

Alfred & Julia Bucher Scholarship



The number and amount of scholarships awarded will depend on the funds available for this year.

Scholarship Requirements

1. Resident of Hand or Hyde County and attending a post-secondary school in South Dakota or attending a Catholic seminary.
2. Current high school seniors and students that graduated from high school in 2023, 2022, or 2021
4. Demonstrate financial need.
5. Demonstrate good academic and citizenship skills.
6. Have either strong school and community involvement or work experience.

Scholarships are awarded on a yearly basis and must be applied for each year.

Postmarked no later than April 19, 2024

Mail applications to:
Courtney Van Zee
Miller High School
PO Box 257
Miller, SD 57362

Or scan and email to
Courtney.vanzee@k12.sd.us

Alfred & Julia Bucher Scholarship

Alfred Bucher was born December 10, 1912 in Hand County to Theodore and Nellie Bucher. One of the five children who were left orphaned by the untimely death of his parents, Alfred and his sister were taken in and raised by a cousin and his siblings grew up with other relatives.

Alfred attended parochial school in Polo, graduated from Miller High school and attended Huron College and St. John's University. After his marriage to Julia Foerster, he returned home to his childhood home near Polo where he farmed and ranched until his retirement in 1988 when they moved to Miller.

Alfred and Julia were kind and gentle folk with deep appreciation for the joys of simple living. They lived their years in quiet contentment on the family farm, surrounded by well-managed fields and their beloved Hereford cattle. They delighted in the sights and sounds of nature; their backyard was a welcoming haven for birds of the air and furry-footed creatures of the wild. With these creatures, Alfred and Julia shared the bounty of the land, offering seeds and grains in the winter months to ease the harsh conditions that nature doled out.

Alfred never outgrew his thirst for knowledge. An avid reader, he considered books a treasured commodity and used them throughout his life to broaden his horizons. His interest in astronomy sparked many an intriguing conversation and his keen eyes were ever open to political issues affecting global as well as local issues. He was especially dedicated to matters involving conservation of the natural environment and was not afraid to stand up for those principles that he believed in.

Julia was an avid gardener, an expert seamstress, an adventuresome cook, a meticulous housekeeper, an artist, and Alfred's faithful helpmate. Shy by nature, Julia nonetheless went out of her way to show people that she cared.

The educational scholarship trust that has been established in the name of his unpretentious farm couple is further evidence of their generosity. They were content to live a simple life. Alfred and Julia Bucher were able to accumulate a sizable estate that has been dedicated to furthering the education of deserving students of Hand and Hyde counties.

Scholarship Application Guidelines

Please include **all** the following information in your application:

1. Name, address, social security number, phone number, email, and county of residence
2. Year of high school graduation
3. Name of institution of higher education you plan to attend
4. Planned major area of study
5. List of activities, honors and awards
6. List of community activities
7. List of work experiences
8. A **one-page essay** describing your educational and career goals, including school you will be attending in 2024-25 and major area of study
(Double spaced – 12 point times new roman font – 1 inch margins, no longer or shorter!)
9. A copy of the first two pages of your **parents'** income tax return for **2022** (not 2023)
10. List of all scholarships, grants and loans that you have received to date – ALL years, not just this year
11. If a college student - a copy of your most recent college transcript (can be unofficial)
If a high school senior or first-time applicant - a copy of your high school transcript including ACT or SAT scores. If you did not take the ACT, please note that.

Must include all information listed above exactly as requested or will be disqualified.

Applications must be postmarked or received by April 19, 2024

Courtney Van Zee

Miller High School, PO Box 257, Miller, SD 57362 or courtney.vanzee@k12.sd.us

Announcements of scholarships recipients will be at the school sponsored award ceremony for current high school seniors. Those students currently attending post-secondary institutions will be notified by e-mail. Scholarship funds will be sent to the financial aid office of your choice.