



American Welding Society

July 31, 2025

Congratulations to the Detroit Section 2025 – 2026 Scholarship Winners:

This year the AWS-Detroit Section has awarded welding scholarships totaling over **\$65,000**. These scholarships are made available to Michigan residents and/or students enrolled in a welding or welding related programs at a college or university in the State of Michigan, and the following counties in the province of Ontario; Essex, Chatham-Kent, and Sarnia-Lambton. The candidates all submitted an application, including transcripts of their academic achievement, a brief letter about their background, their goals and ambitions, and any additional factors that would help the Section Scholarship Committee determine eligibility for an award.

The 31 recipients of the 2025 – 2026 Scholarships will be attending

- Ferris State University
- Lansing Community College
- Oakland University
- Schoolcraft Community College
- Washtenaw Community College
- Wayne State University

The scholarship recipients are all invited to attend our September Technical Meeting as a guest of the Detroit Section so that they may receive recognition of these awards.

2025 - 2026 American Welding Society-Detroit Section Scholarship Winners

AWS-Detroit Section, District 11 Fred Ellicott Scholarship for Arc Welding

Oliver Hess – Ferris State University

AWS-Detroit Section, District 11 Dietrich Roth Scholarship for Resistance Welding

Rebecca Craig – Ferris State University

The Amos and Marilyn Winsand Scholarship, funded by the AWS Foundation

Trevor Townson – Ferris State University

The Robert P. and Mardell D. Wilcox Scholarship, funded by the AWS Foundation

Logan Pethers – Ferris State University

The Mardell D. Wilcox Scholarship, funded by the AWS Foundation

Scott VanNispen – Washtenaw Community College

The Blazok Foundation Scholarship, funded by the AWS Foundation

William Burke – Wayne State University

The Robert L. Wilcox Scholarship

Milad Eeso – Wayne State University

The James W. Mitchell Scholarship

Sean Higgins – Wayne State University



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AWS-Detroit Section Awardees

Joshua Bakelaar - Ferris State University
Zachary Baker - Ferris State University
William Burke - Wayne State University
Rebecca Craig - Ferris State University
Katherine Cupler - Schoolcraft College
Jessica Duff - Ferris State University
Madelyn Goodwill - Washtenaw Community College
Sophia Gugel - Oakland University
Jackson Guillery - Ferris State University
Mark Hamilton - Wayne State University
Victoria Hay - Ferris State University
Oliver Hess - Ferris State University
Jefferson Hill - Wayne State University
Makumba Jallow - Wayne State University

Steven Laberdie - Washtenaw Community College
Andrew Musselman - Schoolcraft College
Olivia Peleg - Wayne State University
Jesse Pequeno - Wayne State University
Logan Pethers - Ferris State University
Caitlyn Popp - Wayne State University
Cameron Scharboneau - Wayne State University
Jason Smith - Wayne State University
Michael Smith - Ferris State University
Barbara Staley - Lansing Community College
Benjamin Taylor - Ferris State University
Anthony Valko II - Washtenaw Community College
Scott VanNispen - Washtenaw Community College
McKenzie Waddell - Wayne State University

Congratulations to all awardees! The scholarship process for the 2026-2027 school year will begin in December 2025.

Donald F. Maatz, Jr., AWS-Detroit Section Scholarship Chairman