

Bernie Smith Scholarship

The Bernie Smith Scholarship was established in 2007 by the Armstrong-Indiana Drug and Alcohol Commission, Inc. in honor of Indiana County Commissioner Bernie Smith, who passed away on September 2, 2006.

Mr. Smith was born in the small Indiana County mining town of McIntyre on October 25, 1938. At the age of 11, he and his late brother, Peter, were sent to the Milton Hershey School in Hershey, PA after their mother died and his father decided he could not raise them alone. After high school and a two-year stint in the Army, Mr. Smith returned to Indiana County and got his first radio job at a station in Barnesboro. Within a couple of years, Mr. Smith migrated to a larger station, WDAD, in Indiana County, as a disc jockey, where he started the station's first news department. He later worked at WCCS in Homer City as a news reporter. Mr. Smith began his freelance camera work in the late 1970s, first for KDKA-TV and then for WPXI and WTAE in Pittsburgh, and WJAC in Johnstown. Mr. Smith began his public service as a member of the Homer Center School District in 1971 and held that post for 22 years. In 1995, Mr. Smith, a Democrat, won his first four-year term as a County Commissioner. In addition to his job as County Commissioner, Mr. Smith had roles in many civic and social service organizations. He was president-elect of the County Commissioners Association of PA, and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Armstrong-Indiana Mental Health/Mental Retardation Program and the Armstrong-Indiana Drug and Alcohol Commission. Mr. Smith is survived by his wife, Gladys, two daughters, and three grandchildren.

This award is presented yearly to one student from Armstrong County and one student from Indiana County who has been recommended by their school district Student Assistance Program Team. The honorees shall be chosen from the graduating class of the high schools in Armstrong and Indiana County.

Students referred by the high school SAP teams should be the students most exemplifying the mission of the Armstrong/Indiana Drug and Alcohol Commission by way of their involvement, leadership and accomplishments throughout their high school career.

Eligible students are those students who have been involved in activities promoting the mission of the Armstrong/Indiana Drug and Alcohol Commission. The student must be furthering their education in some fashion (college, trade school, etc.). In addition to completing the attached application, the high school SAP team should submit letters supporting the student's experience and accomplishments.

A committee of members of the Armstrong/Indiana Drug and Alcohol Commission Board will review these applications. The committee will select the most appropriate applicant and present their decision to the board for approval.

The Armstrong/Indiana Drug and Alcohol Commission shall present the award at their monthly meeting in May.

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Contact Person: Kami Anderson, Executive Director
Armstrong/Indiana Drug and Alcohol Commission

Address: Armstrong/Indiana Drug and Alcohol Commission
10829 US Route 422
P.O. Box 238
Shelocta, PA 15774

Scholarship Amount: \$1,000 towards post-secondary education

To Honor: The honoree should be the student most exemplifying the mission of AIDAC by way of their involvement, leadership, and accomplishments throughout their HS career.

Requirements:

- 1) AIDAC, Inc. Application,
- 2) At least two (2) letters of recommendation from high school Student Assistance Program team members (one of which shall be from the building principal),
- 3) Student essay expressing experiences and accomplishments as they relate to the mission of the AIDAC,
- 4) Other supportive documentation,
- 5) Submission deadline: Applications must be postmarked by March 20th, of each school year.

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Student Information

- Name: _____
- Address: _____
- Phone: _____
- District: _____
- County: _____

Name of the college or trade school that you plan to attend:

Have you been accepted? Yes _____ No _____

Date you will enter school: _____

Month/year

Activities that support mission of AIDAC

List all activities you have participated in and the hours spent in grades 9-12. These activities should not include school-sponsored activities such as band, chorus, sports, etc.

Activity	Description	Hours
A.		
B.		
C.		
D.		
E.		

School/Community Activities

List all School/Community Activities you have participated in, awards received, and office held in grades 9-12

Activity	Grade	Hours
A.		
B.		
C.		
D.		
E.		

Other related Activities

List any other activity that could not be included above

Activity	Year	Hours Spent
A.		
B.		
C.		
D.		
E.		

