



2026 Chicagoland Food Industry Scholarship Application - Freshman (Incoming - for HS Seniors)

Application Criteria

To be selected for a scholarship you must:

1. Be a US citizen or Permanent Citizen / Green Card holder - requirement
2. Be pursuing a degree in Food Science or Food Science related area (Dairy Science, Microbiology, Chemistry, Nutrition, etc)
3. Be attending school within the Chicago Section IFT boundaries or have a permanent address within the same boundaries (Applicable regions include the following zip codes: 60000-61999, 62300-62399, 62500-62799, 46300-46499)
4. Supply contact information (name, phone numbers, and e-mails) for two references. References must be a teacher, counselor, coach, or supervisor.
5. Provide an unofficial high school transcript
6. Provide a copy of your college admission letter(s) and your acceptance or state that you have not yet decided.
7. Agree to participate in an interview or video.

Directions:

Complete the questions below. Download questions.

Provide the reference form link to your two references.


<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q8J7T6V>

Send the following documents to scholarship@chicagofoodscience.org

1. Unofficial high school transcript
2. Copy of your admission letter(s) and a your acceptance of admission or state that you will decide by May 1.

If you have questions or need assistance, email scholarship@chicagofoodscience.org or call 630-916-4960.

* 1. Your Personal Information

First Name	<input type="text"/>
Last Name	<input type="text"/>
Permanent Address	<input type="text"/>
Address 2 (put N/A if not applicable)	<input type="text"/>
City/Town	<input type="text"/>
State/Province	-- select state -- 
ZIP/Postal Code	<input type="text"/>
Country	<input type="text"/>
Email Address - personal not school	<input type="text"/>
Phone Number - home or cell	<input type="text"/>


* 2. Are you a US Citizen or Green Card Holder? This is required.

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

* 3. Will you be a full-time or part-time student for the school year August 2026-May 2027?

- ☐ Full-time undergraduate
- ☐ Part-time undergraduate

* 4. Institution Information (choose one of the schools you've been accepted if you have not yet decided)

School/College Name	<input type="text"/>
Department Name	<input type="text"/>
School Address	<input type="text"/>
Address 2 (put N/A if not applicable)	<input type="text"/>
City/Town	<input type="text"/>
State/Province	-- select state -- 
ZIP/Postal Code	<input type="text"/>
School URL	<input type="text"/>
Admission Office Contact Name and Phone Number	<input type="text"/>



Chicagoland
Food Science
Foundation

2026 Chicagoland Food Industry Scholarship Application - Freshman (Incoming - for HS Seniors)

Academic Information

* 5. From what high school will you graduate in May/June 2025?

* 6. What is your GPA? You will need to share a copy of your transcript.

* 7. What is your current / expected academic program - major?

* 8. Why do you want to pursue a career in the food industry? (250 words or less)

* 9. Describe your involvement in volunteer and/or extracurricular activities (in the past 3 years) and discuss the impact of your contributions. (250 words or less)

* 10. Describe any work experience or leadership experience in the past 3 years and explain why it is meaningful to you and your plans for your future. (250 words or less)

* 11. Describe one honor or award you have received in the past 3 years and explain why it is meaningful to you and your plans for your future. (250 words or less)

* 12. Why should you receive a CFSF scholarship? What distinguishes you from other applicants? Share one quality, experience or skill that you believe sets you apart from other candidates and prepares you for a career in the food industry. (250 words or less)

* 13. What school will you be attending or to which schools have you been accepted? You will need to send a copy of your acceptance letter (s) from the school (s) as well as a copy of your letter accepting the admission to scholarship@chicagofoodscience.org. If you have not yet decided, please state so here.

* 14. You are required to submit two references / letters of recommendation. These must be from a teacher, counselor, coach, or supervisor.

Provide the names, phone numbers, and emails of your references and then ask them to go to <https://chicagofoodscience.org/scholarship-application-2026/> to complete the recommendation form. <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q8J7T6V>

Reference 1 Name

Relationship to
Student

Reference 1 Phone
Number

Reference 1 Email

Reference 2 Name

Relationship to
Student

Reference 2 Phone
Number

Reference 2 Email

Thank you for completing the scholarship application. You will be notified no later than April 24, 2026 by email and letter of the status of the 2026 awards.

Don't forget to send the link to your references. If you have questions or need assistance email scholarship@chicagofoodscience.org or call 630-916-4960.

* 15. I will remember to send the reference link to my two references.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Q8J7T6V>

☐ Yes

* 16. I will provide an interview or create a video if awarded a scholarship.

☐ Yes

☐ No



2026 Chicagoland Food Industry Scholarship Application - Freshman (Incoming - for HS Seniors)

Mentorship Program Opportunity

As part of the 2025-26 scholarship award, recipients have the opportunity to participate in a mentorship program. The program will run over a 3-month period Sept-November 2025 and will meet 6 times.

Mentors will be comprised of experienced food industry professionals, food industry academia, New Professionals (less than 10 years in the industry, and food industry graduate students.

* 17. Choose all that apply

- ☐ I would like to participate in the mentor program.
- ☐ I will not be able to participate in the mentor program.
- ☐ I am not sure at this time.
- ☐ I am interested in participating in the September - November 2026 program.

* 18. If you are not interested, please choose why. Choose all that apply.

- ☐ I have other commitments in addition to school.
- ☐ I already have a mentor.
- ☐ I'd like to learn more before committing.
- ☐ Other (please specify)

* 19. I would be interested in being paired with - choose all that apply.

- ☐ New professional - less than 10 years in the industry.
- ☐ Experienced professional - in the industry for more than 10 years.
- ☐ Graduate student
- ☐ I am unable to participate at this time.
- ☐ Other (please specify)

* 20. In which area(s) of extertise would you like your mentor? Choose all that apply.

- ☐ Sales and marketing
- ☐ R&D / Scientific / Technical
- ☐ Management & Supply Chain
- ☐ Education & Academia
- ☐ Purchasing
- ☐ Consulting
- ☐ Other (please specify)