

The Railway & Locomotive Historical Society is proud to sponsor scholarships to promote the study, at a professional academic level, of railroad history and operations. The scholarships are named in honor of three individuals, George W. Hilton, Edward Myers and Bruce R. Ward, who most generously bequeathed funds to the R&LHS.

Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$3000 per academic year, to both advanced undergraduate (3rd and 4th year) and graduate students.

The program is open to students majoring in history and transportation/transportation logistics, or other majors where the student's work has a demonstrated connection to railroad operations and history.

Timeline for Applications and Awards

- January 1, Applications may be submitted.
- March 31, Applications due.
- May 31, Committee decisions due.
- June 30, Notification to Scholarship recipients.
- August 1, Funds distributed, directly to college or university if possible.

Application Procedures

- Applications must include an Application Form which can be requested from rhls scholarship@gmail.com. Applicants will then receive the form as a Word document, which should be completed and saved under the applicant's name, and included in the application packet.
- The recommendation from a professor should be sent directly by him or her to rhls scholarship@gmail.com.
- Complete application packets should be sent to rhls scholarship@gmail.com. Questions about the program can also be directed to this address.
- Packets must be received by midnight, Eastern Time, on March 31st.
- Packets received late, or incomplete, will not be considered.
- The decisions of the committee are final.

Base Qualifications for Undergraduate Applicants

- Enrolled in a regionally-accredited college/university in a degree seeking program, and will have at least third year status at the time of the award.
- Enrolled in at least six credit hours of classes.
- Applicants must specify if enrollment is by the semester, trimester, or quarter.
- Minimum 3.0 GPA on four point scale.
- Recipients may reapply for one additional year of funding, provided that all qualifications continue to be met.
- Unsuccessful applicants are invited to reapply for the next award cycle.

Required Documents for Application of Undergraduate Applicants

- Statement of Purpose – In 500 words or two pages the applicant must describe their interest in railroad history/operations, the connection to their academic studies, and outline their career goals. Applicants are invited to include documentation of coursework, research projects or other activities that would help illustrate their statement of purpose. (Such documentation is optional, but not required for undergraduate awards applications)
- Faculty Recommendation – The letter should describe the student's previous work for/with the faculty member and provide a general overview of the student's academic potential.
- Character Reference – Applicant must provide a one page statement about the applicant's character from someone who knows the applicant well but is not an immediate family member.
- College Transcript - Registrar-issued, “unofficial” transcripts accepted.
- Expected graduation date.

Base Qualifications for Graduate Applicants

- Enrolled in a regionally-accredited college/university in a degree seeking program.
- Enrolled in at least six credit hours.
- Applicants must specify if enrollment is by the semester, trimester, or quarter.
- Minimum 3.0 on four point scale.
- Recipients may reapply annually and be awarded funds up to four times. To be eligible for additional scholarships recipients must show progress toward completion of their degree.
- Unsuccessful applicants are invited to reapply for the next award cycle.

Required Documents for Application of Graduate Applicants

- Statement of Purpose – In 500 words or two pages the applicant must describe their interest in railroad history/operations, the connection to their academic studies, and outline their career goals. Applicants are expected to include documentation of coursework, research projects or other activities that would help illustrate their statement of purpose.
- Faculty Recommendation – The letter should describe the student's previous work for/with the faculty member and provide a general overview of the student's academic potential.
- Character Reference – Applicant must provide a one page statement about the applicant's character from someone who knows the applicant well but is not an immediate family member.
- College Transcript - Registrar-issued, “unofficial” transcripts accepted.
- Curriculum Vitae (CV).
- Expected graduation date.