



2026 Scholarship Application

Building Economic Power Across Illinois

Program Overview

Black Contractors, Owners & Executives (BCOE) Students in Construction Scholarship supports the next generation of diverse talent entering the construction and skilled trades industries.

This program provides financial assistance while connecting students to a network of contractors, industry leaders, and career opportunities across Illinois.

Scholarship Award

- **Amount:** \$1,000
- **Type:** One-time award

Disbursement:

Funds will be issued **directly to the recipient** via check or electronic payment.

Use of Funds:

Tuition, books, tools, equipment, or other education-related expenses.

Important Consideration:

Recipients are responsible for understanding any financial aid or tax implications.

Eligibility Requirements

Applicants must:

- Identify as a **minority student** pursuing a career in construction, trade, or infrastructure-related fields
- Be enrolled in or accepted into a program such as:
 - Construction Management
 - Engineering (Civil, Mechanical, Electrical)

- Architecture
 - Skilled Trades (Carpentry, Electrical, Plumbing, etc.)
 - Urban Planning
 - Project Finance (construction/infrastructure-focused)
 - Be a **graduating high school senior, college or trade school student**
 - **GPA Requirement:**
 - Preferred minimum: **2.5 GPA**
 - Applicants between **2.0–2.49 will be considered** based on strength of application
 - **3.0+ encouraged for competitive consideration**
 - Be a **U.S. citizen or legal resident**
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Application Requirements

Submit the following:

- Completed application form
 - Short essay (250–300 words)
 - Transcript (official or unofficial)
 - One (1) letter of recommendation
 - Proof of enrollment or acceptance
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Key Dates

- **Deadline:** June 5, 2026 (5:00 PM CST)
 - **Notification:** By June 15, 2026
 - **Award Presentation:** June 22, 2026 (BCOE Golf Outing)
 - **Disbursement:** By August 10, 2026
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Recipient Expectations

- Attendance at June 22, 2026 Golf Outing is **mandatory**
 - Must provide proof of enrollment prior to payment
 - May be invited to participate in BCOE programs and initiatives
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Submission Instructions

Submit to: exec@bcoechicago.org and admin@bcoechicago.org

Subject: *BCOE Scholarship Application – [Your Name]*

✓ Combine documents into **one PDF**

APPLICATION FORM

Applicant Information

- Full Name: _____
 - Date of Birth: _____
 - Email: _____
 - Phone: _____
 - Address: _____
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Academic Information

- Current School: _____
- Program/Major: _____

Academic Level (Fall 2026):

- High School Senior Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior
 Trade Program

- GPA: _____
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Postsecondary Institution (If Applicable)

- Institution Name: _____
 - Program of Study: _____
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Essay (250–300 Words)

Why are you pursuing a career in construction or trades, and how will this scholarship support your goals?
(Attach separately if needed)

Recommendation

- Name: _____
- Title/Relationship: _____
- Contact Info: _____

Applicant Certification & Acknowledgement

I certify that all information provided is accurate and complete.

I understand that:

- Incomplete applications may not be considered
- Attendance at June 22, 2026, BCOE Golf Outing is required if selected
- Scholarship funds will be issued directly to

Acknowledgement (Required)

I understand that I am responsible for any financial aid or tax implications related to this scholarship.

Applicant Name (Print): _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

APPLICATION SUBMISSION CHECKLIST

Before submitting, please confirm you have included:

- Completed Application Form
- Essay (250–300 words)
- Transcript
- One Letter of Recommendation
- Proof of Enrollment or Acceptance
- All documents combined into one PDF