

The Department of Chemical Engineering is proud to administer a scholarship program for undergraduate Chemical Engineering majors. The scholarship is named after Alois X. Schmidt and is funded by the Grove Foundation. Professor Schmidt was a former member of the faculty of the Department of Chemical Engineering. Andy Grove, a distinguished undergraduate alumnus of our Chemical Engineering Department and a student of Professor Schmidt, endowed these scholarships in Prof. Schmidt's memory.

Alois X. Schmidt , Andy Grove and the History of the Scholarship



Alois X. Schmidt 1904-1980

Alois X. Schmidt received his Bachelor's degree from CCNY in 1923 and joined the Chemical Engineering faculty in 1935. He remained at CCNY for his entire teaching career and retired in 1971. Professor Schmidt was Chairman of the ChE Department from 1957-1970, and served as the Interim Dean of the Engineering School from 1970 until his retirement in 1971. Professor Schmidt's research interests were in polymers, and he was the author of one of the first authoritative engineering texts on polymers, "Principles of High Polymer Theory and Practice: Fibers, Plastics, Rubber, Coatings, Adhesives" (McGraw-Hill 1948), which he co-authored with Charles Marlies, also a faculty member in the ChE Department. Later he co-authored with Harvey List (another ChE faculty member) a textbook on elementary chemical engineering processes "Material and Energy Balances" (1962, Prentice-Hall) which served as a standard textbook for chemical engineering curricula in the 1960's through the 1980's.

Alois X. Schmidt left two lasting marks on the Department he chaired for so many years. First, he led the recruitment of research-minded professors like Morris Kolodney, Robert Pfeffer, Robert Graff, Stanley Katz and Reuel Shinnar - a prolific group of professors who launched the PhD program in Chemical Engineering at City College. Second, Professor Schmidt left behind the legendary ability to successfully instruct, inspire and mentor undergraduates.

One of those CCNY undergraduates under Prof. Schmidt's mentorship in the 1950's was Andrew S. Grove, the same Andrew Grove whose name we now honor as the Grove School of Engineering (GSoE). Prof Schmidt encouraged the young Andy Grove to pursue graduate education. After graduating from City College, Grove went on to complete a doctorate in Chemical Engineering at UC Berkeley, and eventually became CEO of Intel, as well as its President and Board Chairman. For his achievements in these many roles, Grove was named Time Magazine's "Man of the Year" in 1997.

Andy Grove provided the funding for the A. X. Schmidt Scholarship through his foundation

for City College Chemical Engineering Undergraduate Students in memory of his mentor. Grove later wrote in his autobiography about the impact Schmidt had on his life:

Another life-forming experience was with Professor Alois X. Schmidt, the epitome of a tough teacher and a caring teacher. He helped me to develop as a young man, an engineer, and a manager. I am very sorry he never saw what happened to me subsequently in life, since he had a lot to do with it.

How to Apply For The Scholarship

Eligibility

The Schmidt Scholarship is open to all undergraduate students in Chemical Engineering and is awarded twice a year in the fall and spring semesters. Schmidt Scholarships are intended to relieve financial burden, and typically range from \$500 - \$2,500 for each semester. The scholarship is renewable for up to six semesters, but requires a new application for each semester.

The following requirements must be met for the scholarship for the semester of application:

1. Full time status (12 credits or more)
2. Officially declared Chemical Engineering (ChE) major (the ChE major must appear on your transcript).
3. Completed and passed at least one ChE major course at the time of application (i.e., ChE 228, 229 and/or 311).
4. A minimum cumulative GPA of 3.0 at the time of application

Application Materials

Students who meet all the eligibility requirements above must include the following items in one email as one PDF attachment:

1. **Name:** Full name, CCNY EMPLID, home address and photograph.
2. **Biography:** A narrative that includes place of birth, education (elementary, high school and/or community colleges attended); the reason(s) why you chose to study chemical engineering at CCNY. Include any descriptions of internships, teaching experience, and participation in school clubs and activities.
3. **Financial Need:** For the semester of application, each application requires a financial breakdown that demonstrates the student's financial need. An itemized list with dollar amounts for each item (i.e., tuition, fees, books, rent, commuter costs, etc.). Also list separately any sources of financial resources including income from work, financial aid, and other scholarships awarded for the same semester. **And, include a specific dollar amount of how much scholarship money you are requesting.**
4. **Current unofficial transcript**

5. **For Renewals:** In addition to the above materials, submit a brief essay on how the scholarship has helped relieve your financial burden and enhanced your learning experience for the previous semester in which you received the scholarship.
6. **Thank you Note:** In anticipation of receiving the scholarship, a note acknowledging the scholarship from the student and a thank-you to the Grove Foundation for the support.
7. **Waiver:** A signed waiver indicating that the photograph and biography can be used in a report to the Grove Foundation and publicized if the scholarship has been awarded.

An application will not be considered at all unless all of the above items are submitted as one pdf and emailed by 11:59pm on the due date to Lisa Taylor, the ChE Department Administrator, at litaylor@ccny.cuny.edu.

A.X. Schmidt Scholarship Due Dates

For the fall semester, the due date for receipt of your email application is August 1, 2021. For the spring semester, the due date for receipt of your email application is December 1, 2021.

Last Revised: July, 2021