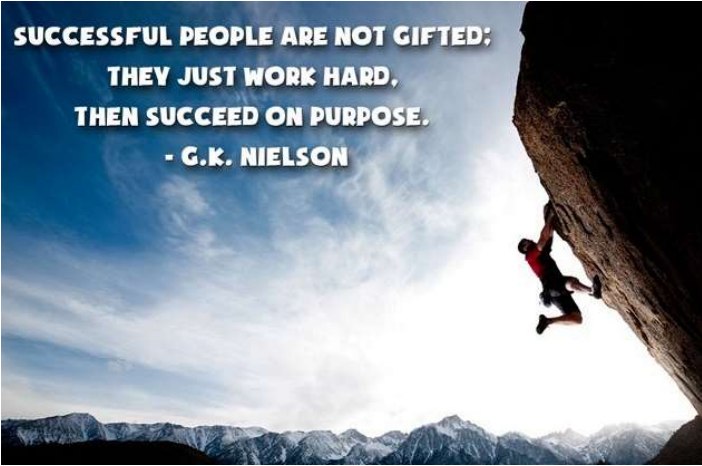


**SUCCESSFUL PEOPLE ARE NOT GIFTED:  
THEY JUST WORK HARD,  
THEN SUCCEED ON PURPOSE.  
- G.K. NIELSON**



**To succeed or  
not to succeed**

*What does your future look like?*

To succeed or  
not to  
succeed

To succeed or not to succeed, that is the question. Whether 'tis wiser to suffer the slings and arrows of time consuming scholarship, job, or apprenticeship application processes or to ignore the vast opportunities available to be successful post high school.

The decision, of course, is yours. Not your parents, your counselor, your friends, your siblings. Yours. As you step over the AHS threshold after graduation, the world is yours to explore. Plan now. Not sure what you want to do for a career? Continue your education anyway. An apprenticeship, full or part time at Riverland, full time at a large university. HVAC tech, auto mechanic, truck driver. Yes, we need people in these careers. Doctors, nurses, teachers, marketing professionals and, yes, even politicians.

Some of you know exactly what you want to do. Great! Some don't. Start something anyway. **Don't waste the next 4 months doing nothing to prepare for what happens next.**



By failing to prepare, you are  
preparing to fail.

~ Benjamin Franklin

AZ QUOTES

# Local Scholarships

- **LOCAL** Luck of the Draw Scholarship
- Sponsor: Freeborn Mower Cooperative Services
- Amount: \$1,000
- Closing Date: **March 16, 2020**
- Description: Seniors who attend the Annual Meeting on April 4, 2020 at the Albert Lea High School, 8:00am registration to 10:00 am business meeting. Parent/guardian must be active member of Freeborn Mower Cooperative Services at time of meeting. Must be enrolled as fulltime college student in fall 2020. That's it. Attend the meeting. Applications in Career Center or can be emailed.
- **IN OTHER WORDS, JUST SHOW UP TO A MEETING. THAT'S IT!**

- **LOCAL** Ray and Betty Wescott Education Scholarship

- Sponsor: Ray & Betty Wescott Education Scholarship Foundation
- Amount: \$1,000
- Closing Date: **March 18, 2020**
- Description: Recipient chosen on the following criteria, in order of priority: 1) financial need; 2) well-roundedness, citizenship and character; 3) motivation; 4) class standing and grade point average; 5) school and community involvement. Application available in Career Center or may be emailed.

- **LOCAL** Music Boosters of Austin (MBA) Scholarship

- Sponsor: Music Boosters of Austin (MBA)
- Amount: \$500
- Closing Date: **3:00 pm March 18, 2020**
- Description: Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded each year to two graduating Austin High School seniors who intend to continue their involvement in music, either in a class or ensemble, at an accredited two or four-year college. GPA 2.5+ and participated in AHS Music program. Submit application packet to Ms. Mayers in the Career Center. Applications available in Career Center or may be emailed.

- **LOCAL** Mayo Clinic Health Care Scholarship

- Sponsor: Mayo Clinic Health System Albert Lea and Austin
- Amount: \$1,000
- Closing Date: **March 19, 2020**
- Description: Seniors GPA 3.2+, Accepted at a 2 or 4 year college, tech or community college in a field of health care. Registered for at least 6 credits. Applications in Career Center or can be emailed.

- **LOCAL** Sylvan Warrington Scholarship

- Sponsor: Sylvan Truman Warrington Education Foundation
- Amount: Varies
- Closing Date: **March 20, 2020**
- Description: Senior 3.5+ GPA who has balanced academic achievement with the joy of participating in extracurricular activities, student government, clubs, sports, and/or community organizations and is kind and considerate of his/her fellow students and community members. Accepted to study at 4-year college in ND, SD NE, IA, IL, WI or MN. Application packet available in Career Center.

- **LOCAL Eastern Star Chapter 29 Scholarship**

- Sponsor: Eastern Star – Chapter 29

- Amount: Up to \$1,000

- Closing Date: **March 20, 2020**

- Description: Seniors who demonstrate academic and personal achievement who plan to attend an accredited post-secondary school including 2 and 4 year colleges, technical, community, trade or academy schools. Applications in Career Center or can be emailed.

- **LOCAL Dan Bissen Memorial Bash Scholarship**

- Sponsor: Dan Bissen Memorial Bash Fund

- Amount: \$1,000

- Closing Date: **March 27, 2020**

- Description: Seniors who plan to obtain a music degree at an accredited four-year post-secondary institution. Based on student's well-roundedness, citizenship and character, involvement in school and community. Applications in Career Center or can be emailed.

