

Colby Vredenburg Memorial Scholarship 2026

At least one scholarship will be awarded. Financial support can include tuition and/or expenses such as tools, course registration fees, and required travel for courses or certification. This scholarship offers financial assistance to graduating seniors or high school graduates who are entering school after high school or otherwise pursuing training for a specialized trade such as culinary, carpentry, plumbing, electrical, welding, trucking, or a related apprenticeship.

Scholarship Background:

The Colby Vredenburg Scholarship was established in 2021 to honor the late Colby Vredenburg. Colby was a 1994 graduate of Chariton High School who died on July 25, 2021 after a fiercely fought two-year battle with cancer. Colby lived in Coral Springs, Florida, with his wife of almost 20 years, Nicole, their children Ava and Charles, and their beloved animals, Rosie, Yoshi, and Benny. Colby was an amazing chef and loved cooking both in a commercial kitchen and for family and friends. Colby's other passions were cars, music, traveling, and fishing. When his health no longer allowed him to do those things, he took interest in caring for bonsai. Colby possessed a quiet inner strength and was a calming presence. Colby was a salt-of-the-earth guy, who was comfortable with who he was and with his lot in life. Even in the last two years of his life, he would make the most of his situation and focused on the positives. He cared deeply about his friends and family and showed his love and dedication to them through his actions.

Application Process and Eligibility:

Graduating seniors and high school graduates are eligible for the scholarship. Candidates should submit a completed application packet to the Scholarship Selection Committee by **4 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2026**. Completed applications should include all the following:

- Application form
- Current photograph of applicant

Recipient(s) will be required to present invoices for any expense reimbursement and must keep the selection committee informed of any changes in career plans.

Completed application packets should be mailed or brought to:

Chariton Area Chamber/Main Street
Colby Vredenburg Scholarship
104 N. Grand Street
P.O. Box 735
Chariton, IA 50049

DEADLINE: 4 p.m. on Friday, April 10, 2026.

**Colby Vredenburg Memorial Scholarship
2026**

Application Form

(Please type or print legibly.)

Name _____

Home address _____

Home phone _____ Cell phone _____

Email _____

Parent(s)/Guardian _____

(if applicant is currently a dependent)

Applicant who will be a 2026 graduate:

Planned field of study or trade _____

Planned school (If Any) _____

Applicant who is currently enrolled in school or previously graduated:

Year graduated from High School _____

Current School (If Any) _____

Field of Study or trade _____

Please explain your interest in the specific trade you will be learning and your plans for working in that area.

Include any additional information that will support your application (such as reference letters, a school transcript, the types of support you will need for your education, and anything else that you think would be helpful to the committee).