

*American Council of Engineering Companies of Delaware*  
*2026 Engineering Excellence Awards - Scholarship Application Form*

## **SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

The American Council of Engineering Companies of Delaware (ACEC/DE) is the voice of Delaware's engineering industry. ACEC/DE members are engaged in a wide range of engineering works that propel the State's economy and enhance and safeguard Delaware's quality of life. These works allow Delawareans to drink clean water, enjoy a healthy life, take advantage of new technologies and travel safely and efficiently. Our mission is to contribute to Delaware's prosperity and welfare by advancing the business interests of member firms.

ACEC's roots date back to 1909 when a loosely organized group of engineers in private practice established the American Institute of Consulting Engineers (AICE), the forerunner of ACEC. Today ACEC is a large federation of 51 state and regional councils representing the great breadth of America's engineering industry. ACEC member firms employ hundreds of thousands of engineers, architects, land surveyors, scientists, and other specialists, responsible for more than \$200 billion of private and public works annually. Member firms range in size from a single registered professional engineer to corporations employing thousands of professionals.

### **AMERICAN COUNCIL OF ENGINEERING COMPANIES of DELAWARE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM DESCRIPTION**

#### **CRITERIA:**

1. Available to high school seniors who have lived in the State of Delaware for one continuous full year prior to the application deadline of January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
2. Candidate shall be accepted into or have applied to enroll in an engineering program of a four (4) year, ABET accredited college within the United States of America.
3. Candidate shall be a citizen of the United States of America at the time of application.
4. Candidate must demonstrate academic excellence and involvement in extra-curricular activities either in the community, in school, or both.
5. Candidate may demonstrate financial need.

### **APPLICATION PROCESS:**

1. Applicant shall submit one electronic copy of the completed application form, including attachments and essay to Karen Sheets at **karen.sheets@kci.com** by the application deadline of **January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026**. Please use ACEC - Delaware Scholarship as the subject line of the email. The submission must be a single PDF file containing all submission items. For questions, please email Dakota Laidman-Murray at **dlmurray@mckimcreed.com**.
2. Please refer to the application checklist at the end of the application to ensure that all documents are accounted for.
3. ACEC/DE Scholarship Committee will select finalists from among qualified applicants. Finalists may be interviewed if necessary.
4. All applications shall be considered; however, ACEC/DE reserves the right to reject any and all candidates for any reason, and not offer the scholarship award in any given year.
5. All applications will be discarded at the end of the calendar year in which award is given.

### **AWARD:**

1. The amount of the award shall be determined annually by the Executive Committee of ACEC/DE. The awards for this year are \$3,500 and \$2,500.
2. The award shall be a one-time presentation.
3. The successful candidate(s) shall be notified by April 15<sup>th</sup> of the graduation year. Unsuccessful candidates shall not be notified.
4. The scholarship will be awarded and the winner introduced at The ACEC Banquet (Summer 2026)
5. Upon acceptance of the award by the successful candidate, the payment will be made directly to the scholarship winner's chosen university or college following documentation of enrollment.

***Please return this application no later than Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026***

**INFORMATION:**

NAME (First, Middle, Last):

\_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

U.S. CITIZEN: \_\_\_\_Y \_\_\_\_N

PERMANENT MAILING ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

GENDER: \_\_\_\_\_

APPLICANT'S EMAIL ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_

PARENT(S) OR LEGAL GUARDIAN:

\_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**EDUCATION:**

NAME AND ADDRESS OF HIGH SCHOOL:

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GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPOSITE SAT/ACT Score: \_\_\_\_\_

SAT/ACT SUBSECTION SCORES (please list): \_\_\_\_\_

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NAME OF GUIDANCE COUNSELOR:

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GUIDANCE COUNSELOR PHONE NUMBER:

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COLLEGES YOU HAVE APPLIED TO: \_\_\_\_\_

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MAJOR FIELD OF STUDY: \_\_\_\_\_

ANTICIPATED DEGREE: \_\_\_\_\_

List all honors, special programs, and other scholarships you have received. These may or may not be academic-related. Use additional sheets if necessary.

Date	Organization	Description of Honor/Program

List all volunteer activities, work experience, and extra curricular activities during high school and describe involvement and any positions held. Please indicate volunteer or paid positions. Use additional sheets if necessary.

[illegible]

**REFERENCES:**

Provide three (3) references, unrelated to you, who can be contacted with regards to this application. Also provide a minimum of one (1) reference letter from someone other than the previously named references.

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_ HOW LONG: \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_ HOW LONG: \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

OCCUPATION: \_\_\_\_\_

RELATIONSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_ HOW LONG: \_\_\_\_\_

PREFERRED PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**ESSAY:**

In a separate essay of up to 500 words, write about an engineering invention, an engineer, or an engineering idea of the future that has inspired you to choose a career in engineering and discuss your future career plans. Be sure to attach the essay to this application and include your name.

**TRANSCRIPT:**

Obtain a certified copy of your high school transcript and include with the application submission. Include a description of the grading system used and indicate any courses that were "honors" or "advanced placement" program.

**FINANCIAL NEED (OPTIONAL):**

Please submit a short statement of financial need and how winning this scholarship will affect you.

**APPLICATION CHECKLIST (PLEASE INITIAL):**

1. Completed and signed application form?  
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2. Essay(s)?  
.....
3. Letter(s) of Recommendation?  
.....
4. Transcript?  
.....
5. Copy of SAT/ACT results?  
.....
6. Acceptance letter or submission confirmation of a college application?  
.....
7. All items combined into a single PDF file?  
.....

**By signing this, I authorize my school officials to give information about my academic records to ACEC/DE. I am also acknowledging that, to the best of my knowledge, the information presented on this application and attachments is complete and true and that all essays are my own work.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant's Signature) (Date)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Parent/Guardian's Signature) (Date)

**Return this application package in one PDF file via email no later than January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026 to:**

**Karen Sheets  
karen.sheets@kci.com  
Subject line: ACEC -  
Delaware Scholarship**

**Questions? Please contact Dakota Laidman-Murray at [dlmurray@mckimcreed.com](mailto:dlmurray@mckimcreed.com)**