

## Notice of Betz-Holmes Annual Scholarship

The Gerber State Bank, with principal offices in the Village of Argenta, Illinois, is Trustee of the Betz-Holmes Trust, a testamentary trust created in the Will of Leota P. Holmes, deceased. Said testamentary trust provides that:

“the trustee shall apply one-half of the income in furtherance of the higher education of worthy high school graduates who, without such aid, would have difficulty in pursuing their education. [...] Those chosen to receive such benefits must be graduates of Argenta-Oreana High School at the time of their selection to receive such benefits. In making their choice as to persons to be benefitted, the trustee shall be guided by the student’s character, intelligence and scholastic record.” (emphasis added).

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE** that all applications for the Betz-Holmes Scholarship should be submitted in writing on or before **March 31, 2026**, for consideration in making distribution of the income of the Betz-Holmes Trust for the year 2025. Applications should be submitted to the following address:

The Gerber State Bank  
ATTN: Trust Department  
P.O. Box 410  
Argenta, IL 62501

**IN ORDER TO BE CONSIDERED, APPLICATIONS MUST INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING: (PLEASE NOTE THE UPDATE TO THE ESSAY TOPIC)**

1. Completed Scholarship Application. Applications can be obtained at the Argenta-Oreana High School Guidance Counselor’s Office, at The Gerber State Bank at the address listed above, or on The Gerber State Bank website at: [www.gerberstatebank.com](http://www.gerberstatebank.com).
2. A typed essay of 500-1,000 words on the following: ***“Describe a value that guides your decisions in school and life. How has this value contributed to your academic success and future aspirations?”***
3. Your high school and/or current transcript and ACT or SAT scores. Please indicate which grading scale is being used on each transcript.
4. Two (2) (current dated) character reference letters (none from relatives, at least one from a teacher, instructor, or professor).
5. Estimated Family Contribution (EFC) from your Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is requested. Any additional financial documents you would like to share to establish need.

Failure to comply with any of the above-listed requirements will void your application.

THE GERBER STATE BANK,  
as Trustee of the Betz-Holmes Trust

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jennifer Albright,  
Its Trust Officer