

# STEAM Scholarship Application Form

Sponsored by the Sioux Valley Model Engineer's Society (SVMES)



## Instructions for Application

The Sioux Valley Model Engineer's Society is a 501(c)(3) non-profit model railroad club whose HO-scale model railroad layout is housed at the Sioux Empire Fairgrounds. To encourage high school graduates and college students to continue their education, two \$500 scholarships will be awarded annually. The scholarships are named in honor of two deceased long-time members and mentors of the railroad club, Bill Kading and LeRoy Sampson.



*Bill Kading* was an original member of SVMES and the driving force in the creation of the Dakota Southeastern Division modular club. The SVMES dates to 1948 with model railroad layouts were first being built in several downtown Sioux Falls businesses and member's homes. In 1964 a layout was built at the Sioux Empire Fairgrounds, and today it is the largest permanent layout in South Dakota. For many years Kading operated a hobby shop in Sioux Falls, specializing in model trains. He was known as a master modeler specializing in automation. Fireworks over Mount Rushmore and the operating speedway at the fairground's layout are examples of his work.



*LeRoy Sampson* worked for Northwestern Bell Telephone Company and was an acknowledged expert in wiring. Sampson's electrical contributions are still in alive in today's SVMES layout. He was in demand for his knowledge by those new to model railroading and a willing teacher to those new in the hobby. An avid fan of the Great Northern Railroad, Sampson had a massive model train layout in his home. Many of his home layout items were donated and today grace portions of the fairgrounds display. Sampson was a member of the club in the early years as his membership tenure goes back to the early 70's.

**STEAM** stands for science, technology, engineering, art, and math. Students seeking or attending post-secondary education in any of these five areas of study will be eligible for this scholarship.

## Application Criteria for SVMES' STEAM Scholarships:

- Involvement in the model railroading hobby.
- Seeking post-secondary education in one of five areas: science, technology, engineering, arts, or math.
- Proof of full-time enrollment at a two or four-year college.
- Strong academic performance; 3.0 GPA or higher.
- Active participation in extracurricular activities, volunteer work, and/or community service.
- One to two references and/or letters of recommendation.

The deadline for the 2024-2025 applications is **May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024**. Applications received after this date will not be considered.

- **Only completed applications will be considered. Do not leave items blank.**
- Consideration for these scholarships is based on the criteria listed above.
- References may include a teacher/instructor, counselor, boss, non-profit organization, etc. Family members may not be used as references.

The scholarship recipients will be announced by July 2024. The scholarship check will be in the name of both the recipient and the school of their choice; the check will be mailed directly to the school. Scholarship recipients will also be awarded membership in SVMES for 12-months.

Please email completed application, proof of enrollment, and any letters of recommendation to the following email addresses:

<a href="mailto:svmes@sio.midco.net">svmes@sio.midco.net</a>	<a href="mailto:bigbadjohn@sio.midco.net">bigbadjohn@sio.midco.net</a>	<a href="mailto:tcheinz@heinzcorps.com">tcheinz@heinzcorps.com</a>	<a href="mailto:hozerfarmer1@gmail.com">hozerfarmer1@gmail.com</a>
<a href="mailto:tater735@gmail.com">tater735@gmail.com</a>	<a href="mailto:whanson@sio.midco.net">whanson@sio.midco.net</a>	<a href="mailto:galep@midco.net">galep@midco.net</a>	<a href="mailto:chessie@mindspring.com">chessie@mindspring.com</a>

## **Applicant Information**

Full Name of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (cell / home / work)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

University / College Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Where you will be attending or where you attend currently.)

Address of Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Program of Study: \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA (if applicable): \_\_\_\_\_

High School Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Where you attended or where you will soon be graduating from.)

Address of High School: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Year of Graduation: \_\_\_\_\_ GPA: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Reference(s) Information**

(Only 1 reference required)

Full Name of Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (cell / home / work)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of Recommendation? (Yes/No): \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name of Reference: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ (cell / home / work)

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Relation: \_\_\_\_\_ Letter of Recommendation? (Yes/No): \_\_\_\_\_

## Scholarship Questions

1. Describe your involvement in the model railroading hobby, including belonging to an organized model railroad club, or building a home layout, as well as any model railroad clubs, clinics, or projects that you have participated in.
2. How has model railroading personally benefited you?
3. Describe any extra-curricular activities, volunteer activities, and/or community service of which you are active in.
4. How will receiving this scholarship benefit you?