



# NEWS RELEASE

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Hoover Uncommon Student Award Increases to \$10,000

**WEST BRANCH, IOWA – Dec. 13, 2018** – The Hoover Presidential Foundation recently announced an increase in the scholarships awarded through the Uncommon Student Award program. The top scholarship has been doubled to \$10,000 for the 2019 program and will be awarded to each of three of the 15 finalists in the group.

Each year, the Uncommon Student Award program selects 15 high school students from across Iowa as finalists in the program. The students must be in their junior year and submit a project proposal detailing a community service project of their own design by the March 15 deadline. If selected among the 15 finalists, the students will attend a weekend training seminar at the Hoover campus in June, and then spend the summer working on their project. The students will return in October to present the results of their efforts before a panel of judges. All 15 students will earn a \$1,500 award for their efforts. Three of those students will be awarded an additional \$10,000 scholarship to the school of their choice.

“This is our second increase in two years,” said Delene McConnaha, Academics Program Manager for the Foundation. “We’re aware of the challenges students face in paying for college, and grateful to the many donors who help these uncommon students meet the rising costs of education.”

The projects are developed by the student and have a broad range of goals. Some have cleaned and reclaimed overgrown public trails, repaired a veterans park, created food and clothing pantries in their local schools, sent blankets to an orphanage in Haiti, brought S.T.E.M. classes and programs to elementary students and found ways to encourage minority participation in advanced placement classes. Student applications are judged on the viability of their programs and not on test scores or income.

Students interested in applying for the Hoover Uncommon Student Award program will find project examples, testimonials and other helpful information at [www.UncommonStudent.org](http://www.UncommonStudent.org). Applications and teacher recommendations are due by March 15.

#### About the Foundation

*The Hoover Presidential Foundation promotes and supports the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum, National Historic Site, and other programs that enhance the understanding of Herbert Hoover as president and humanitarian.*

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