

Important Dates

March 15 – Application Deadline

Your online application and two recommendations must be received no later than the deadline date.

May 15 – Finalist Notification

By this date you will receive a letter informing you whether or not you were selected as one of 15 finalists.

Mid-June (*Required-see web site for date*) 9:30 a.m. Saturday to 1:30 p.m. Sunday

As a finalist, you must attend this expense-paid weekend at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum in West Branch to meet each other and learn more about Herbert Hoover and the program that carries his name. Do not apply if you are unavailable to participate in this weekend in its entirety.

Mid-October (*Required-see web site for date*)

With your project completed, you return to West Branch to make a public presentation and receive a \$1,000 award. At that time, you will be considered for one of the three \$5,000 Uncommon Student Awards to be used for study at an accredited two- or four-year trade school, college or university anywhere in the country.

*"To rise to leadership...
to be uncommon."*

Herbert Hoover
in Uncommon Hero

"Receiving a recipient of the Uncommon Student Award changed my life. I will soon be the first person in my family to graduate from college. My dreams are becoming a reality. When I was a junior in high school, I didn't think I had any leadership qualities, but the Foundation opened my eyes to how uncommon I can be. I learned so much from that summer in 2009. I became confident and learned to network. I am a leader today thanks to people like the ones in the Foundation that believed in me. Thank you so much!"

Vanessa Espinoza, 2009

"When the Foundation said that being an Uncommon Student would open countless doors, they were not kidding. With the help of the Foundation, I was awarded several other scholarships which will enable me to further finance my secondary education and allow me to chase my dreams."

Jena Van Marck, 2014

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PRESIDENTIAL FOUNDATION

Herbert Hoover Uncommon Student Award

Awards for Iowa High School Juniors



*A project of the Hoover Program for at-Risk High School Juniors,
regardless of test scores, grades or financial need.*



PRESIDENTIAL FOUNDATION



This award program is named after a special President Hoover gave in 1948 on "the Uncommon Man." Hoover stated, "I can't remember having ever met a man brought about by mediocre men and women. They were brought about by distinctly extraordinary people with vital sparks of leadership. When you get sick you want an uncommon doctor. If you're not broke when you're in an automobile with a commonly good mechanic, when we get into war we want something an extraordinary general."

This program is designed to attract students who are motivated and community minded. The award, which honors Herbert Hoover, an Iowa native and the 31st President of the United States, identifies approximately 15 Iowa high school juniors who propose and then accomplish projects of their own design. The projects the students propose should display the values that Herbert Hoover demonstrated in his life of public service.

Hoover Uncommon Student finalists receive \$1,000 after completing their projects and presenting their accomplishments to a selection committee. In addition, three are chosen to receive \$5,000 awards to be used at a two-to-four year trade school, college or university of their choice.

Who is eligible?

Juniors in an Iowa high school or a home-school program who will be advancing to a senior level by the October presentation date. Students must be a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National or permanent resident.

Students are not eligible if they are the child or grandchild of a staff member or trustee of the Hoover Presidential Foundation, Library-Museum or National Historic Site.

How does the program work?

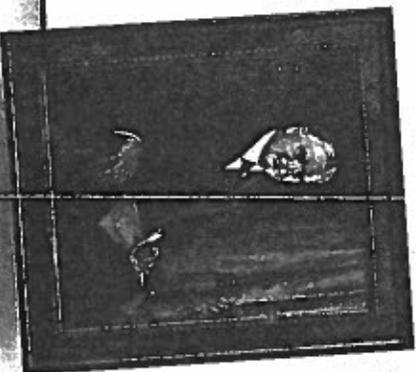
In the spring of their junior year, students submit a project proposal and two letters of recommendation. Approximately 15 students are selected based on the ambitious nature of the stated project goal and detailed plans to reach that goal. Students work on their projects during the summer months.

How do I apply?

1. Start thinking about your project NOW!
2. Submit the on-line application found on the Hoover Presidential Foundation website: www.HooverPresidentialFoundation.org/grantsawards/uncommon_student.php by March 15.
3. Request two references to submit on-line recommendation forms found on the Hoover Presidential Foundation website by March 15.
4. Applications and recommendations must be received by March 15.

What kind of project should I propose?

- A project you enjoy doing. What are you good at? What issues in your school or community would you like to tackle? What are you passionate about?
- Joint projects and class projects are not eligible, but enthusiastic volunteers is acceptable. Raising money for your project is permissible.
- You may already be working on something or have accomplished a goal. In that case, base your proposal on that and take it to another level. Note: You propose the project in your application. You don't do the project before applying.
- We highly recommend viewing what past students have done on the Hoover Presidential Foundation website. Read their stories under the Grants & Awards tab, Uncommon Student Award drop down.



Award Dollars Presented over \$600,000

Uncommon Students Recognized over 300

Impacting Students' Lives since 1997