Visit. You and a supportive adult are invited to ride the bus to visit the Campus. The number of seats are limited.**

- **October 2026**

- **8- JDS Impact Day (6 slots available)- Hayes Elementary, Big Brothers Big Sisters/United Way**
-  FAFSA Opens  Accepting submissions (complete as soon as possible after October 1st to have a better chance of receiving the maximum available aid).
- [Work on John Deere Scholars Scholarship *if you qualify*](#)
- **JDS Impact Day(s) Field Trip-Volunteer opportunity (details TBD)**

- **November 2026**

- Beginning of November is when many colleges have "Early Action" application deadlines.
- **15-[Deadline to submit your proof of college application \(click link to go to form\)](#)**
- **16- Academic Exploration field trip to AEA**
- Unit 1 on SchoolLinks needs to be completed

- **December 2026**

- **4-John Deere Scholars Scholarship is due for students who qualify.**
- 1-College apps SHOULD be submitted by this time for the best offer.
- *Check with each school you're applying to for specific deadlines like early decision or priority deadlines*
- Start working on Unit 2 SchoolLinks tasks.

- **January 2027**

- If you are living on campus, check in with housing to see what deadlines they have for their application and roommate selection.

- Submit FAFSA to assure you receive the most funding.
- **January 2027-March 2027**
 - SCHOLARSHIP SEASON!!!! This is when many of the scholarships will be due.
 - *If you need a letter of recommendation, good practice is to ask your recommender 2 weeks before the due date to give them enough time to write it.
- **March 2027**
 - **Career Connections Day Field Trip- learn from John Deere Employees about workplace readiness (date TBD).**
- **March 2027/April 2027**
 - Colleges you applied to send you their decision & financial offer letters. You could hear back from schools or receive financial aid offers sooner.
 - *You need to submit FAFSA in order to receive financial award letters*
 - *Check the school application portal to see if you need to submit verification forms*
- **May 2027**
 - Unit 2 on SchoolLinks needs to be completed
 - This month is when you decide which school best fits your academic & financial needs & decide to go to a school.
 - *Generally, you will need to login to your student account "accept" their financial aid offer*
 - *This could be sooner if you hear back from schools sooner*
 - **Decision Day Celebrations at each high school (details TBD).**

Federal Student Aid ID

****DO THIS ASAP****

Here's a step-by-step guide on how to create an Federal Student Aid (FSA) ID and connect it to a parent account for FAFSA purposes:

✓ Step 1: Go to the FSA ID Website

- ☐ Visit <https://studentaid.gov/fsa-id> and click "Create Account."

👤 Step 2: Create the Student's FSA ID

- ☐ Enter personal information: Full name, date of birth, **social security number**, and contact info.
- ☐ Create a username and password.
- ☐ Set up challenge questions for account recovery.
- ☐ Verify your email and phone number with the codes sent to you.
- ☐ Submit and confirm your FSA ID.

🔑 Important: The student must use their own email and phone number—not a shared one.

👤 Step 3: Parent Creates Their Own FSA ID

- ☐ If the student is dependent, at least one parent must also create a separate FSA ID:
- ☐ Repeat the same steps above using the parent's personal information.
- ☐ Use a different email address and phone number than the student's.

🔗 Step 4: Connect Parent FSA ID to FAFSA (10/1/2026)

- ☐ The student logs in to FAFSA.gov using their FSA ID.
- ☒ **MAKE SURE YOU SELECT THE 27-28 FAFSA**
- ☐ After completing the student section, the FAFSA will prompt for parent information.
- ☐ The parent logs in with their own FSA ID to:
- ☐ Fill in their section.
- ☐ Electronically sign the FAFSA.

📝 Tips for Success

- ★ Write down usernames and passwords in a secure place.

FSA ID Username: _____

FSA ID Password: _____

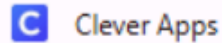
- ★ Use personal (not school) email addresses that you'll keep long-term.
- ★ Each FSA ID is tied to one person only—never share login info.

SchoolLinks

Davenport Community School District utilizes Pathful as their Career Information System. This platform can be used for students to explore interests, skills, potential careers, and different colleges/programs of study. The John Deere Scholars High School Program also uses SchoolLinks as a way to deliver lessons. Lessons are completed online.

Log into Clever to find SchoolLinks

Student Guide: How to Log Into Clever



Method 1: Use Your Chrome Bookmarks (Recommended)

If you are using a school Chromebook or are logged into Google Chrome with your school account, the easiest way to log in is using your bookmarks bar.

Step 1: Find your Bookmarks Bar

Look at the very top of your Google Chrome browser window, just below the web address bar.

