

# Midland Believes...

In the career potential of all students.



A Midland Believes Scholarship recipient from 2017 (Year 1) earned her bachelor's degree in three years. She is now pursuing her master's degree in occupational therapy, which she plans to earn in another year and a half.

**The funds from the Midland Believes Scholarship were a major factor in her being able to afford to continue toward her advanced degree.**



# MIDLAND BELIEVES

## SCHOLARSHIP

### Who Is Eligible?

- Students pursuing post-secondary education as well as economically disadvantaged students with preference given to students that are both.
- A first generation college-going student is one who lives in a household where none of the parents/guardians have earned a bachelor's degree.
- It is recommended that eligible students should have attended a Midland County high school for a minimum of two years.
- It is recommended the student have a minimum GPA of 2.0, with exceptions considered for those whose GPA has shown improvement through high school.
- It is recommended that the student plans to take a full load of credits each semester (12-16 credits)
- It is recommended that preference be given to those students who have demonstrated leadership or been involved in community service activities.
- 12th grade students who are not eligible for graduation until they complete an additional semester of classes, are eligible for this scholarship to begin the semester after graduation.
- Students that are TIP (Tuition Incentive Program) or full Pell Grant eligible (have an Expected Family Contribution of \$0) are not eligible for this scholarship.
- An exception is made for full Pell Grant eligible students that will be attending a not-for-profit postsecondary institute that is not able to accept federal financial aid. (e.g. the Greater Michigan Construction Academy or the Merrill Institute)

The goal of the Midland Believes Scholarship is to build an endowment of \$4,000,000 to sustain 100 students each school year and to provide students with all of the necessary tools for success in post-secondary education. Offering a renewable \$2,000 scholarship to students who fit the Midland Believes Scholarship criteria will largely cover the cost of postsecondary education at a community college. Donors can support Midland Believes through giving any amount directly to the fund or starting a named endowment fund for \$10,000.

### Type of Postsecondary Educational Institute & Amount of Scholarship

- Enrolled in an accredited in-state, community college, private college, university, or tech school.
- \$2,000 the first year, which is renewable for a second year if the student maintains satisfactory academic progress.
- Awardees will first utilize other earned financial aid to meet college costs.
- This scholarship will cover the financial need gap between the student's resources and the costs of attendance that are not covered by federal or state aid. This could include tuition, fees, housing, and indirect costs such as books, supplies, and transportation.

### Application Process

- Each school will have a committee to review their applicants and rank them based on greatest need, potential, or factors they warrant that make the student(s) strong candidates for the scholarship.
- Students would submit an essay on one of the following topics:
  - Hardship you had to overcome, **or**
  - An accomplishment of which you're most proud, **or**
  - An experience that was life-changing, **and**
  - Why you have need, **and**
  - What you want to pursue and the qualities you have in your character to succeed.