

# HARRY K. WRENCH, JR. MEMORIAL COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP FUND



*A component fund of the*

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## **PURPOSE AND BACKGROUND:**

The Harry K. Wrench, Jr. Memorial College Scholarship Fund was established on June 9, 1994 within the Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin by the Wisconsin Fuel and Light Company. The fund was established to honor, with deep gratitude and respect, the memory of this great Wisconsin Fuel & Light Company leader through the awarding of scholarship funds in his name.

Mr. Wrench's career was highlighted by his sense of honor and commitment, leadership, and service within the communities he resided.

He became president and a member of the Board of Directors of Wisconsin Fuel and Light Company on March 1, 1946, and served as Chairman of the Board from 1982 to 1991. He remained active on the Board of Directors after 1991.



*Harry K. Wrench, Jr.  
July 31, 1922 – February 12, 1994*

Mr. Wrench took pride in being a "third generation gas man," echoing the career path of both his father and grandfather. A respected leader in the industry, he served on the board of the Wisconsin Utilities Association for more than 30 years. He also served in leadership roles in many professional organizations. In addition to his involvement in the natural gas industry, he remained active in his community, where he served in leadership roles on numerous boards.

Education was important to Mr. Wrench, whose own was interrupted from 1943 – 1946 when he served for three years in the U.S. Army Signal Corps.

In the spirit of leadership and community service that marked his career, the Harry K. Wrench, Jr. Memorial College Scholarship Fund was established to assist in the educational plans of promising youth from the communities served by Wisconsin Fuel and Light.

## **WISCONSIN FUEL & LIGHT COMPANY:**

Wisconsin Fuel & Light Company was founded in 1902 as the Manitowoc Gas Company to provide street lighting to the City of Manitowoc via gas lamps that were manually lit and extinguished each day. The gas was manufactured from coal, which produced coke as a by-product. This coke was sold as a home heating fuel, much like coal, and hence the name "Fuel and Light."

In 1950 WFL purchased the Wausau Gas Company. Through the years, the communities of Manitowoc and Wausau provided the bulk of the customers and the company grew along with its markets. In the year 2000, it became apparent that the changes in the utility industry had become so profound that continuing as an independent company was not a viable option.

In 2001 Wisconsin Fuel & Light was acquired and merged into Wisconsin Public Service Corporation, a much larger utility headquartered in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

## APPLICATION PROCEDURE AND ELIGIBILITY:

Students are encouraged to apply online by visiting the Community Foundation's website at [www.cfoncw.org](http://www.cfoncw.org). Click the "Apply Now" / Grants Scholarships button on the top menu bar; then go to the left-side menu and click on "Scholarships"; you can then click on the "Apply Online" button anywhere you see it on the page to reach the online application portal and begin the registration and application process. If this is your first visit to the site, you will need to "Create an Account." If this is a return visit, enter your email address and password. Completed applications must be submitted by **February 15** to be considered by the Selection Committee.

### Your application must include:

- Transcript of grades
- List of extracurricular activities and community service (downloadable form online)
- Two reference letters

Information will be held in the confidence of the Selection Committee, the Community Foundation's board of directors, and its staff.

Preference will be given to children of WF&L employees as of April 1, 2000 (list has been provided to Foundation office). Candidates for this scholarship (whose parents were not WF&L employees) will be graduating seniors from the following schools who meet the criterion outlined below:

- Lincoln High School (Manitowoc)
- Roncalli High School (Manitowoc)
- Manitowoc Lutheran High School (Manitowoc)
- Wausau East High School (Wausau)
- Wausau West High School (Wausau)
- Newman Catholic High School (Wausau)
- D.C. Everest Senior High School (Schofield)
- Marathon High School (Marathon)
- Mosinee High School (Mosinee)
- Northland Lutheran High School (Mosinee)

A Selection Committee, consisting of representatives of both the Manitowoc and Wausau communities will choose the scholarship recipients. The decision of the Selection Committee will be final and binding.

A recipient may receive a scholarship in subsequent years; however an application must be submitted for consideration each year.

## CRITERIA:

Selection criteria in order of importance:

- Exceptional scholastic achievement;
- Potential for success in the student's chosen field;
- Leadership and involvement in the community;
- Diversified interests and a well-rounded personality.

Student must be pursuing a bachelor's degree at an accredited college or university. Preference is given to students whose parents were employed by Wisconsin Fuel & Light as of April 1, 2000.

## PAYMENT:

Scholarship funds will be sent by the Community Foundation directly to the school the scholarship recipient is attending. Proof of registration is to be provided by the student directly to the Community Foundation office for payment to occur.

For more information, you can contact the Community Foundation office:

## Community Foundation of North Central Wisconsin

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