



O.E. Meyer Co. – Rodney S. Belden Scholarship

Introduction

Beginning in 1918, O.E. Meyer Co. was founded by Omar E. Meyer Sr. when he joined his brother to open a fabrication shop. In 1919, the company became an Air Reduction distributor to broaden their horizon. The second generation of Meyers joined the company in the early 1930s when Omar's two sons, Omar Meyer Jr. and August "Gus" Meyer joined the company. In 1948, O.E. Meyer Co. sold their fabrication business and focused entirely on selling gases and welding supplies. After more than 50 years with his father's company, Omar Meyer Jr. decided in 1988 that he was ready to retire. He could have sold the business to a competitor or any number of potential suitors but at the urging of Rod Belden, he decided to sell the company to his employees.

On January 1, 1989, O.E. Meyer & Sons became O.E. Meyer Co., a 100 percent employee-owned company. Omar Meyer Jr. became chairman of the board and the day-to-day control of the company was given to newly appointed President Rodney Belden, a 21-year employee of the company. Belden held this position until 2015, when he retired. During his tenure, Rodney Belden oversaw tremendous progress at O.E. Meyer Co. Since going from family-owned to employee-owned, the company has exploded from a growth standpoint. The number of employee-owners is now 160, working at eight locations throughout the State of Ohio. Rodney always believed that empowering employees would lead to outstanding customer service and growth....and he is right.

Purpose

We hope this scholarship inspires others to get an education that will help propel the welding supply and compressed gases industry forward.

Eligibility

The Rod Belden – O. E. Meyer Co. Welder Workforce Scholarship will be awarded to provide funding to students attending school in Ohio or Michigan, and pursuing a certificate or degree in welding.

1. Applicant must be a minimum of eighteen years of age.
2. Applicant must have a minimum high school diploma.
3. Applicant must provide a letter indicating how they will use their welding education.
4. Applicant may be enrolled full or part time.
5. Proof of financial need is not required to qualify.
6. Applicant must submit all required application information.
7. Applicant must be a citizen of the United States and plan to attend an academic institution located within the states of Ohio or Michigan.
8. Applicant must be a citizen of the United States and reside in Ohio or Michigan.
9. Applicants may reapply; however, persons who have received this award may reapply and may be granted the award for additional years.

The award will be presented to individuals who reside and attend school in the states of Ohio or Michigan. Applicant does not have to be a member of the American Welding Society.

The AWS Foundation does not discriminate by age, race, color, national origin, disability, creed, or gender.

Selection

The Selection Committee (comprised of Section members as determined by the Section) will determine award recipient. Selection will rotate annually between the Cleveland Section (even years) and the Northwest Ohio Section (odd years).

Award

Annual award \$1,500.

No awards will be paid to the recipient. All awards are for tuition and fees only, and will be paid directly to the academic institution by the AWS Foundation.

Mail to:
AWS Foundation
8669 NW 36 Street, #130
Miami, FL 33166

O.E. Meyer Co. – Rodney S. Belden
Scholarship Application

Submission Deadline:
March 1st

Student ID Number _____ AWS Member (optional) Y/N If yes, # _____ Date _____

Applicant's Name _____

Current Address _____ Email _____

City _____ State _____ Postal Code _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Work Phone _____

Parent/Guardian's Name _____
(If under 18 years of age)

Parent/Guardian's Address _____

City _____ State _____ Postal Code _____

Are you employed? If so, please provide the following:

Employer's Name _____

Employer's Phone Number _____ Supervisor's Name _____

Proposed School (Institute, College or University) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Postal Code _____

Proposed Major Area of Study _____

Starting Date _____ Expected Date of Graduation _____

I affirm that the information I have provided on this application and the supporting material is complete, accurate and true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that furnishing false information may result in not being considered or revocation of financial aid at some later date.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____
(If under 18 years of age)

List Schools You Have Attended (High School to Present)

Name of School	Street/City/State/Zip	Date attended

Continue on separate sheet if needed.

◆◆ Attach a transcript from all previous schools attended. ◆◆

Activities Record (Include AWS, School, and Community Activities and Honors)

Indicate in the spaces provided the grade levels in which you participated in the listed activity.

Name of Activity	Offices and Honors

Continue on separate sheet if needed.

Work Experience (Include present and previous employment)

Total number of hours worked per week _____ Total amount earned per week \$ _____

Month/year	Company

Continue on separate sheet if needed.

Financial Aid Report

You must attach an official letter generated by the financial aid office at your school indicating your current student budget, needs analysis, and financial aid awards, including scholarships. Contact the financial aid office to obtain this aid information, as you will need to sign a release form.

List of Personal References

Name	Address	Telephone Number	Occupation

Career Influence: Which welding instructor influenced you the most to make welding your career choice?

Instructor's Name: _____ School or Educational Institute: _____

◆◆ Attach a personal statement that would assist in judging your eligibility ◆◆

How did you hear about this scholarship? _____

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