



2026 SakaBozzo Scholarships

\$1,000

The SakaBozzo Scholarship is in honor of Gene Sakahara, former GUSD Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and elementary principal, Sam Bozzo, former GUSD and Monterey County Office of Education administrator. Both have served as President of the Gilroy Garlic Festival Association and are the cooking/comedic duo of **“SakaBozzo, Twins Separated at Birth.”** Both have performed at the Garlic Festival and numerous other festivals around the world and have served as leaders in Gilroy for many community organizations.

This scholarship is meant to inspire and support students who aspire for a career in education or the culinary arts and demonstrated leadership, citizenship, and community service. Students with experience working with youth will be considered as well.

Criteria

- A graduating senior from Gilroy High School, Christopher High School, or GECA
- Residents of the area within boundaries of Gilroy Unified School District
- May be attending or is a graduate with an Associate of Arts Degree from a community college.
- Has applied or intends to apply to a four (4) year college or university for approved degree programs in education or a culinary academy.
- Students must have community service with the Garlic Festival or other community organizations.
- Students must have demonstrated leadership in school or extra-curricular activities.
- Students must have a GPA of 2.8 or better.
- Students who might not otherwise be financially able to obtain a college degree.

Amount

The number of scholarships available may vary each year according to the interest generated from the fund. The scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 will be awarded to three students at the beginning of a student’s college career on a one-time basis.

SakaBozzo Scholarship Selection Committee will decide on the award.

Payment

When recipient is registered at a college or culinary academy, payment will be made directly to the educational institution. Students need to send proof of registration (college student ID#), name, and address of the school to:

Gilroy Foundation Scholarships
P. O. Box 774
Gilroy, CA 95021
Or: scholarships@gilroyfoundation.org

Payment will be made to the educational institution within two weeks of receiving the information. Gilroy Foundation will notify the winning students in May. The scholarship must be redeemed by December 11, 2026, or be forfeited.

Applicants must submit the following documents:

1. Completed online GUSD Common Scholarship Application.
2. Three letters of recommendation: two letters from a staff member-teacher, ACs, APS, and one letter from a community service supervisor (non-school staff member nor relative).
3. A copy of the applicant's unofficial high school transcript.

Application Deadline: The application is due by Friday, March 6, 2026.