



"Our future depends more on how much is learned in classrooms than how much is passed in Congress."

The Philip A. Hart Memorial Scholarship

The Legacy and the Commitment

As Michigan's senior U.S. senator, (1958 to 1976) Philip Hart earned the title of "Conscience of the Senate" in reflection of the way he conducted his politics. Politics was the noble art of governing and governing was about building a better future for our children and our children's children. Education, the environment, civil rights and economic opportunities for all citizens — these were his causes to build that future.

Prior to his death in December 1976, Hart requested that any memorial should take the form of a scholarship fund at Lake Superior State University, just 50 miles from his summer home on Mackinac Island. Located in Sault Ste. Marie, LSSU was close to home but welcomed students from all over the State of Michigan. In 1976, LSSU did not have an endowment program and Hart knew that many of the students who earned degrees were first generation college graduates in their families — a fact that still holds true today.

Since the inception of the Philip A. Hart Memorial Scholarship, more than 150 Hart scholarships have been awarded to LSSU students. Hart Scholars are student leaders. Many have gone on to become doctors, teachers, engineers, nurses and business executives. They are a large part of LSSU's pride and Philip Hart's vision of success for the students of Lake Superior State University.

Selection Criteria

Graduates of Michigan high schools or community colleges planning to attend Lake Superior State University are encouraged to apply. Eligible students must be accepted for admission for fall semester at LSSU by March 1 and are required to have a cumulative 3.0 grade point average as of their current year of study.

How to Apply

The successful candidates must demonstrate interest in public service, as reflected through leadership roles and volunteer activities in their school and community. Each candidate is required to submit a formal essay not to exceed 1,000 words detailing his or her values, goals, and public service experience. The essay should answer the question: "How do my leadership and public service roles relate to the goals and ideals of Senator Philip Hart?" The successful candidate's essay will demonstrate his/her knowledge and appreciation of Senator Hart's career, values and ideals.

Each candidate must submit the following: Completed application, essay, two (2) letters of recommendation from individuals who can attest to the candidate's leadership and/or public service activities, and a copy of your most current transcript.

Visit our website for further information and to download the scholarship application. For additional questions regarding the Philip A. Hart Scholarship, please contact the LSSU Foundation.