



# ASIST Scholarship Information

EWI of Des Moines offers the Adult Students in Scholastic Transition (ASIST) Scholarship Program in the central Iowa area. The purpose of the scholarship is to provide financial assistance to adult students in a non-traditional or transitional educational situation. EWI believes that the ASIST Program will positively impact the personal life, employment, family and community of the applicant.

## **Scholarship Awards:**

EWI Des Moines has up to \$10,000 available to award in scholarships in 2026. Amounts will vary based on the number of applicants and their respective needs. Historically, awards have been in the \$1,000 - \$3,000 range. Awards can be used for the recipient's tuition and related expenses, which can include books and mandatory fees. Not included are items such as rent, utility payments, travel expense, childcare expense or repayment of existing loans.

## **Who Can Apply:**

ASIST is available to adults facing economic, social or physical challenges who are looking to improve their situation through educational opportunities. This would include individuals who are past high school age who are entering an accredited college, university or trade school for the first time; non-traditional students already enrolled in an accredited program, an individual seeking training due to changes in the workplace or who are otherwise **not** a traditional college/trade school student recently finished with high school. Selection criteria include financial need; socially, physically and/or economically disadvantaged adults; displaced homemakers; and heads of household with small children or dependent adults.

Applicants for the EWI Des Moines scholarship must reside in one of the following counties: Adair, Appanoose, Boone, Clarke, Dallas, Davis, Decatur, Greene, Guthrie, Hamilton, Hardin, Jasper, Lucas, Madison, Mahaska, Marion, Marshall, Monroe, Polk, Ringgold, Story, Union, Wapello, Warren, Wayne or Webster.

To apply, applicants must be able to:

- Clearly define their career goals and objectives.
- Specify the educational requirements needed to attain the above goals and objectives.
- Utilize re-entry programs or personal assessment programs available through colleges, universities, community agencies, service groups or career professionals.
- Demonstrate financial need.

## **Application Process:**

Applications are completed online through Kaleidoscope.com. No paper applications will be accepted. Access is available at <https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/scholarships/asist2026>. A link can also be found on the EWI Des Moines website at <https://ewidsm.org> under the Community/Scholarship section.

**The application deadline is Tuesday, March 31, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. Central Time.**

It is helpful if the following items are ready in advance as they will need to be uploaded:

- most recent school transcripts
- financial documents including your FAFSA, other financial aid and other scholarship awards
- a 1,000-word (or less) essay describing your goals and objectives and the educational path to attain them
- two letters of recommendation

Applicants will need to create their own account on Kaleidoscope.com. This will allow an individual access to their application until the deadline. The applicant can continue to work on, refine or add additional material to their application throughout the application period. **No application is finalized until the application period ends on March 31, 2026 at 11:59 p.m. (CT).**

**Timeline:**

Application period - January 9 – March 31, 2026  
Review of applicants - April  
Personal Interviews of semi-finalists - May  
Award Notification early - June  
Awards Sent to School - August

Awards are made payable directly to the recipient’s respective school. Scholarship awards are valid for one year from the date granted and must be paid within one year of being awarded. Unclaimed awards will be returned to the EWI Des Moines chapter for redistribution.

Awardees may apply again for the scholarship.

An EWI Des Moines chapter scholarship recipient may be submitted at the chapter’s discretion to the Executive Women International Corporate Board for consideration in the national ASIST Scholarship Program. Five scholarships are awarded at the corporate level. For 2026 there is \$30,000 in funding to be awarded.

**Questions:**

Please contact Kelly Betts, Kim Fankhauser or Christine Healy, EWI Des Moines Scholarship Committee Chairs if you have any questions about the scholarship or the application process.

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**To apply visit: <https://apply.mykaleidoscope.com/scholarships/asist2026>**

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