

Mary Sandy Scholarship

2026

The Mary Sandy Scholarship has been established to provide financial assistance to graduating seniors of Chariton High School whose goal is to pursue a career in teaching. Preference will be given to those in the teaching field; but if there is no eligible applicant, others will be considered. Two scholarships, in the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) each, will be awarded.

Scholarship Background:

The scholarship was established by Dr. Bill Sandy and family in honor of his mother's 80th birthday "to honor her contributions to the education of our family and the members of the surrounding community." Mary is a graduate of Chariton High School. She attended Chariton Junior College during its last year in existence and went on to a 35-year teaching career before retiring.

Mary began her teaching career in 1943 in Liberty Center. She taught there for six years before "taking a six-year recess" to raise her family. In 1959, she began a twenty-nine-year career teaching third grade, fourth grade, or special reading in the Russell School District. She retired, but five years later she returned to substitute teach for eight more years because she "missed the kids."

Mary and her husband Max lived in the Russell area until Max retired from farming and they moved to Chariton.

Application Process and Eligibility:

Eligible applicants will be graduating seniors of Chariton High School. 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 of the following:

- Application form
- Two letters of reference
- Essay—typed, double-spaced, and 500 words or fewer (See application.)
- Copy of current high school transcript
- Completed copy of Financial Management Budget Form

The scholarship is a one-time, non-renewable disbursement. The scholarship funds will be sent to the two recipients' educational institution(s) following receipt of written verification of enrollment.

Completed application packets should be mailed or brought to:

Chariton Area Chamber/Main Street
Mary Sandy Scholarship Selection Committee
104 North Grand Street
P.O. Box 735
Chariton, IA 50049

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

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Application Form

(Please type or print legibly)

Name _____

Home address _____

Home phone _____ Other phone _____

Email _____

Parents/Guardian _____

Planned field of study _____

Planned school/college/university _____

Scholastic

High school attended _____

Rank in class: _____ out of _____

Grade point average _____ ACT score _____

Leadership/Community Involvement (Attach additional sheets if necessary.)

Community involvement _____

Leadership positions: _____

School and/or other activities: _____

Essay:

On a separate sheet of paper your essay should be typed, double-spaced, and 500 words or fewer: Describe your involvement in school activities, your personal and professional goals, and why you would like to be considered for the Mary Sandy Scholarship.

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Financial Management Budget**

Please complete the financial management budget worksheet using cost estimates from the school you are *most likely* to attend.

Applicant Name _____

College or University _____

Approximate start date: _____

Tuition

Per semester or term: \$ _____ Per year: \$ _____

Room & Board

Per semester/term: \$ _____ Per year: \$ _____

Books

Per semester/term: \$ _____ Per year: \$ _____

Fees

Per semester/term: \$ _____ Per year: \$ _____

Transportation

Per semester/term: \$ _____ Per year: \$ _____

Other expenses (Please describe)

Please list any financial assistance you expect to receive. Include financial aid from the school listed above as well as any other scholarships or awards you have been granted or expect to receive from other sources:

Source _____ Amount _____

Source _____ Amount _____

Source _____ Amount _____

Source _____ Amount _____

I/we acknowledge that all preceding information is true to the best of my/our knowledge.

Signature of applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of parent/guardian (if applicant is a dependent) _____ Date _____