



Joint Civic Committee of
Italian Americans

www.jccia.com

3800 Division Street, Stone Park, IL 60165

Phone: (708) 450-9050

Fax: (708) 450-9065

www.jccia.com

jcc@jccia.com

Joseph U. Bottalla Scholarship 2026

Description of Scholarship: The Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans (JCCIA) is proud to offer the Joseph U. Bottalla Scholarship – from the Joseph U. Bottalla Scholarship Fund - awarded to students who are Illinois residents of 50% or more of Italian extraction, have studied Italian language for at least two years or currently enrolled in an Italian language course, either in high school or college, and are admitted to or enrolled at an accredited institute of higher education.

Requirements: Competitive applicants must be an Illinois resident of 50% or more of Italian extraction, have studied Italian language for at least two years or currently enrolled in an Italian language course, either in high school or college, and are admitted to or enrolled at an accredited institute of higher education, and have submitted a 500-word essay on “how has your Italian heritage influenced you.” Scholarship recipients are selected on the above-mentioned criteria, quality of their 500-word essay and the quality of their JCCIA Joseph U. Bottalla Scholarship Application. Applicants must provide proof/documentation of having studied or being currently enrolled in Italian language courses and being admitted to and/or enrolled at an accredited institution of higher education (i.e. transcripts, acceptance letter).

Award Amount: The award amount may be up to \$1500.00 scholarship. Applicants/recipients can re-apply each year.

Application Process: Applicants are required to submit a complete JCCIA Joseph U. Bottalla Scholarship application and any required documentation as indicated on the application form. An application, 500-word essay about how your Italian heritage has influenced you, along with a current school transcript must be submitted to the JCCIA by the deadline date indicated on the application. The application is available on the JCCIA website which should be completed, along with any required documentation (if applicable) and submitted electronically to jcc@jccia.com as **one complete pdf file**.

Deadline for Application: Students must submit a complete JCCIA Joseph U. Bottalla Scholarship application and required documentation as **one complete pdf file** between June 1, 2026 and the deadline date of November 1, 2026 to be considered by the JCCIA Scholarship Committee.

Award Notification: Students selected as award recipients will be notified in a communication from the JCCIA by December 1, 2026 and will be required to attend the JCCIA December meeting/Christmas party.



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Joseph U. Bottalla Scholarship Application 2026

Applicant is required to have at least 50% or more Italian ancestry.

To apply for the scholarship, the application and the following items must be submitted:

1. Applicant must be enrolled or admitted into an accredited institution of higher education and submit a copy of his/her acceptance letter or proof of enrollment.
2. Submit high school and/or college transcripts.
3. Applicant must have a strong academic background (based on transcripts, awards, etc.).
4. Submit an essay (500 words or less) on the following topic: How has your Italian heritage influenced you.
5. Applicant is encouraged to submit two letters of recommendation.
6. Submit proof/documentation of having studied or currently enrolled in Italian language courses.
7. All application materials must be submitted electronically as **one single pdf file** to jcc@jccia.com between June 1, 2025 and the deadline date of November 1, 2025.

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP: _____

PREFERRED EMAIL: _____

PHONE#: _____ **GENDER:** _____

FATHER'S NAME: _____ **OCCUPATION:** _____

MOTHER'S NAME INCLUDING MAIDEN NAME: _____

BIRTHPLACE: _____ **BIRTH DATE:** _____

PLEASE EXPLAIN YOUR ITALIAN ANCESTRY: _____

HIGH SCHOOL: _____ **HIGH SCHOOL G.P.A.:** _____



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ANTICIPATED GRADUATION – MONTH/YEAR: _____

UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOL: _____ **MAJOR:** _____

ANTICIPATED GRADUATION MONTH/YEAR: _____ **UNDERGRADUATE G.P.A.:** _____

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS (Indicate if high school or college): _____

**LIST YOUR SCHOOL RELATED
ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS/ETC:** _____

LIST YOUR NON-SCHOOL RELATED ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS/ETC: _____

**EXPLAIN WHY YOU ARE INTERESTED IN RECEIVING THE JOSEPH U. BOTTALLA
SCHOLARSHIP:** _____

NOTE: PLEASE ATTACH TO THIS FORM:

- CURRENT HIGH SCHOOL OR COLLEGE TRANSCRIPT (WHICHEVER IS APPLICABLE)
- COLLEGE ACCEPTANCE LETTER (IF APPLICABLE) OR COLLEGE TRANSCRIPTS
- TWO RECOMMENDATION LETTERS (IF APPLICABLE)
- A CURRENT PHOTO OF YOURSELF
- YOUR 500 WORD ESSAY
- PROOF OF HAVING STUDIED OR BEING CURRENTLY ENROLLED IN ITALIAN LANGUAGE COURSES.

Verification and Release

I attest that the information I have provided is complete and accurate and I agree that The Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans may verify this information. I agree that the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans may disclose information contained in this application to any donors who assist with this educational scholarship. If the Joint Civic Committee of Italian Americans awards a scholarship to me, I hereby authorize the organization, on a royalty-free basis, to include my likeness and story as part of its publicity and fundraising initiatives.

Signature _____ **Date:** _____