

## ***Journal #6195 from sdc 3.9.26***

*What Do the Statues on Easter Island Actually Mean?*

*More Trahant - a must watch~What's Going On in Alberta?*

*The 90 Day Chokepoint: How Beijing Could Paralyze Western Industry*

*The lost languages of ancient humans: Listen to stone-age chat*

*DEI is back*

*Misty Blue Young Bear to Receive Masters Navajo Bibliography with Subject Index. Revised Edition*

*Markwayne Mullin: Oklahoma senator with a fighter's reputation is Trump's choice to lead DHS*

*Trump's pick for DHS secretary leaves US Senate vacancy in deep-red Oklahoma*

*Florida Has Deemed All Existing Intro to Sociology Textbooks Illegal and Produced Its Own*

*Histry Bits*

*Scholarships with April 1-3 deadlines*



### ***What Do the Statues on Easter Island Actually Mean? Popular Mechanics***

<https://www.popularmechanics.com > ... > Archaeology>

Clues in nearby soils suggest the statues may have been placed there to celebrate the fertility of crops in the area. *More From Popular ...*

Here's what you'll learn when you read this story:

Scientists believe they've uncovered the meaning of some of the Moai stone monoliths found on Rapa Nui, better known as Easter Island.

The scientists analyzed soil in the vicinity of two of the Moai statues and found traces of banana, taro, and sweet potato, according to research published in *the Journal of Archaeological Science*.

These traces indicate the statues could have been used to celebrate the crop fertility of soils in the region.

**Mark Trahant:**

A little known story: The Reagan administration -- or at least one key member of that team -- wanted the Public Health Service's Commissioned Officers Corps to go away. But after testimony from Everett Rhoades about how important the corps was to the Indian Health Service, the tide changed. <https://substack.com/home/post/p-189286216>

**More Trahant - a must watch~~2nd season of Breaking History on Indigenous House**

*First episode looks at the separatist push in Alberta — and why First Nations stick with the treaties made with the Crown.*



[Click on pic](#)

**The 90 Day Chokepoint: How Beijing Could Paralyze Western Industry**

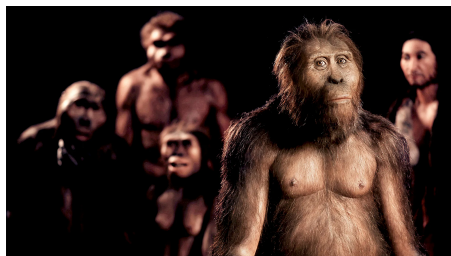
“ Last century, wars were fought over oil. This century, the stakes have shifted toward something even scarcer, and arguably more strategic: rare earth elements and the magnets they power.” Put URL in your browser

[https://tomorrowinvestor.com/realloys-how-beijing-could-paralyze-western-industry/?utm\\_source=TBKE&utm\\_medium=CPC&utm\\_campaign=HIDDENSUPPLY&tblici=GiDhVh0ljINkRrfnyJtxWYPIGropOrUGUiCS039KNoGRoiDwvUco6sD17M2nptfLATCPnUY#tblici=GiDhVh0ljINkRrfnyJtxWYPIGropOrUGUiCS039KNoGRoiDwvUco6sD17M2nptfLATCPnUY](https://tomorrowinvestor.com/realloys-how-beijing-could-paralyze-western-industry/?utm_source=TBKE&utm_medium=CPC&utm_campaign=HIDDENSUPPLY&tblici=GiDhVh0ljINkRrfnyJtxWYPIGropOrUGUiCS039KNoGRoiDwvUco6sD17M2nptfLATCPnUY#tblici=GiDhVh0ljINkRrfnyJtxWYPIGropOrUGUiCS039KNoGRoiDwvUco6sD17M2nptfLATCPnUY)

*An interesting article for us non-geologists. To truly understand the impact on Nevada land, go see the mineral display at the entrance to the Discovery Museum in Reno.*

**The lost languages of ancient humans: Listen to stone-age chat**

Katherine Latham



S Entressangle/ E Daynes/ Science Photo Library

(Credit: S Entressangle/ E Daynes/ Science Photo Library)

**The bones of our ancestors remain silent. So, how can we possibly imagine what our earliest languages sounded like? Paleoanthropologists study millions of years of fossil evidence to try and reconstruct the voices of the past.**

[Human language is unique](#) among all forms of animal communication. As far as we know, we – and we alone – are able to translate our thoughts and experiences into a [vocabulary of mental symbols](#) that we can then rearrange and reassemble to portray new ideas, and to convey meaning to others.

The beginnings of language, however, remain shrouded in mystery. Scientists are gradually piecing together millions of years of clues – from fossilised bones to ancient art – and a clearer picture is starting to emerge.

There are [two main theories](#) on how language came to be.

The first view is that [language appeared suddenly](#), spontaneously emerging with the evolution of human intelligence, at the point in time humans developed the ability to have abstract, symbolic thoughts. Until recently, scientists thought this happened in Europe [around 40,000 years ago](#) but new discoveries of [abstract art](#) and [hand-crafted tools](#) – found across the globe – have [called this into question](#), suggesting we might have missed the mark by millions of years and thousands of miles.

