



IN REPLY REFER TO
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INTERNATIONAL UNION, UNITED AUTOMOBILE, AEROSPACE & AGRICULTURAL IMPLEMENT WORKERS OF AMERICA – UAW

SHAWN FAIN, *PRESIDENT* • MARGARET MOCK, *SECRETARY-TREASURER*
VICE-PRESIDENTS: MIKE BOOTH • RICH BOYER • LAURA DICKERSON

October 15, 2025

To: All Region 1A Local Union Presidents, Vice Presidents, Financial Secretaries & Recording Secretaries, Full-Time Chairs, and Retiree Chapter Chairpersons

From: Mark DePaoli, Director

Subject: 2026 Retiree Scholarship Award Applications

Greetings:

This is our 38th year sponsoring the UAW Region 1A Retiree Scholarships, and we hope it will be successful. As leaders, we have all encountered uninformed and often hostile attitudes toward Unions...including the UAW. One way we attempt to address this hostility is by engaging ourselves with our young people. These scholarships are another step toward that goal.

It is rewarding to read in the essays, "I never realized, until I entered this contest, just how much the UAW has meant to my family." Nearly all describe how their research has, for the first time, made them realize how much our Union has supported their families in daily life and during emergencies. Keeping this in mind, I hope you will agree with this request and contribute to this worthwhile effort. All donations are welcome, and any Local that contributes \$1,000 or more will be recognized at the Scholarship Program Luncheon in June 2026. This is our main fundraiser for this program!

Enclosed, you will find the following materials on the scholarships:

1. An Overview of the UAW Region 1A Retiree Scholarship Program
2. Application form.

****When you have a request for an application form,**

You must include a copy of the overview, so the applicant knows which essays to write and the rules governing the awards.

The deadline for essays to be sent to Region 1A is April 17, 2026.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with Region 1A at (313) 291-2750.

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Attachments

**REGION 1A UAW
2026 UAW Region 1A Retiree Scholarship
Application Form**

PLEASE PRINT

NAME OF STUDENT: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

EMAIL: _____

DATE: _____ **PHONE:** _____

SCHOOL: _____ **GRADUATION DATE:** _____

UNIVERSITY, COMMUNITY COLLEGE, OR CAREER-TRAINING INSTITUTE YOU WILL ATTEND:

YOU MUST ENCLOSE A COPY OF YOUR ACCEPTANCE AS A STUDENT

NAME OF UAW MEMBER: _____

RELATIONSHIP:

FATHER MOTHER GRANDFATHER GRANDMOTHER GUARDIAN

LOCAL UNION # _____

NOTE: With this application, you must send...

1. Copy of accredited college or trade school admission letter.
2. Your original essay of 500 words (or less).

**THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED, AND ALL REQUIRED DOCUMENTS, SIGNATURES
OBTAINED AND DELIVERED TO OR POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN:**

April 17, 2026

to

**Region 1A, UAW, Scholarship Committee
9650 S. Telegraph Road, Taylor, MI 48180**

I certify I have read the rules and agree to abide by them, that I am eligible to enter this contest and, will attend the accredited school I have named. I grant permission to Region 1A UAW to use my essay for educational and promotional purposes.

APPLICANT'S SIGNATURE: _____ **DATE:** _____

**UAW REGION 1A
RETIREE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS
OVERVIEW**

THE GOALS

The Retired Workers Council has undertaken this program to raise awareness of the educational opportunities young adults need in our complex world. We continue to struggle to remove the economic barriers to full educational opportunities while at the same time trying to help a few families provide their children with an education beyond high school.

ELIGIBILITY

To be a contestant, the student must be the child, grandchild, or ward of a member in good standing, working or retired, of a Local in UAW Region 1A. They must be graduating from high school in the contest year and must have been tentatively accepted by an accredited college, community college, or career-training institute. **Each applicant must submit an original essay of 500 words or fewer on the subject designated for that contest.**

There must be NO mention of a family member or UAW Local in the essay. Please make sure that all essays are double-spaced and have correct spelling and grammar.

ESSAY:

“How has social media contributed to the spread of fear and hate, and what can be done to promote civil unity?”

AWARDS

Two (2) awards of \$1200 and four (4) awards of \$1000 will be presented. Awards will be given to the authors of the essays.

THE JUDGES

A panel of UAW Retirees will read each essay without knowing the author's identity. The content, clarity, and reasoning of the essay will determine the decision of these judges.

THE AWARDS

These awards are made possible by generous donations from UAW Locals and the Retired Workers Chapters of UAW Region 1A, the Director, and caring individuals. The awards are presented in memory of an individual who made significant contributions to the UAW and our community.

ANNOUNCING...



**UAW REGION 1A
RETIREE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS**

2026 HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Two (2) \$1200 Awards

Four (4) \$1000 Awards

Please submit an essay of 500 words or less on the following topic:

“How has social media contributed to the spread of fear and hate, and what can be done to promote civil unity?”

Applicants Must Be:

- Child, grandchild, or ward of UAW member in Region 1A
- 2026 high school graduate
- Accepted to college or trade school.

***DEADLINE FOR COMPLETING ENTRY
REQUIREMENTS: April 17, 2026***

For application forms contact:

***Your UAW Local Union
or
Region 1A (313) 291-2750***