



2026 STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the availability of the 2026 Richard 'Dik' Days Scholarship application. The Scholarship Committee will use this application in the scholarship selection process.

The Richard 'Dik' Days Scholarship Fund is an initiative formed through collaboration between the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists (CBTU) Connecticut Chapter, the International Union, United Automobile, Aerospace & Agricultural Implement Workers of America (UAW) Region 9A and the Days Family.

The Richard 'Dik' Days Scholarship Fund is created in memory of Richard Adam Days, who was a labor educator for the UAW. Prior to his retirement he was the Education & Civil Rights Director for the UAW, Region 9A. Brother Days was a rigorous trade unionist, political activist and community advocate. As a labor educator, Dik worked endlessly to educate union and non-union workers, their families and young adults on labor history, the contributions of organized labor in the workplace and the rights of workers. He was a member of the UAW for over 40 years, a charter member of the National Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, co-founder and former President of the Connecticut Chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, co-founder of the Connecticut Chapter of the A. Phillip Randolph Institute, a lifetime member of the NAACP, a lifetime member of the African American Alliance, and a six term member of the Bloomfield Town Council. Brother Days had an impact on many lives and helped those he touched better understand their role in building a union and the greater good for the communities in which we live.

If you are a Connecticut resident and a graduating high school senior attending college full-time in the fall or a current undergraduate student enrolled full-time in a college/university, you are eligible to apply for one of these scholarships. Qualifying applicants must also meet the minimum requirements noted below. Three \$2,000 scholarships will be awarded in 2026. If you are awarded a scholarship, you will be required to provide your social security number and student ID number for the college/university in which you are enrolled or plan to attend. Scholarship funds will be sent directly to the college/university for use towards your academic financial needs. Recipients must reply to the scholarship committee and provide their student ID and social security number within three days of notification for banking and tax purposes or the award may be forfeited. Winners are expected to participate in the Bloomfield Juneteenth Parade on June 20, 2026 and the RAD Committee Celebration Luncheon afterwards.

You will be notified by June 3, 2026 if you are selected as a scholarship recipient. If you have any questions or concerns please contact Donna Becotte at (860) 214-0726.

Please check each item below to verify that you understand the qualification requirements. Failure to comply with all requirements will disqualify your application.

_____ **DEADLINE May 8, 2026 at 12:00 midnight.** The complete application, including all requested documentation must be received by the Scholarship Committee by the deadline date. Complete applications, including all requested documentation must be received by the Scholarship Committee, including a school transcript and recommendations, all in one email. The deadline date is the latest date and time your application will be accepted by the Scholarship Committee, and incomplete or password protected submissions will not be accepted. NO EXTENSIONS will be granted. Your name should clearly appear on each page of documentation. All documentation should be typed. **Applications will only be accepted via a single email document (including letters of recommendation) to radscholarshipfund2011@gmail.com. We will check for any use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the essays, and if suspected of AI use, your application will be disqualified.**

_____ **Brief Biography:** Use a narrative format and include offices held, major accomplishments, other scholarships/awards, volunteer and community services performed, hobbies, etc.

_____ **Official School Transcript:** If you are in high school, provide a copy of your official high school transcript. If you are currently enrolled in a college/university and will attend full-time in the fall semester, please provide a copy of your current official college transcript.

_____ **Proof of Enrollment in an Accredited College/University:** Please provide proof of enrollment for the upcoming school year including the college/university name, address, and office where the scholarship award is going.

_____ **Copy of Grading System:** Attach a copy of your institution's grading system to clarify Grade Point Average (GPA)

_____ **Letters of Recommendation:** Provide three (3) letters of recommendation from people other than relatives, using the attached Richard 'Dik' Days Scholarship Recommendation Form. **The letters of recommendation must be submitted with the entire application as one document.**

_____ **A Recent Photo:** We will share your photo on our social media site and other media if you are selected as a recipient.

_____ **Is someone in your family a UAW member?** Yes / No (Circle one)

If so, what is the relationship to you? _____

_____ **Between 300-500 Word Essay:** Provide a typewritten, double spaced essay describing "**The First Amendment to the US Constitution guarantees the right to dissent. How can we protect that right?**" Essays will be judged based on content, grammar, sentence structure and punctuation. Please make your essay meaningful! No AI use will be tolerated.

PERSONAL INFORMATION

1. Name: _____
First Middle Last
2. Current Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code
3. Permanent Address: _____
Street City State Zip Code
4. Current Phone Number: (____) _____ Alternate Contact (____) _____
5. Email address: _____
6. How did you hear about this scholarship? _____
7. Are you a resident of the State of Connecticut? (circle one) YES / NO

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

1. College/University Enrolled _____
2. High School (Graduating High School Senior) _____
3. College Major (if known) _____

By signing, I hereby certify that the information provided in this application and supporting documentation is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate. I understand that any use of artificial intelligence (AI) in the writing of my essay will be grounds for disqualification.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian (if you are under the age of 18) _____ Date _____

**Please submit application and all documentation in one email to:
radscholarshipfund2011@gmail.com.**

The email subject line should state: Student Scholarship Application and Your Name.

The Richard 'Dik' Days Scholarship Letter of Recommendation

Please type your letter of recommendation and attach additional pages, if necessary.

Applicant's Full Name: _____

How long have you known the applicant? _____year(s)

How do you know the applicant?

Briefly describe the applicant's character and individual traits that motivated you to provide this letter of recommendation.

Briefly describe why you think the applicant should be awarded this scholarship.

Name: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____

Telephone Number: _____ **Email address:** _____

Signature _____

Thank you,

The Richard 'Dik' Days Scholarship Committee