

Important Dates

April 1 – Application Deadline

Your online application and two recommendations must be received no later than the deadline date. They do not need to be submitted together. It is the student's responsibility to ensure their recommendations are submitted on time.

May 8 – Finalist Notification

By this date you will receive a letter informing you whether or not you were selected as one of 15 finalists.

Mid-June *(Required – see web site for date)*

9:00 a.m. Saturday to 1:00 p.m. Sunday

As a finalist, you must attend this expense-paid weekend at the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library-Museum in West Branch to meet each other and learn more about Herbert Hoover and the program that carries his name. Do not apply if you are unavailable to participate in this weekend in its entirety.

Mid-October *(Required – see website for date)*

With your project completed, you return to West Branch to make a public presentation and receive a \$1,500 award. At that time, you will be considered for one of the four \$10,000 Uncommon Student Awards to be used for study at an accredited two- or four-year trade school, college or university anywhere in the country.

“TO RISE TO LEADERSHIP...TO BE UNCOMMON.”

– HERBERT HOOVER

An Uncommon Man

“Becoming a recipient of the Uncommon Student Award changed my life. I will soon be the first person in my family to graduate from college. My dreams are becoming a reality. When I was a junior in high school, I didn't think I had any leadership qualities, but the Foundation opened my eyes to how uncommon I can be. I learned so much from that summer in 2009. I became confident and learned to network. I am a leader today thanks to people like the ones in the Foundation that believed in me. Thank you so much!!”

Vanessa Espinoza, 2009

“When the Foundation said that being an Uncommon Student would open countless doors, they were not kidding. With the help of the Foundation, I was awarded several other scholarships which will enable me to further finance my secondary education and allow me to chase my dreams.”

Jena Van Marel, 2014



Hoover Presidential Foundation
127 W. Main Street, PO Box 696
West Branch, IA 52358

P 319.643.5327

www.UncommonStudent.org
melizondo@hooverpf.org



EARN UP TO \$11,500 FOR HIGHER EDUCATION!

Learn more at UncommonStudent.org



HERBERT HOOVER UNCOMMON STUDENT AWARD

*A project-driven program for all High School juniors,
regardless of test scores, grades or financial need.*



WEST BRANCH, IOWA

ARE YOU THE NEXT HOOVER UNCOMMON STUDENT



WHAT KIND OF PROJECT SHOULD I PROPOSE?

Do you have an idea that would improve your community, state, or perhaps even the world?

As a Hoover Uncommon Student, we'll help you turn that idea into reality, and you could earn as much as \$11,500 for your efforts. Each year, 15 high school juniors are given that opportunity.

Hoover Uncommon Student finalists receive \$1,500 after completing their projects and presenting their accomplishments to a selection committee. In addition, four are chosen to receive \$10,000 awards to be used at a two-to-four year trade school, college or university of their choice.

Who is eligible?

Juniors in an Iowa high school or a home-school program who will be advancing to a senior level by the October presentation date. Students must be a U.S. Citizen, U.S. National or permanent resident.

Students are not eligible if they are the child or grandchild of a staff member or trustee of the Hoover Presidential Foundation, Library-Museum or National Historic Site.

How does the program work?

In the spring of their junior year, students submit a project proposal and two letters of recommendation. Approximately 15 students are selected based on the ambitious nature of the stated project goal and detailed plans to reach that goal. Students work on their projects during the summer months.

How do I apply?

1. Start thinking about your project **NOW!**
2. We highly recommend viewing what past students have done on the Hoover Presidential Foundation website. Read their stories under the Grants & Awards tab, Uncommon Student Award drop down.
3. Submit the on-line application found on the Hoover Presidential Foundation website: UncommonStudent.org by **April 1.**
4. Request two references to submit on-line recommendation forms found on the Hoover Presidential Foundation website by **April 1.**



This award program is named after a speech President Hoover gave in 1948 on "the Uncommon Man." Hoover stated, *"...great human advances have not been brought about by mediocre men and women. They were brought about by distinctly uncommon people with vital sparks of leadership. ...when you get sick you want an uncommon doctor, if your car breaks down you want an uncommonly good mechanic, when we get into war we want dreadfully an uncommon admiral and an uncommon general."*

- A project you enjoy doing. What are you good at? What issues in your school, your community, your state or the world would you like to tackle? What are you passionate about?
- Herbert Hoover achieved success with many projects by leading and encouraging others to help. Projects requiring leadership and volunteerism are encouraged.
- You may already be working on something or have accomplished a goal. In that case, base your proposal on that and take it to another level. Note: You propose the project in your application. You don't do the project before applying.
- Special consideration will be given to project plans with the potential to continue beyond their first year.

This program is designed to attract students who are motivated and community minded. The award, which honors Herbert Hoover, an Iowa native and the 31st President of the United States, identifies approximately 15 Iowa high school juniors who propose and then accomplish projects of their own design. The projects the students propose should demonstrate the values that Herbert Hoover exemplified in his life of public service.