

James Rossing Adversity Scholarship

Description

The Rossing Adversity Scholarship is funded by a gift to the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation by James Rossing, a 1979 graduate of Fort Atkinson High School.

Jim faced serious health challenges while growing up which had a direct impact on his school attendance, extracurricular achievements, and social interactions. While some felt a college education was unattainable, he remained focused, worked hard and graduated from Madison College with honors, earning an associate degree in respiratory therapy. He retired in 2017 after a long and successful 36-year career as a registered respiratory therapist at UW Hospital and Clinics. James established this scholarship to assist students who are working hard to achieve their educational and career goals in the face of serious health or other adverse circumstances.

This scholarship is for graduates of Fort Atkinson High School who have faced significant health or other challenges during their time in high school but still managed to graduate and now seek to pursue a post-secondary education.

Eligibility

Eligible students are current high school seniors at Fort Atkinson High School who:

- At the time of application have a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale.
- Are planning to attend an accredited vocational/technical school or a 4-year college or university.
- Have experienced a significant health challenge – or some other substantial adverse circumstance – during their high school career.

Selection

All applications will be reviewed by a selection committee consisting of a representative of the Fort Atkinson Community Foundation, the Superintendent of the Fort Atkinson School District (or his/her designee), a member of the community recruited by the Community Foundation, a high school teacher or staff person, and a member of the Rossing family, if available.

Selection will be based on the applicant's overall application, including a supplemental essay and letter; work ethic and determination; and likelihood of successfully completing the planned program. Financial need is not considered.