



American Italian Cultural Society

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www.americanitalian.org

February 10, 2026

Dear Director of Guidance,

The American Italian Cultural Society (AICS) annually offers a four-year scholarship to a graduating senior attending a participating high school in the Joliet/Will County area. This year we will award two (2) scholarships: the 1st place recipient will receive \$1,500 per year for four (4) years and the 2nd place recipient will receive \$750 per year for four (4) years.

For your convenience and reference we have enclosed a Scholarship Summary letter, which briefly outlines the application requirements and scholarship terms. In addition, we have enclosed a copy of the application.

The due date for applications is May 15, 2026 and the winner will be notified by June. The scholarship recipient will be honored at and is expected to attend the American Italian Cultural Society's annual Columbus Day Banquet held in October.

Thank you for your cooperation and for your interest in our scholarship. We hope to hear from your students soon. If you have any questions, you can reach me by email at scholarship@americanitalian.org.

Regards,

/s/ Tanja Conte

/s/ Lynn Coladipietro

Tanja Conte

Lynn Coladipietro

American Italian Cultural Society
Scholarship Committee



AMERICAN ITALIAN CULTURAL SOCIETY (AICS) 2026 SCHOLARSHIP SUMMARY

ELIGIBILITY:

Any senior or graduating student from any public high school located in the following districts or private school listed:

1	Coal City	204	Joliet	210	Lincoln-Way
99	Downers Grove	204	Indian Prairie	255U	Reed Custer
111	Minooka	205	Lockport	365-U	Romeoville
202	Plainfield	209-U	Wilmington		Joliet Catholic Academy
203	Naperville	210	Lemont		Providence Catholic High School

In addition, any senior or graduating student that is the child or grandchild of a member of AICS is eligible, regardless of their residency. The AICS member must be in good standing. Applicant need not be of Italian descent, a member of AICS, or the relation of a member of AICS.

SELECTION:

Each year, the AICS Scholarship Committee shall select two (2) recipients from all eligible applicants. In no particular order, the criteria for selection shall be:

- Academic excellence
- Participation in volunteering and extracurricular activities including work experiences
- Promotion of Italian culture and values
- Writing Ability

AMOUNT:

The 1st place recipient will receive a four-year scholarship amounting to \$1,500.00 per each academic year and the 2nd place recipient will receive a four-year scholarship amounting to \$750.00 per each academic year. A recipient that abandons his or her education or fails to maintain satisfactory academic progress will forfeit the remainder of their scholarship. To maintain the scholarship, the recipient must maintain a grade point average of 2.8 and above on 4.0 scale or 3.8 on a 5.0 scale and submit proof of such after each academic year.

Applications must be postmarked by May 15, 2026

About the AICS:

The American Italian Cultural Society (AICS) is a non-profit organization established in 1988 in the city of Crest Hill, Illinois. The AICS organization is dedicated to preserving Italian cultural and carrying on traditions to today's generation.

Lastly, monies raised at the American Italian Cultural Society is given back to the local community and to those in need.