



Esther Sterner Memorial Scholarship Annual Scholarship Information

Scholarship History

Esther Sterner was a long-time teacher of Anselmo-Merna Public School and she and her husband, Marvin, enjoyed the school and farming/ranching community for many years. The Esther Sterner Memorial Scholarship was created in 2018 as part of Mrs. Sterner's memorial funds were designated back to Anselmo-Merna Public School as way to commemorate her love of the school system and to provide opportunities for Anselmo-Merna graduates to continue their studies in a post-secondary setting. A scholarship of \$500 is given annually in her name to a student who has completed his/her first year of college and is pursuing an elementary education degree. An alternate will also be selected and the scholarship awarded, should the recipient not utilize the scholarship.

Anselmo-Merna Public Schools and the A-M Foundation thank the Sterner family for their generous support of our students and their futures!

I. Qualifications

- A. The student must be a past graduate of Anselmo-Merna High School and fill out the A-M Foundation Scholarship Application noting they are applying for the Sterner Memorial Scholarship.
- B. A student must have completed his/her first year in college and be pursuing a degree in elementary education to receive this scholarship.
The applicant must provide evidence of these qualifications in his/her application.
- C. A student must submit an essay (500 words or less) with the scholarship application, explaining why he/she would like to be an elementary teacher,

including either a positive and negative experience that helped him/her make this career choice.

II. Selection of Recipient

- A. Student must complete and file an application form with the Foundation by March 1st.
- B. Recipient must be a past graduate of Anselmo-Merna High School.
- C. **The recipient must be pursuing an elementary education degree.**
- D. The Sterner Family shall serve as the selecting committee. The committee will:
 - a. Study completed application forms
 - b. Designate recipient

III. General Organization of the Scholarship

- A. Total amount of the scholarship will be \$500.
- B. The recipient will not have to return any of the scholarship money received, as it is not a loan or repayment scholarship. The recipient will, however, be required to refund the face value of the scholarship if one semester of full-time study is not completed and recorded at their respective schools during the school year that follows scholarship issuance.
- C. Returned/unused scholarship funds will automatically be placed back into the scholarship account for future awards to other students.
- D. The scholarship will be presented at the graduation ceremony each year.
- E. The recipient may attend any school of higher learning approved by the State Department of Education or a State Board whose duty is to approve vocational schools. There must be evidence that the recipient has enrolled in school, and the scholarship must be used in either the first or second semester of the recipient's second, third or fourth year in college.

IV. Other Considerations

- A. If serious extenuating circumstances which make it impossible for the recipient(s) to fulfill Part III B, and/or E, the Foundation will have the right to make reasonable exceptions.
- B. A student is required to write a thank you letter to the Foundation and to the scholarship sponsor (family). A copy of these letters must be sent to the Foundation at the mailing address provided by July 1st.