Step 2: Click the Davenport Folder

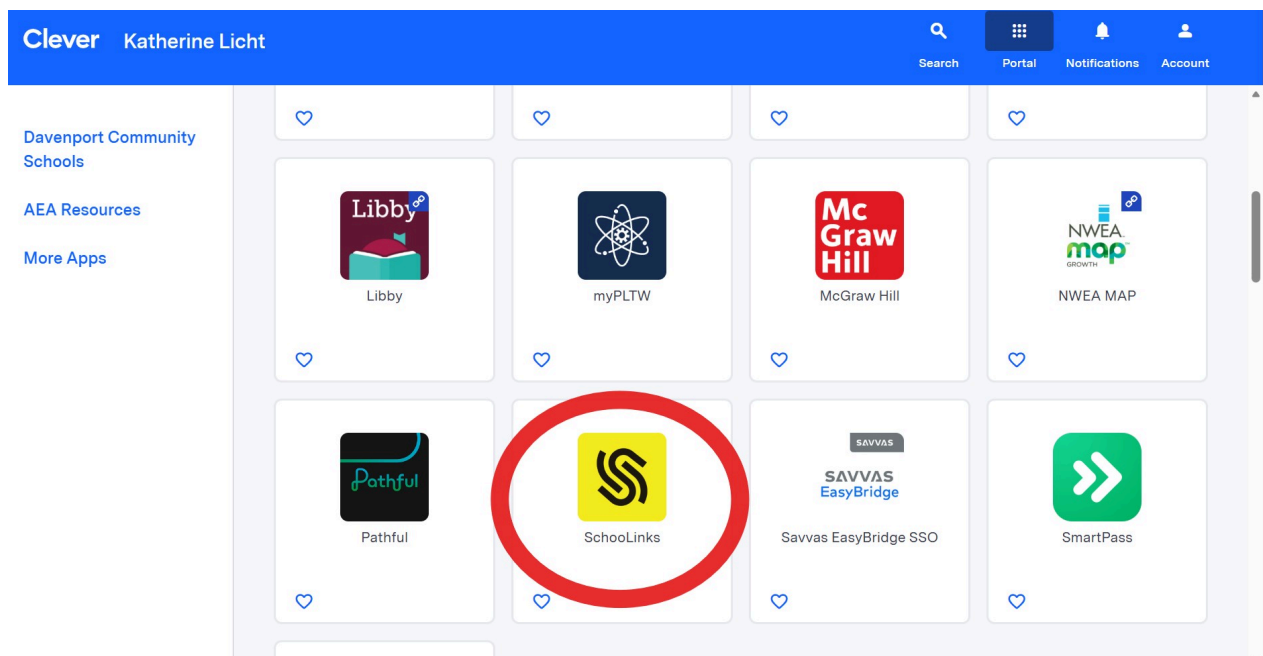
Click on the folder labeled **davenport.k12.ia.us** bookmarks.

It looks like this on your screen: [**davenport.k12.ia.us** bookmarks]

Step 3: Select Clever Apps

A dropdown menu will appear with your school links. Click on **Clever Apps** (the green icon with a white C).

It looks like this in the menu: Clever Apps



Online Lesson Descriptions

****COMPLETE BOTH UNITS BY 5/1/2027 FOR AN ELECTRONIC AMAZON GIFT CARD****

UNIT 1- Open 8/25/26-12/1/2026- Incentive Gift by 12/15/2026 (blanket)

Unit 2- Open 12/1/2026-5/1/2027- Incentive Gift by 5/15/27 (portable charger)

These online activities give you the opportunity to learn and grow at your own pace. Many of them will support your college application journey and help you start preparing for scholarship opportunities.

Due Date	Estimated Time	Task	Casel Competencies	Description
9/30/2026	15 minutes	Student Onboarding	Self-Awareness	Onboard onto SchoolLinks by logging in for the first time and taking the "Find Your Path" Assessment
9/30/2026	15 minutes	Complete the Top Skills Assessment	Self-Awareness	Complete the "Top Skills" Assessment to learn about careers that match the skill proficiencies you excel at.
9/30/2026	10 minutes	Complete the "Would You Rather" Assessment	Self-Awareness	Complete the "Would You Rather" assessment to learn which Career Clusters most closely match your interests
10/17/2026	10 minutes	Favorite Majors or Training Programs	Self-Awareness	Favorite at least 2 major(s) or program(s) in the School Search experience or from college profiles.
10/17/2026	30 minutes	"Financial Aid" Learning Unit	Responsible Decision-Making	Complete all of the activities in the Learning Task's "Financial Aid." unit

10/17/2026	30 minutes	"The College Application Process" Learning Unit	Self-Management	Complete all of the activities in the Learning Task's "The College Application Process" unit
10/31/2026	30 minutes	Explore Colleges	Responsible Decision-Making	View at least 3 college profile(s) to learn more about colleges that interest you
10/31/2026	5 minutes	Favorite Colleges	Self-Awareness	Favorite at least 2 school(s) in the School Search or from School Profiles
10/31/2026	30 minutes	Submit College Applications	Self-Management	Submit at least 1 college application. This is based on the number of applications you record as submitted on SchoolLinks.
11/15/2026	30 minutes	FAFSA Completion	Self-Management	Students need to complete the FAFSA form online by visiting https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa
11/15/2026	15 minutes	Recommendation Letter Brag Sheet	Self-Management	Students will answer the Brag Sheet survey questions to build their Recommendation Letter Brag Sheet. To complete this To Do, click on the button shown below and go through each step of the activity.
1/31/2027	10 minutes	Complete the "Social-Emotional Learning" Assessment	Self-Management	Students will complete the "Social-Emotional Learning" Assessment to measure their skill in five competencies: self-awareness, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision making.

