

The Joseph Bittorf Memorial Expendable Scholarship Fund in Industrial and Systems Engineering

The purpose of the Fund is to provide scholarship support toward tuition for a full-time or part-time undergraduate student at the freshman or sophomore level (as currently defined by the university), with preference given to a sophomore-level student, majoring in Industrial and Systems Engineering at Northern Illinois University.

The Award:

One scholarship valued at \$1,000 for one academic year and is administered in the fall semester. Prior recipients are eligible to apply for additional awards in subsequent years.

Eligibility:

- Candidates must be a full-time or part-time student at the sophomore level or a first semester freshman (as currently defined by the university), with preference given to a sophomore-level student.
- Candidates must be a declared major in Industrial and Systems Engineering.
- Candidates must have a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.8 on a 4.0 grade point scale.

Requirements:

- Recipients must remain a declared major in Industrial and Systems Engineering in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology for the academic year of the award.
- Recipients must maintain a NIU cumulative GPA of 2.8.

About the donor:

The scholarship is given in remembrance of Professor Joseph L. Bittorf's father, Joseph D. Bittorf, who was instrumental in guiding Professor Bittorf into the field of study of Industrial Engineering. Both men were part of the privately held family business, National Manufacturing Company in Sterling, Illinois, started by Professor Bittorf's great-grandfather in 1901. The company produced home and builders' hardware, including hundreds of manufacturing processes. Joseph D. Bittorf was the vice president of operations and understood the value Industrial Engineering played in such a manufacturing enterprise. He encouraged Professor Bittorf to investigate the engineering discipline prior to enrolling in college, where he ultimately selected to study that discipline. Upon graduation, Professor Bittorf worked as an Industrial Engineer for Weyerhaeuser in Seattle, Washington and Honeywell in Freeport, Illinois. He returned to the family business and participated in various engineering and management positions for 25 years. Professor Bittorf attributes his professional success to the advice of his father—to pursue the field of Industrial Engineering—which was the foundation for the engineering and business acumen needed to succeed in his career.

It is through the generosity of his son, Joseph L. Bittorf, that this memorial scholarship is established.