2026 CONSTANT J. and MARY LENORE COMMENT SCHOLARSHIP

(See Attached Guidelines)

Name: _____ **Birthdate:** _____ **Age:** _____
(Last) (First) (Middle)

Home Address:_____
(Street) (City) (State) (Zip)

Phone: _____ /_____ - _____ **Social Security #:** _____ - _____ - _____

High School: _____ **Email:** _____

Cumulative Grade Point Average: _____ **Class Rank:** _____

You may use an additional sheet of paper if necessary to answer the following questions.

Activities you have participated in (please indicate the years: i.e., Basketball 1, 2, 3, 4; Chorus 1, 2) -- this may include activities in school, at church, or in the community (such as Scouting or Junior Achievement):

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Awards you have received in or out of school:

_____
_____
_____

Leadership positions or offices held:_____
_____
_____

If you have been employed during your high school years, please indicate your place of employment, hours per week, and the years in which you worked:

_____
_____
_____

I CERTIFY, TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, ALL INFORMATION IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

Signature of Applicant: _____ **Date:** _____

Signature of District Superintendent (or designee): _____

APPLICATION IS DUE AT THE ST. CLAIR COUNTY REGIONAL OFFICE OF EDUCATION POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE MARCH 31, 2026, WITH THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS (SEE "CRITERIA" FOR EXPLANATION):

1. **Letter of Recommendation**
2. **Official Seven Semester Transcript**
3. **Essay**
4. **Parent/Guardian 2024 or 2025 IRS 1040 Form**

CONSTANT J. AND MARY LENORE COMMENT SCHOLARSHIP
CRITERIA/GUIDELINES

PURPOSE: A college scholarship awarded on the basis of the integrity of the applicant, the applicant's evidence of good citizenship and love of country, scholastic achievement of the applicant, and financial need of the applicant.

AMOUNT/TERMS: $2,000 per student, per year. The scholarship is renewable annually three times for a total of four years' assistance, assuming the recipient carries at least 12 credit hours per semester and maintains a minimum of a "C" average at an accredited college/university or program leading to a bachelor's degree. A scholarship may be renewable for a fifth year at the discretion of the St. Clair County Scholarship Trust Board if it is needed to enable the student to attain their initial degree. The scholarship money will be paid directly to the institution in the Fall upon verification of enrollment.

NUMBER OF AWARDS: Five scholarships for the 2026 year will be awarded. High school superintendents within the jurisdiction of the St. Clair County Regional Office of Education will be invited to nominate students for the scholarships. The number of nominations from each high school will be based on following enrollment tiers (subject to change as reviewed annually):

- ✓ **12th Grade enrollment of 400 and above - nominate 4 students**
- ✓ **12th Grade enrollment of 399 to 200 - nominate 2 students**
- ✓ **12th Grade enrollment of 199 and below – nominate 1 student**

CRITERIA FOR NOMINATION:
Failure to comply with the criteria will result in disqualification of the application.

- ✓ Applicant must reside in St. Clair County;
- ✓ Applicant must be a high school senior attending a high school within the jurisdiction of the St. Clair County Regional Office of Education;
- ✓ Applicant must have attended said institution for at least two full semesters;
- ✓ Applicant must have at least a 3.0 average on a 4.0 scale, or "B" cumulative average through seven semesters of high school;
- ✓ Applicant must be within the top 20% of their class;
- ✓ Applicant must submit a completed application form including a signature of district superintendent or designee with the following documents:
    1. Letter of recommendation from school principal or counselor.
    2. Official copy of transcript through the seventh semester, including ACT score or SAT score.
    3. Essay not to exceed two pages on why the applicant feels they meet the requirements set forth in Rosalie Comment's will concerning integrity, good citizenship, love of country, and scholarship.
    4. A copy of parent(s)/guardian 2024 OR 2025 IRS 1040 Form or up-to-date public aid documentation. In case of joint custody, both parents' 1040 forms or public aid documentation must be submitted. **A copy of the tax return of which the child is listed as a dependent must be submitted.**
- ✓ Applicant must be willing to participate in a personal interview with members of the St. Clair County Scholarship Trust Board.

SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS: Recipients of the Constant J. and Mary Lenore Comment Scholarship will be chosen by a sub-committee appointed annually by the St. Clair County Scholarship Trust Board Chairman.

TIME LINE: **Completed applications of all nominees must be submitted by the district superintendent or designee to Lori Costello, Regional Superintendent, St. Clair County Regional Office of Education, 1000 South Illinois Street, Belleville, IL 62220-2537 and POSTMARKED BY <u>MARCH 31, 2026</u>.** Scholarship awards will be announced by May 2nd.