- **LOCAL CRC Scholarship Program**

- Sponsor: Cooperative Response Center, Inc. (CRC).
- Amount: \$1,000
- Closing Date: **March 30, 2020**
- Description: Graduating from AHS, with priority consideration to son or daughter of regular full and part time CRC employees with minimum six months employment with CRC by deadline. Preference given to majors in Communications, Information Technology and Business Management. Minimum 12 credits per semester at 2- or 4-year institution. GPA 3.0+, ACT completed. Application in Career Center or may be emailed.

- **LOCAL Mower County Farm Bureau Scholarship**

- Sponsor: Mower County Farm Bureau
- Amount: \$500
- Closing Date: **March 31, 2020**
- Description: Graduating from HS in Mower County or be Mower County resident. Must be accepted or in process of acceptance to accredited college or university. Majoring in agricultural or home economics related program. NOT academic or needs based. Applications in Career Center or can be emailed.

- **LOCAL** Riverland Cycles for Success Scholarships
- Sponsor: Riverland Community College Foundation
- Amount: Various
- Closing Date: **March 31, 2020**
- Description: One application for many scholarships. Seniors who will attend Riverland in the fall. GPA 2.0+, active in community, demonstrate financial need. Online only application.
- Go to: [www.riverland.edu/scholarships/](http://www.riverland.edu/scholarships/)

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### IMPORTANT INFORMATION FROM THE CAREER CENTER

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When you receive emails from [amy.mayers@austin.k12.mn.us](mailto:amy.mayers@austin.k12.mn.us), they will pertain to scholarships, other educational opportunities, and testing. That includes ASVAB and Accuplacer. **Read these emails!** Being awarded scholarships can mean very low or even no college loan debt! The scholarships with deadlines in the current and the following month are provided in a document every month.

**JUST BECAUSE YOU APPLY FOR A SCHOOL OR A SCHOLARSHIP DOESN'T MEAN YOU HAVE TO ACCEPT IT. YOU ARE NOT COMMITTED TO A CERTAIN SCHOOL UNTIL YOU ACCEPT THE INVITATION TO ATTEND!**



# The Hormel Foundation Austin Assurance Scholarship (THFAAS)

ALL Seniors should have applied to Riverland College applied for the scholarship. You know you'll go to a four year college? Apply anyway. This scholarship is good for 5 years. Going into the military? Apply anyway. Requirements:

- Students must be a graduate of Austin Public Schools or Pacelli high school.
- Seniors must have 25 documented volunteer hours in the community.
- Students must meet at least ONE of the following requirements by the end of the first semester of the student's senior year:
  - Earn a cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.5 or higher.
  - Pass all courses with a GPA of 2.5 or higher in their Junior & Senior year of High School.
  - Achieve a composite ACT score of 18 or higher.
  - Be a graduate of the Be Your Best College Prep Summer Academy at Riverland.
  - Achieve an ASVAB Score of 31 or higher. (ASVAB is an optional career assessment)
  - Be in the top 75% of their graduating class and meet at least one of the following categories:
    - ⇒ Be a first-generation college student (meaning that neither parent has a 4-year college degree);
    - ⇒ Be a low-income student (for example the family could qualify for free and reduced lunches);
    - ⇒ Self-identify as a member of a racial/ethnic minority.
    - ⇒ Student must be enrolled in an approved program of study, and be in good standing, at Riverland Community College.



## **VOLUNTEER HOURS – CRITICAL INFORMATION FOR SENIORS**

The transfer of hours from Scarlet Cord to Get Connected was not complete. This may be remedied by adding more hours to your account, but one 'free' hour as Student Hour Import was assigned every student who used their High School email address to create their Get Connected account. This was the only way further hours could be imported.

EVERYONE should check their Get Connected account. Many hours have not been approved because either a Volunteer Hour Log Sheet was not turned in or not signed by a supervisor. Another reason may be because you turned in a log sheet but didn't enter the hours in Get Connected. These log sheets should be turned in ONLY to the Career Center. Not to your Counselor or any Teacher, to the Career Center.

We've had several students doing 'volunteer' work at a For Profit company. These hours will not count unless it is in conjunction with a non-profit club or organization or part of a high school classroom training. If you wash dishes at a fast food restaurant without pay, this is not only not acceptable, but illegal for the company to allow you to do so. These companies are required to pay someone to do this work.

**CHECK YOUR HOURS IN GET CONNECTED. IF THEY ARE NOT ALL APPROVED OR ACCOUNTED FOR, COME TO THE CAREER CENTER AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!!!!**

# Next ASVAB and Accuplacer Tests

ASVAB – Monday, March 9th at 8:00 am. Sign up in person or via email **no later than Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup>**.

Accuplacer – Prerequisites to taking the test. Register for Riverland Community College. Contact Career Center in person or via email your name, AHS Student ID, Date of Birth, Star ID number. A voucher must be requested to allow you to take the test. This process can take several days. Multiple dates and times will be available monthly through May. You may also arrange to take the Accuplacer on any Riverland campus.

You can repeat these tests as often as you wish to improve your score.

Currently scheduled for tomorrow, February 20<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am or 12:30 pm. It is too late to sign up for that test session.

Next sessions: March 16<sup>th</sup> and March 19<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 am or 1:00 pm. Sign up in person or via email **no later than Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>**. It is possible to take just the math or just the reading if you only need to improve one of those scores. Want to practice? Go to:

<https://accuplacer.collegeboard.org/students/prepare-for-accuplacer/practice>