1/31/2027	30 minutes	"Self-Awareness" Learning Unit	Self-Awareness	Complete all of the activities in the Learning Task's "Self-Awareness" unit.
1/31/2027	30 minutes	"Self-Management" Learning Unit	Self-Management	Complete all of the activities in the Learning Task's "Self-Management" unit.
3/1/2027	30 minutes	"Relationship Skills" Learning Unit	Relationship Skills	Complete all of the activities in the Learning Task's "Relationship Skills" unit.
3/1/2027	30 minutes	"Social Awareness" Learning Unit	Social Awareness	Complete all of the activities in the Learning Task's "Social Awareness" unit.
3/1/2027	45 minutes	"Employability Skills" Learning Unit	Social Awareness	Complete all of the tasks in the Learning Task's "Employability Skills" unit
5/1/2027	10 minutes	Record College Decision	Self-Management	Students are required to select one of the schools they were admitted to as the school they will attend. This is required because the Registrar needs to know which college they must send a student's final transcript to. Decide which college you will attend and record your decision in the Application Manager

ICAP Essential Standards

Overview:

Individual Career and Academic Program (ICAP) requires each school district to ensure each student reviews and revises an ICAP each year beginning in 8th grade and continuing until graduation. ICAP is a series of high-quality, career-related activities and experiences that provide a platform for students to engage in the development of self-reflection, career research and exploration of postsecondary opportunities, and apply and align their learning with their personal paths and goals. Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) 281-49 requires school districts to have an Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP) for each student in grades 8-12.

ICAP Post Secondary Indicators:

- #1: Self Understanding-** Effective career guidance that includes reflection- who they are, what they want, and a connection between their education and future economic life is a key component of career development.
- #2: Career Information-** Exposure and career information on a wide range of pathways is needed; a narrow view is limiting.
- #3: Career Exploration-** Engagement in career development activities is shown to increase student connection to schooling and educational aspirations connected to future career opportunities.
- #4 Post Secondary Exploration-** Understanding the connection between educational attainment and potential career pathways is an indicator that supports a smoother transition into career/workplace
- #5: Post Secondary and Career Decision-** Indication of postsecondary intent including education/training prior to 10th grade has a correlation to increased success in high school and beyond.

Hawkeye Life Program



Developing leadership, community engagement, academic success, career development, and health and well-being in high school students is essential for nurturing well-rounded individuals prepared for life beyond school. Leadership builds confidence and decision-making skills; community engagement fosters empathy and civic responsibility; academic success lays the groundwork for future opportunities; career development helps students set goals and connect learning to real-world paths; and prioritizing health and well-being ensures they have the resilience and balance needed to thrive personally and professionally. Together, these areas support students in becoming capable, connected, and purpose-driven adults.

John Deere Core Values

OUR CORE VALUES IN ACTION

From our founder's humble beginning in a one-room blacksmith's shop in Grand Detour, Ill, in 1837, to our current position as a global leader in the agricultural, construction, and forestry industries, our core values have stood the test of time. They have earned the loyalty of generations of customers and inspired the exceptional people who power our legendary brand.

For nearly two centuries, our core values of Integrity, Quality, Humanity, Commitment, and Innovation have guided our actions and shaped our character, evolving with our company and the world around us.

Whether it's pioneering cutting-edge technologies to boost customer productivity or committing \$200 million in transformative community initiatives, our core values empower us to achieve our higher purpose:

We Run So Life can Leap Forward.

We invite you to explore how these values come alive every day.



Integrity Grounds Us

We earn trust through our words and our actions by always doing the right thing even when it is tough.



Quality Defines Us

We pursue excellence in everything we do for customers and people. By setting the bar high for our products, services, and experiences, we set ourselves apart from others.



Humanity Unites Us

We treat all people and our planet with dignity and respect. By building strong, connected environments, we support a thriving world.



Commitment Drives Us

We follow through, offer a helping hand, and go above and beyond to make things right. By holding ourselves accountable, we run together to make giant leaps.



Innovation Grows Us

We gain ground with each leap forward. By being curious, taking smart risks, and learning from mistakes, we forge innovations that drive dynamism and grow a more sustainable world.

Our core values define us and guide us.