

**CLAIRE M. LAPLANTE ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP**  
**Announcement and Initial Application Guidelines**  
**For Release to the WVU Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering**  
**and All West Virginia High Schools**

Welcome to the Claire M. LaPlante Engineering Scholarship (the “Scholarship”) – an award of \$50,000.00 to one (1) West Virginia resident completing high school and attending West Virginia University’s Benjamin M. Statler College of Engineering (the “WVU College of Engineering”).

A. Background

I am Jon LaPlante, M.D., Claire's father and the President of the Elizabeth & Claire LaPlante Foundation, Inc., a West Virginia non-profit corporation (the “LaPlante Foundation”). The LaPlante Foundation shall award the Scholarship annually to one successful applicant.

Claire unfortunately died after completing her first semester at WVU from an overwhelming Adenovirus infection. After two months of fighting, she eventually succumbed to the virus. Her remarkable gift for learning, together with her enthusiasm for life and education, have inspired me to develop the Scholarship in her memory. I encourage you to access Claire's website at [www.ClaireLaPlante.com](http://www.ClaireLaPlante.com) to learn more about my remarkable daughter and her legacy.

Claire was a dual major Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering student and was planning on minoring in business as well. Given her drive and intelligence, I have little doubt she would have accomplished this lofty goal. ICU equipment, including ECMO (Extracorporeal Membrane Oxygenation) advanced life support devices, kept Claire alive during her courageous battle. Because of this, qualified Biomedical Engineering students shall also be eligible to apply for the Scholarship. In either case, the LaPlante Foundation shall award only one (1) Scholarship each year - either to a dual major Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering student or a student majoring in Biomedical Engineering.

B. Application Requirements

The application requirements for consideration for the Scholarship and criteria for maintaining the Scholarship funding are as follows:

1. The Scholarship award amount is either: (i) \$10,000.00 per year for five (5) years for recipients dual majoring in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering; or (ii) \$12,500.00 per year for four (4) years for recipients majoring in Biomedical Engineering – each constituting a total award of \$50,000.00.
2. Applicants must be residents of the State of West Virginia and must have completed all four (4) years of high school in West Virginia.

3. Applicants must submit documentation of acceptance into both WVU and the WVU Honors College contemporaneously with their Scholarship application.
4. Applicants must be enrolled in the WVU College of Engineering as a Track 1 student: (i) with a dual major in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering; or (ii) majoring in Biomedical Engineering. The failure of a recipient of the Scholarship to remain on either: (i) the five (5) year Track 1 Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering dual major path; or (ii) the four (4) year Track 1 Biomedical Engineering major path, as applicable, disqualifies the student from receiving any additional Scholarship funding.
5. Applicants must have a minimum, cumulative high school GPA of 3.8 on a 4.0 scale or equivalent GPA on a higher scale.
6. Applicants must have a minimum SAT score of 1400 or a minimum ACT score of 32.
7. This Scholarship is strictly merit-based and need blind.
8. Applicants must maintain membership in the WVU Honors College and, as recipients of the Scholarship, must complete both the Honors Foundations and EXCEL Programs of the WVU Honors College, thereby remaining on track to graduate with the Honors designation. The failure of a recipient of the Scholarship to do so disqualifies the student from receiving any additional Scholarship funding.
9. Recipients of the Scholarship must remain enrolled on a full-time basis in the WVU College of Engineering for all four (4) or five (5) consecutive years, as applicable pursuant to Item B(4) above. The failure of a recipient of the Scholarship to maintain such full-time enrollment may disqualify the student from receiving any additional Scholarship funding. As such, recipients are encouraged to take a leave of absence from their studies only in extreme circumstances, such as a chronic and unforeseeable health issue or a tragic family loss. Upon the occurrence of any such circumstance, the Scholarship Committee shall evaluate any discontinuity in the enrollment requirements as outlined above, and any potential disqualification of the recipient resulting therefrom, on a case-by-case basis.
10. Should a recipient of the Scholarship elect to change majors and leave the WVU College of Engineering, or leave the requisite majors within said college as set forth in Item B(4) above, the student shall receive no further Scholarship funding.
11. Recipients of the WVU Foundation Scholarship and/or the Bucklew Scholarship are ineligible for the Scholarship.
12. An initial recipient of the Scholarship shall be eligible for consideration in any other year provided said recipient continues to meet the Scholarship requirements as outlined above.

13. In connection with the EXCEL Program of the WVU Honors College described in Item B(8) above, each recipient shall complete a research project relating to ECMO or other life-saving devices. The Chairperson of the Department of Chemical and Biomedical Engineering within the WVU College of Engineering shall manage the projects and mentor the recipients during the completion thereof.
14. All recipients must agree to appear in a photo with Jon LaPlante, M.D. and permit its use for marketing and fund-raising purposes on the Scholarship's website.

Note: The LaPlante Foundation reserves the right to annually change the application requirements and the criteria for maintaining funding set forth above.

### C. Selection Process

The Board of Directors of the LaPlante Foundation shall appoint a Scholarship Committee comprised of professionals in the medical and education fields to administer the selection process. The aforesaid Committee must receive all applications electronically through [www.ClaireLaPlante.com](http://www.ClaireLaPlante.com) no later than February 21<sup>st</sup> of each calendar year for the ensuing fall semester. The Committee shall evaluate the applicants and inform them of the results by April 21<sup>st</sup>.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration of the Claire M. LaPlante Engineering Scholarship.