

Ian McBeth Scholarship Guidelines

The Ian McBeth Foundation is providing scholarships in memory of Ian McBeth. Ian was a 1994 graduate of Wray High School who served as a C-130 pilot with both the Wyoming and Montana Air National Guard and worked as a pilot and Fire Captain in the private sector fighting wildfires.

As a standout athlete at Wray High School, Ian received 11 of 12 varsity letters in football, wrestling, and track. He was a mainstay of the 1993 State Championship Football team on both offense and defense and was a perennial placer in the state track meet at 1600 and 800-meters. Ian was known as much for his humor and hijinks as his toughness, determination, and skill. This theme would follow him throughout his life.



After high school, Ian enrolled at the University of Wyoming in Laramie, WY where he acquired the title "The Instigator", a nickname that could likely be used in every chapter of his life. He was the main character in far too many late-night escapades! While at the university, Ian continued to run track, earning WAC Academic All-Conference and several academic honors, graduating with Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Rangeland Ecology and Watershed Management. While at the University, Ian met and married the love of his life, Bowdie, and they had three wonderful children, Abigail, Calvin, and Ella. His family became the pride of his life.

Ian's love of adventure, appreciation for hard work, and respect for duty led him into military service. Enlisting in the Wyoming Air National Guard in 1996 as a construction specialist, he was later commissioned and served as a navigator and then C-130 pilot. In 2013, Ian joined the Montana Air National Guard, becoming a pivotal part of the 120th Airlift Wing's conversion from F-15 jets to C-130s. Over his career with the Guard, Ian completed multiple combat deployments including tours in Iraq and Afghanistan. Known to be a patient teacher who held his fellow airmen to his own high standards, he will be most remembered for his incredible competence as a pilot, teacher, and evaluator; his incredible humor; and the near-constant twinkle in his eye.

Ian passed away January 23, 2020, in New South Wales, Australia while doing what he loved - flying and helping others. Ian's death has reminded us of his passion for life, his devotion to family, his love of animals and the outdoors, and the incredibly dogged determination with which he faced any challenge.

The Ian McBeth Foundation seeks to honor Ian's life of service to others and his pursuit of personal growth, adventure, and laughter thru the Ian McBeth Scholarship. The Foundation views continuing education and training as a catalyst for change in the persistent quest for personal and professional growth.

The Foundation is organized as a part of the Plano Land Trust Corporation, a 501(c)(3) organization, making all donations to the foundation tax deductible. The scholarship program is administered by the Ian McBeth Scholarship Selection Committee. Questions can be directed to the Ian McBeth Foundation via email at ianmcbethfoundation@gmail.com. All decisions of the committee are final.

Fillable applications are located online at <https://www.ianmcbethfoundation.com/scholarship>

Application Process:

1) Who May Apply:

- Wray High school graduating seniors.
- Members or dependents of members of either the Wyoming or Montana Air National Guard who are high school graduates or are graduating from high school.
- Applicants must be seeking college and/or trade school admission and have satisfactory scholastic aptitude scores to gain such admission. High school students are recommended to have maintained a 3.0 GPA and have (or will have) obtained a high school certificate of graduation.
- Candidates must be U.S. Citizens.
- Applicant can apply to any state certified institution of higher learning/trade school available in the United States.

2) How To Apply:

- A copy of this guideline will be provided to the Wray High School Guidance Counselor, guidance counselors of selected Great Falls, MT and Cheyenne, WY high schools. and the Wyoming Air National Guard the Montana Air National Guard Unit Education Coordinators.
- School guidance counselors and Education Coordinators shall make the guidelines available to all prospective candidates without regard to race, color, creed or religious affiliation.
- A completed application shall be returned via mail or email directly to the Ian McBeth Foundation no later than the date posted on the application each year, typically in mid-April.

Email – ianmcbethfoundation@gmail.com
Mailing Address – PO Box 283, Wray, CO 80758

3) Selection criteria Procedure:

- The selection committee shall meet to review applicant candidates in April of each year.
- The criteria to be judged shall be:
 1. Service and Leadership evidence in school and/or the community (20%)
 2. Demonstration of motivation, character, ability, and potential (20%)
 3. Essay (20%)
 4. Prior academic performance (20%)
 5. Recommendations (20%)
- After evaluation of the candidates the selection committee shall make their recommendations to the appointed representative of the Ian McBeth Foundation Scholarship fund as soon as practical thereafter.

4) Terms & Conditions of Scholarship:

- Scholarships shall be awarded in the name of the Ian McBeth Foundation.
- The award shall be up to \$500 per each successful candidate payable by check to the institution where applicant shall attend.
- The goal is to award at least one scholarship to each of the following groups:
 - Wray High School graduating seniors
 - Members or dependents of members of the Wyoming Air National Guard
 - Members or dependents of members the Montana Air National Guard
- Before payment shall be made the applicant shall be required to accept the award by acknowledgment to the committee or designated representative.
- If the award is not accepted or the check is uncashed after 180 days, the funds will be re-added to the Ian McBeth Foundation account and the check shall be declared null & void.