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Office of the International President

September 11, 2025

To All International Representatives, Special Representatives, International Auditors, Business Representatives, Airline and Railroad General Chairpersons, District Secretary-Treasurers, Local Recording Secretaries, State and Provincial Councils, Education and Communications Representatives, TCU/IAM Executive Council, Carmen Division Officers, National Representatives, Assistant National Representatives and Local Officers

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

It is with renewed enthusiasm that we are beginning another year for the IAM Union Scholarship Competition. Enclosed you will find the **2026 Scholarship Competition Overview** that covers the rules and regulations for children of IAM Union members that are planning to graduate high school in 2026, as well as IAM Union members wanting to continue their education. To be able to inform members of the opportunities for themselves and their children, local officers are encouraged to read and discuss the document thoroughly. Please note that in addition to the four-year college scholarship, we also offer a two-year vocational-technical scholarship. At the 2004 Grand Lodge convention, the delegates voted unanimously to name one of the scholarships after Roman A. Mayfield, a 55-year member of District 751, now deceased. The Roman Mayfield award is given to one scholarship recipient who best represents the spirit of volunteerism and the keen sense of service to their community that was a hallmark of Brother Mayfield.

I thought it was important that while we inform you of the competition, I also bring you up to date on the financial condition of our Scholarship Program.

Since its implementation in 1960, the Scholarship Competition has continued to grow. Our financial resources were strong in the beginning, and we were able to award as many as thirty scholarships each year. This past year, 2024-2025, we received over four hundred applications for scholarships. The fund-raiser that was held in January was an enormous success and allowed us to award sixteen scholarships valued at \$64,000. With your local's help, we will continue this program and, hopefully, refuel the funding to include awarding more scholarships in future years.

By Convention resolution the delegates decided that voluntary contributions to finance the funding be set at .50 cents per member per year. If your local has not adopted this resolution or has not contributed for this year, please give it sincere consideration at your next local meeting. The check should be made payable to the **"IAM Union Scholarship Fund."** An official donation call letter is sent out in January of each year.

To keep up with current times, we have made our Scholarship Competition application and review process fully accessible from the web. All applicants can access applications and apply directly through our website. **Applications will be accepted beginning October 1, 2025, and ending February 6, 2026.** Scholarship Winners are announced in the IMAIL, and all current and past winners are available to view at goiam.org, under the Scholarship Department page. 2025 Scholarship Competition winners were announced in the IMAIL dated May 1, 2025.

It is imperative that all potential applicants review the eligibility requirements prior to starting an on-line application. Eligible Applicants can apply at the goiam.org website: scholarship.goiam.org

Although information is available online and will be sent out in the IMAIL, we count on you to make this information available on bulletin boards, at your local meetings and ask all stewards to inform members at their places of work. **Your cooperation in this effort is particularly important in order to end the disappointments expressed in past years by members who learn about the Scholarship Competition too late.**

If you have any questions about the Scholarship Program or our new application process, please call our Scholarship Department, 301-967-4708.

With best wishes, I remain.

Fraternally yours,



Brian Bryant
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT

BB/klg
cc: Executive Council

/Enclosure as stated

IAM Union ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION

ELIGIBILITY FOR COMPETITION

An Eligible Applicant Must Be Either:

- an active IAM member; or
- the son, daughter, stepchild or legally adopted child of an active or retired IAM member.

A Member Applicant -

- **must have two years of continuous good-standing membership through the closing date of the competition;**
- may apply either when entering college or vocational/technical school as a freshman or at a higher level with some college credits already completed;
- may apply as a full-time or part-time student; and
- if not a winner, may apply again the following year.

Child of a Member Applicant -

- **must have one living parent with two years of continuous good-standing membership through the closing date of the competition;**
- will be eligible if the parent member died after the son or daughter entered high school, and the parent had two years of “continuous good-standing membership” at the time of death;
- A “continuous good-standing membership” is understood to be a period of membership during which the member continuously paid monthly dues uninterrupted by withdrawal cards;
- **must be planning to graduate high school during the winter or by the end of the spring of the current school year; (MUST BE A CURRENT HIGH SCHOOL SENIOR)**
- must plan to take a regular college or vocational/technical program on a full-time basis, maintaining qualifying grades.

Ineligible Applicants Include -

- applicants who do not intend to work without interruption for a bachelor’s degree or completion of a vocational/technical school certification;
- members’ children who are attending or have already attended college or vocational/technical school;
- Members and children of members on the payroll of the International;
- graduate students; and
- applicants who do not plan to enroll in an accredited college or vocational/technical school.