

# CONNEXUS ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP FUND



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## **PURPOSE OF THE FUND:**

The Connexus Association is a nonprofit entity that provides scholarships for continuing education, financial literacy education, and assistance to educational institutions.

The Connexus Association Scholarship Fund, established within the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin in 2017, will further the Association's mission by awarding scholarships in memory of Danielle Zsenak, to local seniors who meet the criterion stated below.

## **DANIELLE ZSENAK MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP**

### **BACKGROUND:**

Danielle Zsenak was born on May 26, 1987 in Trenton, New Jersey, but lived in Wisconsin most of her life. She earned degrees from Marquette University and UW-Milwaukee. She was a resident of Wausau and was employed by Connexus Credit Union at the time of her death at the age of thirty.

Outwardly reserved, Danielle had a strong adventurous spirit. Some of the accomplishments of her short life included: she learned to surf in Hawaii, attended space camp, played rugby at Marquette University, finished second in the 2008 Jeopardy college tournament, tried out for the U.S. Olympic skeleton team, skated with the Fondie Firecats Roller Derby team, and celebrated her 30<sup>th</sup> birthday with a tandem skydive. She loved books, music, art, theater, her family, friends, and her beloved greyhounds – Beans and Barbie.

The Connexus Association is proud to present this scholarship in Danielle's honor. She was a marketing technologist for Connexus Credit Union at the time of her death on June 26, 2017. This scholarship is a tribute to her dedicated service and her zest for life.

### **APPLICATION:**

Students are encouraged to apply online by visiting the Community Foundation's website at [www.cfncw.org](http://www.cfncw.org). Click the **Apply Now Grants / Scholarships** button on the top menu bar; then go to the left-side menu and click on "Scholarships"; you can then click on the "Apply Online" button anywhere you see it on the page to reach the online application portal and begin the registration and application process. If this is your first visit to the site, you will need to "Create an Account." If this is a return visit, enter your email address and password. Completed applications must be submitted by **February 15** to be considered by the Selection Committee.

### **YOUR APPLICATION MUST INCLUDE:**

- Transcript of grades
- List of extracurricular activities and community service (downloadable form online)
- Two reference letters (at least one from a teacher, counselor, or school official)

## **ELIGIBILITY:**

Graduating high school seniors from the following schools are eligible to apply:

- Athens School District
  - Abbotsford School District
  - Edgar School District
  - Enrich Excel Achieve Learning Academy
  - Faith Christian Academy
  - IDEA Charter School
  - Marathon School District
  - Mosinee School District
  - NTC Alternative High School
  - Spencer School District
  - Stratford School District
  - Wausau EGL Academy
  - Bridges Virtual Academy
  - Copper Lake School
  - Lincoln Hills School
  - Merrill School District
  - Tomahawk School District
- Student must carry a minimum 3.5 GPA
  - Plan to pursue a post-secondary education in Business or Education within the coming year
  - And, must have a minimum of two extracurricular activities throughout their high school career, including non-school related activities

## **SELECTION GUIDELINES:**

The following qualities will be taken into consideration in the selection process:

- Relative experience that demonstrates the student's interest in, and potential for success in their chosen field
- Field of study – Education, Finance, or Accounting rank higher than general business major – although any business major is encouraged to apply
- Pursuit of a bachelor's degree generally ranks higher than an associate's degree

## **SELECTION PROCESS:**

A Selection Committee, named by the Community Foundation, will review the submitted applications and choose the scholarship recipients.

Members of the immediate families of any of the Selection Committee members shall be eligible to apply with the provision that the related member not serve on the committee during the year in which the application is considered.

## **ANNOUNCEMENT AND PAYMENT:**

The recipient/s will be recognized at their school's senior awards ceremony in the spring.

The Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin will follow up with the recipient by early June, outlining the process for initiating scholarship payment. Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 will be paid directly to the college or university the student plans to attend, after the student has provided proof of registration to the Community Foundation office.

Questions or requests for further information can be directed to the Community Foundation office.

**Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin**  
**500 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 2600, Wausau, WI 54403**  
Phone: 715.845.9555 / E-Mail: [info@cfoncw.org](mailto:info@cfoncw.org) / Website: [cfoncw.org](http://cfoncw.org)