



About the Foundation

The Building Industry Charitable Foundation (formerly known as the HBA of Greater Columbia Charitable Foundation, Inc.) was incorporated under S.C. Law in 1993 under bequest from the Home Builders Association of Greater Columbia, which provided the initial funding. The Foundation was established for the purpose of contributing to individuals, programs and organizations in need of assistance.

The work of the Foundation is wide reaching and provides assistance to programs benefiting young and old alike, including the awarding of student scholarships to children of those families in the housing industry. The Foundation, in its work, highlights the commitment and generosity of the building industry to a better quality of life for all residents of the Midlands of South Carolina.

Eligibility

First-time scholarship applicants must:

- Be a graduating high school senior accepted by or currently enrolled in an accredited two-year junior college or technical college or a four-year university in South Carolina. (Applications for out-of-state institutions to be considered on a case-by-case basis)
- Have a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.8 on a four-point scale for four-year schools, and 2.0 on a four-point scale for two-year schools.
- Applications for professional or certificate programs will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
- Have a scheduled in-person interview with the BICF Scholarship Committee as part of the application process. (Applicants will be contacted to set up this interview.)

Available Scholarships

The "**Building Industry Scholarship**" is awarded to assist in the pursuit of a post-secondary degree to colleges, universities and institutions in the state of South Carolina. BIA Members in good standing and who have been a member for a period of at least three years and their children or dependents may apply for this scholarship. Scholarships begin at \$1,500 and may increase by \$250 each year for a GPA over 3.0.

The "**Franklin David Clark 'The Dash' Scholarship**" may be awarded to an individual nominated by a member of The Building Association of Central SC with priority given to financial need, academic excellence and the pursuit of a four-year degree from the University of South Carolina with a degree in Business and an interest in employment within the construction field. The Board of Trustees of the Charitable Foundation will determine the amount awarded.

The "**Ernie Magaro Scholarship**" may be awarded to an individual nominated by a member of The Building Industry Association of Central SC with priority given to financial need, academic excellence and the pursuit of a four-year degree from a public school in South Carolina with a concentration in residential construction and/or land development. The Board of Trustees of the Charitable Foundation will determine the amount awarded.

The **"John B. Nieri Scholarship"** may be awarded to an individual nominated by a member of The Building Industry Association of Central SC with priority given to financial need and to an individual pursuing a construction related degree. The Board of Trustees of the Charitable Foundation will determine the amount awarded.

The **"Jon Ryall Scholarship"** may be awarded to an individual nominated by a member of The Building Association of Central SC with priority given to financial need, academic excellence and the pursuit of a four-year degree from Clemson University. The Board of Trustees of the Charitable Foundation will determine the amount awarded.

The **Sales & Marketing Council Scholarship** is awarded to assist in the pursuit of a post-secondary degree to colleges, universities, and institutions in the state of South Carolina related to the practices of sales and/or marketing of land and homes. BIA and BIA Sales & Marketing Council Members in good standing and who have been a member for a period of at least three years and their children or dependents may apply for this scholarship. The Board of Trustees of the Charitable Foundation will determine the amount awarded.

The **Construction Workforce Grant** can be applied toward tuition and required fees at the state's sixteen technical colleges for SC residents enrolled in a construction related field. Eligible applicants must be SC residents enrolled in a qualified program and nominated by a high school or technology center instructor or a member of the BICF Board of Trustees. The Board of Trustees of the Charitable Foundation will determine the amount awarded.

Selection

The Scholarship Selection Committee meets in the spring of each year to review scholarship applications. Awards will be made by the Trustees pursuant to adopted procedures and by final approval of the Foundation's Board of Trustees.

Awards/Funding

Scholarship funding is obtained by BIA member contributions; proceeds from the BIA Golf Classic and return on investments. Scholarships will be awarded when funded. Existing/renewing scholarships will be considered first. First-time applications will be considered second.

First-time applicants must be available for interview with the Selection Committee as part of the application process. Renewal of scholarships may be awarded to previous Foundation Scholarship recipients who remain enrolled in a post-secondary institution for undergraduate studies only. Students must re-apply each year to receive renewal. The scholarship will be paid directly to the college or university for the benefit of the student.

Applications are available on-line at BIAofCentralSC.com/charitable-foundation or by contacting us at the information below. Applications are fully digital.

***Transcripts must accompany application submission.**

Questions? Please contact Bin Wilcenski at (803) 525-1120 or Bin@columbiabuilders.com

Applications are due by Friday, April 11, 2025 (NO EXCEPTIONS)