

Joan M. Vande Castle Scholarship Opportunity

Deadline: March 31, 2026



The Eastern Ridge Home Builders Association is proud to offer the Joan M. Vande Castle Scholarship opportunity for the 2026-2027 academic year.

The Joan M. Vande Castle Scholarship Fund was developed in 2016 to honor the Home Builders Association of Fond du Lac & Dodge Counties Executive Officer of 30 years, Joan M. Vande Castle. Joan made it her passion and dedicated her life to growing our Association. She and her husband, John (deceased), offered their home as the office and boardroom bringing those in the industry together for many years. Later, Joan led the members in the construction of the Rolling Meadows Drive building. Joan received numerous awards during her tenure, as she led a nationwide and statewide Executive Officer's Council. Joan was instrumental in the growth of the Home Builders Association. The Joan M. Vande Castle Scholarship was created to honor her for all her efforts and achievements as our Executive Officer.

The **Joan M. Vande Castle Scholarship** is available to students who will have completed high school and are enrolled in a formal program of higher education for the 2026-2027 academic year. Please note, students who are already enrolled in a formal higher education program may also apply.

The eligibility requirements are as follows:

1 - \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a qualifying student who is the **son/daughter** of a current Eastern Ridge Home Builders Association member business or the child of an employee of a member business. A student applying under this status must be enrolled in a formal program of higher education but is not required to enter a trades-related field.

1 - \$500 Scholarship will be awarded to a qualifying high school student who is entering college (or currently attending college) for a field of study relative to the building and trades industry. This scholarship is available to students who have graduated from High Schools in Fond du Lac, Dodge, or Green Lake Counties. It will be awarded based on the information provided on their application and their intended participation in any one of the following fields relative to residential construction: Construction Management, Architecture, Building Trades, Engineering (with an emphasis on construction trades), Interior Design, or other related fields of study relative to residential construction.

Please note that each scholarship may be earned a maximum of twice per student. To apply, please complete the scholarship application and questions found online at Eastern Ridge Home Builders Association www.easternridgehba.org. Additionally, please include a copy of your most recent transcripts and a letter of recommendation. Please note that these applications do NOT require official transcripts.

All applications must be postmarked by Tuesday, March 31, 2026. Scholarships will be awarded during the month of May. Should you have any questions regarding the application process, please

email info@easternridgehba.org.

Sincerely,

The Eastern Ridge Home Builders
Association Scholarship Committee



Eastern Ridge Home Builders Association Joan M. Vande Castle Scholarship 2026-2027 Application

The Joan M. Vande Castle Scholarship Fund was developed in 2016 to honor the Home Builders Association of Fond du Lac & Dodge Counties Executive Officer of 30 years, Joan M. Vande Castle. Joan made it her passion and dedicated her life to growing our Association and promoting the building industry. Joan was instrumental in the growth of the Home Builders Association.

To be eligible to apply for the Joan M. Vande Castle Scholarship, students must have completed high school and are enrolled in a formal program of higher education for the 2026-2027 academic year.

1. **1 - \$500 Scholarship** - Qualifying student who is the son/daughter of a current Eastern Ridge Home Builders Association member business or the child of an employee of a member business. A student applying for this scholarship is not required to enter a trades related field.
2. **1 - \$500 Scholarship** - Qualifying student who is enrolled in a formal program relative to residential construction: Construction Management, Architecture, Building Trades, Engineering (with an emphasis on construction trades), Interior Design, or other related field of study relative to residential construction. This scholarship is available to students who have graduated from High Schools in Fond du Lac, Dodge, or Green Lake Counties.

To be considered, please complete the following:

Full Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

High School/College/Technical School currently attending: _____

School Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

School Phone Number: _____

Year in School: _____

Please complete the appropriate fields.

Cumulative
High School GPA: _____

Cumulative
College GPA: _____

Applicant name: _____

High School Graduation Date: _____

College Planning to Attend 2026-2027: _____

Field of Study: _____

Have you received this scholarship before? If yes, when? _____

Are you a child of a current member of the Eastern Ridge Home Builders Association? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If Yes, Business Name: _____

Children of all employees from member companies are eligible to apply.

Applicant Questions

Please complete on a separate sheet of paper in paragraph form.

1. Please explain the type of degree you will attain and the field you hope to enter upon graduation.
2. Why did you pick this field of study?
3. Explain all extracurricular activities you are presently in or have been involved with in the past.
4. List all past and present work experience.
5. What are your interests/hobbies outside of school?
6. Please give a brief history of yourself and why we should select you for this scholarship.
7. **(If applicable)** Explain how your field of study relates to residential construction.

*Please submit your completed application, questions, unofficial transcript, and a letter of recommendation to the Eastern Ridge Home Builders Association **by Tuesday, March 31, 2026.***

Please submit your application no later than March 31, 2026 to:

Eastern Ridge Home Builders Association

PO Box 1181

Fond du Lac, WI 54936

E: Info@EasternRidgeHBA.org

The Scholarship Committee has the authority to adjust the award amount based on the quantity and quality of the applicants. This scholarship can be earned a maximum of twice per student. Scholarship monies can be applied toward tuition, books, and other necessary school supplies (i.e. tools). Selected recipients who are entering the trades will be sent to the Wisconsin Builders Foundation for the opportunity to receive a matching scholarship grant.