



## NEW INDEPENDENT INSURANCE PROFESSIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

The Independent Insurance Agents of Nebraska Foundation is now accepting applications for two New Independent Insurance Professional scholarships, for employees of member agencies of the Independent Insurance Agents of Nebraska – one for new professionals in their first year of employment, and one for professionals in their second through fifth year of employment.

### 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Year of Employment

**Applications accepted January 1 – 31, 2024. Winner announced after February 15.**

**Applications also accepted July 1-31, 2024. Winner announced after August 15.**

**Amount: Up to \$1,000, awarded twice each calendar year**

Scholarship winners are only eligible for one award.

#### Criteria:

1. Applicant must be a full-time employee of an IIAN member agency, in the second through fifth year of employment
2. Scholarship award must be used to complete one or more insurance professional development course(s) sponsored by IIAN, the Insurance Institute of America, The National Alliance for Insurance Education, or an alternative insurance course provider approved in advance by the Scholarship Selection Committee
3. Approved course(s) must be an integral component of a program leading to a certificate or professional designation
4. Course(s) must be completed within 24 months
5. Course fees will be reimbursed upon documented successful completion of each approved course
6. Selections are made by a committee comprised of members of the Independent Insurance Agents of Nebraska and directors of the IIAN Foundation
7. There is no limitation on persons who are eligible recipients of scholarships. Scholarships will be given without regard to race, creed, religion, nation origin, sex, or employment status of prospective recipients or of any relative of any prospective recipient.
8. A one-page essay is required, explaining applicant's insurance career goals and how the scholarship will be used to further career development

## Application for Year 2-5 Independent Insurance Professional Scholarship

**This application must be emailed or postmarked by due date as listed in relevant Award Criteria (January 31 or July 31) to:**

Selection Committee, Independent Insurance Agents of Nebraska Foundation  
8231 Northwoods Dr., Ste B, Lincoln, NE 68505      jacilyn.bruns@biginebraska.org

**Questions?** Call 402-476-2951, or email jacilyn.bruns@biginebraska.org

**Please print or type.**

**Section I.** Information to be supplied by applicant:

Student's Full Name: Jacob P Richardson

Employer Organization Name: Cornerstone Insurance Group

Employer's Address: PO Box 525 York, NE 68467 Phone: 402-362-7477

(street or route, town, county, state, zip):

Student's Address: 1308 14th St. Aurora, NE 68818 Phone: 308-380-6105

(street or route, town, county, state, zip):

Student's Email Address: jrichardson@cornerstoneconnect.com

Name of Professional Development Course:  
Certified Insurance Service Representative

Title and Description of Course Content:

Commercial Casualty II

Insuring Commercial Property

Insuring Personal Auto Exposures

(use separate sheet if necessary)

Title and Sponsor of Certificate or Professional Designation Program:  
The National Alliance

Estimated Date of Completion: 12/31/2024

**Section II.** One-page essay required.

**ON THE NEXT PAGE, explain your insurance career goals, and how this scholarship will be used to further your career development.**

**Signature of Applicant:**

☒ I hereby attest that I am a full-time employee of the named employer, which is a member of the Independent Insurance Agents of Nebraska

Signature of Applicant: 

Print/Type Name: Jacob Richardson



## **Application for Year 2-5 Independent Insurance Professional Scholarship**

**In the space below, explain your insurance career goals, and how this scholarship will be used to further your career development.**

I have now been in the insurance industry for a year and a half, and I am closing in on being halfway through earning my CISR designation after recently passing my second exam. Due to staffing issues I have hit the ground running as our agency's Commercial Lines CSR, learning a large amount of information on the job as well as becoming a resource of information to both our insureds and fellow agents. I aim to grow more professionally and there is no better way to do that than to continue to learn, which is why the CISR course (and the CIC to follow) is imperative for me to complete.

In May of 2022 I had decided to make a career change after five and a half years in Law Enforcement. I had always been intrigued by insurance and decided I would take a chance by joining Cornerstone Insurance Group. A week after starting I was already in The Essential Step program led by Dave prepping for my exam. A few short weeks later and I was a licensed agent. I started out with basic account processing, absorbing as much information as I could. I quickly grew from that role into more quoting, reviewing policies, meeting with insureds and helping them find the right coverage for their business in both York and Aurora. As my responsibilities grow I'm looking for more options to learn, grow and network. I attended both the Spring and Fall Big "I" conferences as they were an excellent opportunity to learn and plan on continuing to do so in the future.

I have decided that insurance is the right career choice for me, and I'm looking forward to many more years of learning and growing. My short-term goal is to move from the servicing role to more of an "Account Executive" role, as I still enjoy the servicing aspect of the job but I love working with people and the sales aspect. Once I have my CISR designation, I'm looking to pursue earning my CIC within the next two years and work towards possibly managing my own office within Cornerstone in the distant future. This scholarship would help launch me towards achieving my goals, both long and short term. I plan on growing my role in both Cornerstone and the insurance industry, as I would love to get involved more with the Big "I". Working in insurance has given me some opportunities and flexibility I may not have had otherwise, and I am always looking for ways to contribute in my community and in the industry. I feel that I would become a better representative for Cornerstone by providing "unmatched customer service" that they strive for with the knowledge, skills and experience that comes with the CISR designation. I know these classes take time, effort, and attention to detail. I look forward to welcoming the challenge of successfully completing the remaining classes this year if awarded the scholarship. Thank you for your time and consideration and I look forward to hearing back from you.

Respectfully,



Jake Richardson

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Employer Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Employer's Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

(street or route, town, county, state, zip):

Student's Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

(street or route, town, county, state, zip):

Student's Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Professional Development Course:

\_\_\_\_\_

Title and Description of Course Content:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

(use separate sheet if necessary)

Title and Sponsor of Certificate or Professional Designation Program:

\_\_\_\_\_

Estimated Date of Completion: \_\_\_\_\_

**Section II.** One-page essay required.

**ON THE NEXT PAGE, explain your insurance career goals, and how this scholarship will be used to further your career development.**

**Signature of Applicant:**

\_\_\_\_ I hereby attest that I am a full-time employee of the named employer, which is a member of the Independent Insurance Agents of Nebraska

Signature of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Print/Type Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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In the space below, explain your insurance career goals, and how this scholarship will be used to further your career development.