



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**FOUNDATION OPENS APPLICATION FOR
2023 LILLY ENDOWMENT COMMUNITY SCHOLARSHIP**

The Wayne County Foundation is pleased to announce that the online application for the 2023 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program (LECSP) will open on **Monday, August 1, 2022**. The program will provide more than 140 scholarships statewide, including two scholarships in Wayne County.

The program, administered statewide by Independent Colleges of Indiana (ICI) and locally through the Foundation, is open to all Wayne County residents who will graduate from a Wayne County high school no later than June 30, 2023 who have earned a GPA of 3.5 or higher.

Since it was first offered in 1998, the Foundation has selected over 50 local students to receive the prestigious award, which pays full-tuition, required fees and a \$900 book stipend for four years. Recipients may attend any public or private, Indiana four-year college or university, accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools. Recipients must pursue undergraduate study in a baccalaureate program on a full-time basis.

The scholarship will be awarded based on the following criteria: academic performance, a statement of future plans, extracurricular activities and/or work experience, recommendations, overcoming adversity, community service, and financial need. Please visit <https://waynecountyfoundation.org/lilly-endowment-scholarship/> for more information and access to the application platform.

Applications will be accepted until noon on **Thursday, September 8, 2022**. Applicants will be notified of status in mid-October. Select students will be invited to interview as finalists the first week of November at the Foundation Building. The 2023 Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship recipients will then be notified in mid-December.

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Since 1979, the Wayne County Foundation has existed to foster and encourage private philanthropic giving, to enhance the spirit of community and to improve the quality of life in the Wayne County, Indiana, area now and for future generations.

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Lilly Endowment Inc. is an Indianapolis-based, private philanthropic foundation created in 1937 by J.K. Lilly Sr. and his sons Eli and J.K. Jr. through gifts of stock in their pharmaceutical business, Eli Lilly and Company. Although the gifts of stock remain a financial bedrock of the Endowment, it is a separate entity from the company, with a distinct governing board, staff and location. In keeping with the founders' wishes, the Endowment supports the causes of community development, education and religion. The Endowment funds significant programs throughout the United States, especially in the field of religion. However, it maintains a special commitment to its founders' hometown, Indianapolis, and home state, Indiana.

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Since 1997, **Independent Colleges of Indiana** has administered the Lilly Endowment Community Scholarship Program statewide with funding provided by Lilly Endowment Inc. Founded in 1948, ICI serves as the collective voice for the state's 30 private, nonprofit colleges and universities. ICI institutions employ over 22,000 Hoosiers and generate a total local economic impact of over \$5 billion annually. Students at ICI colleges have Indiana's highest four-year, on-time graduation rates, and ICI institutions produce 30 percent of Indiana's bachelor's degrees while enrolling 20 percent of its undergraduates.