



## Ernest K. Lehmann Memorial Scholarship Guidelines and Procedures

### Overview

The Ernest K. Lehmann Memorial Scholarship (Lehmann Scholarship) was established in 2014 by the Ernest and Sarah Lehmann Family Fund of the Saint Paul & Minnesota Foundations. Ernest Lehmann had a distinguished career as an exploration geologist and mining entrepreneur. He worked extensively in the Americas, Africa and Europe and was a tireless promoter of the mining industry, serving on numerous advisory committees and boards throughout his 60-year career. He was a charter member of the American Institute of Professional Geologists and received AIPG’s highest award, the Ben H. Parker Medal, in 1987. He received SME’s Ben F. Dickerson Award in 2005 for his contributions to the mining industry.

The Lehmann Scholarship is awarded annually to one or more students pursuing an **undergraduate degree in geology or geological sciences**. Because of Mr. Lehmann’s ties to MN and love for the region, preference will be given, but is not limited, to eligible applicants with personal connections to MN. Applicants must have completed their sophomore year of studies at the time of application. A cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher is required.

### Timeline

The Lehmann Scholarships adhere to the following timeline:

Date	Task
September 1-October 15	Applications accepted
October 1	Application initiation deadline – ( <b>Note:</b> All applications should be initiated by this date to allow plenty of time for receipt of letters of recommendation prior to the October 15 deadline.)
October 15	Application deadline
December 1	Selection deadline
December 15	Applicant notification deadline
January 15	Check(s) mailed to department heads
SME Annual Conference & Expo	Recipient(s) recognized at SME Foundation Gala Dinner

### Applicant Qualifications

Lehmann Scholarship applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Have completed at least two years of undergraduate studies with a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0.
2. Be an SME student member in good standing.
3. Either (1) attend a university that holds general accreditation for its geology program, or (2) belong to an SME Student Chapter.
4. **Pursuing an undergraduate degree in geology or geological sciences.**
5. Preference will be given, but is not limited, to eligible applicants with personal connections to MN.

### Application Requirements

Lehmann Scholarship applications must be submitted online via SME’s Scholarship portal. The online application requires the following information:

1. Demographic and contact information.
2. Two references, one from university faculty and one from another university faculty and/or previous/current employer.
3. Résumé detailing the applicant’s career objective, educational achievements,

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applicable coursework completed including any research efforts, and current class enrollment, and work experience. (See internet résumé writing sites for résumé templates and writing guidelines.)

4. Copy of most recent transcript (unofficial transcripts are okay).
5. Short essay (one page) **describing interest in/passion for a career in geology or mining that is uniquely written specifically** for this application. Include applicable information about personal connections to MN in the essay. (Reuse of this essay for other applications is inappropriate.)

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**Award**

Up to two Lehmann Scholarships will be awarded for each academic year. The total amount of the Lehmann Scholarship is determined annually and will be 5 percent of the three year rolling fund balance, or a minimum of \$1,500 per scholarship. However, the principal of the fund may not be used to fund the scholarship. Should the amount of the earnings be less than the minimum scholarship amount, the Ernest and Sarah Lehmann Family Fund will have the option of donating additional funds or not awarding a scholarship that year.

An administrative fee of 10 percent of the fund's earnings will be directed to the SMEF General Fund annually, following the close of SME Foundation's fiscal year on September 30.

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**Recipient Selection**

Selection of scholarship recipients is at the discretion of the SME Foundation Scholarship Committee, whose members are appointed by the SME Foundation Nominating Committee and approved by the SME Foundation Executive Committee. Final approval of all selections will be made by a committee constituted for this purpose by SME TC and SME Minnesota.

Lehmann Scholarship recipients are eligible for a second year of funding. Recipients are required to submit the following information by July 1 following their junior year for consideration for senior year funding to [scholarships@smenet.org](mailto:scholarships@smenet.org):

- a. Copy of most recent transcript.
- b. A letter from faculty confirming that the student continues to be enrolled, is active in the program, and is in good academic standing.
- c. An updated statement describing work and educational experiences since the receipt of the first scholarship.

**Please note:** Applicants for senior year funding are considered concurrently with first-time applicants.

Lehmann Scholarship renewal is subject to approval by the SME Foundation Scholarship Committee, with final approval by a committee constituted for this purpose by SME TC and SME Minnesota.

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**Questions**

Questions may be directed to:  
Scholarships Coordinator Email: [scholarships@smenet.org](mailto:scholarships@smenet.org) or  
SME Member Services Department Phone: 303-948-4200.

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