"The majority of what you express is abstract: emotions, projects, objects that we do not have directly in front of our eyes," explains Amélie Vialet, a paleoanthropologist at the National Museum of Natural History in Paris. "Language necessarily calls upon abstraction and imagination for both the speaker and the receiver."

Of course, thoughts don't fossilise. To identify when the emergence of abstract thought might have happened, scientists therefore look for archeological proxies – physical evidence like art on cave walls or crafted stone tools.

James Cole, archeologist and dean of applied sciences at Brighton University, studies the evolution of cognition and complex thinking through the [development of the "hand axe"](#), a tool cut from stone which [first appeared around 1.8 million years ago](#).



*Listen to the lost languages of ancient humans (Credit: Retour vers la Préhistoire, un podcast de France Culture)*

"Hand axes are interesting stone tools because they are the first time that we see an imposition of deliberate form," he says. "To impose form, you've got to have a preconceived idea of what that shape is. To hold that idea in our heads means that we have an ability to imagine."

That capacity for abstract thought, suggests Cole, may also be the bedrock of language. Take the word "tree", he explains. "The word doesn't bear a relationship to the object in the way that a sign or a symbol might. So, the label has to gain traction through a commonality of understanding within a cultural group. So when I say the word tree, you know it's a tree."

Being able to talk about ideas and the past and future, rather than just expressing feelings in the moment, would have been useful and often life-saving, helping humans to make plans, coordinate, innovate and [adapt](#) to different situations and habitats. Because it was so useful, and our species was generally physically able to do it, this new skill of chatting might then have [spread](#).

The second view is that language development is [ancient and selection-driven](#). This theory supposes that [language evolved gradually](#).

The [position of the vocal tract](#), the [structure of the brain](#) and the [size of the spinal cord](#) evolved slowly into the modern human form, over millions of years, indicating the human capacity for language and speech may also have [developed over a very long time](#). As our sounds and vocabulary became more varied and precise, we would have gained an important evolutionary advantage through language-related survival skills such as strategising, solving complex problems and forming social bonds.

What would those early utterings have sounded like? Vialet, alongside a team of researchers and in collaboration with Radio France, has used scientific insights to try and recreate them.

### **Modelling ancient brains**

"We know a lot and a little about language at the same time," says Vialet. "From a fossil skull, it is possible to observe many things to better understand our evolution." By analysing the skeletal remains and the evolution of physical features related to speech production, says Vialet, we can identify the sounds ancient humans may have been able to produce.

But working with just the bone has its limits, she adds, as the soft tissues are the determining factor when it comes to function. "It is a challenge because [soft tissues] cannot be preserved." Her solution is to reconstruct them using [biomechanical models](#): mathematical representations of our bodies and functions. To do this, Vialet examines the "traces" – imprints – left behind on the skeleton of long-gone body parts such as the lungs, brain or larynx (also known as the voice box).

If we could have listened to Neanderthal chat, we would have been struck by how nasal it sounded – Steven Mithen

The [oldest brain imprints studied](#) are more than three million years old, and found on the inside of the skulls of *Australopithecus afarensis*. Over time "we observe that the brain is increasingly large, that the [vascularisation of the meninges](#) (the protective membranes that cover the brain and spinal cord) is denser", says Vialet. This increase in size and complexity of the brain indicates a growing number of [network connections and so a greater ability to process information](#).

Vialet also studies ancient bone structures to predict the [shape and anatomy of the tongue](#) of fossil hominins. The tongues themselves are long gone, but the bones can hold clues to how they might have been able to move.

"We now understand that the most important organ for modulating sounds is the tongue. By deforming – and it has an incredible ability to do so – it filters the air and produces differentiated sounds at an astonishing speed," she says.

Violet and her collaborators, together with Radio France, used her data to "[cautiously imagine](#)" what our distant ancestors may have sounded like – and to bring their voices back from the dead.

27 million years ago: Old World monkeys In 2019, researchers from the University of Alabama, US, analysed several decades of research into primate vocalisation and vocal tract evolution. They were searching for the origins of the vowel. The ability to produce contrasting vowel sounds allows us differentiate between unrelated words, such as "cat", "caught" and "cut".

The fact that modern human vocalisations share similarities with those of baboons, say the researchers, indicates that the physical ability to produce and perceive contrasting vowel sounds had already appeared by the time of our [last common ancestor with Old World monkeys](#) – about 27 million years ago, long before the evolution of our own species, *Homo sapiens*.

Vowels, some experts consider, are [the core of speech production](#) – and lay the foundation for the very beginnings of language.

For a runthrough of the various iterations of man starting with “Lucy”(3 million years ago):

[https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20260303-listen-to-stone-age-chat-the-lost-languages-of-ancient-humans?at\\_campaign\\_type=owned&at\\_medium=emails&at\\_objective=awareness&at\\_ptr\\_type=email&at\\_ptr\\_name=salesforce&at\\_campaign=newsbriefing&at\\_email\\_send\\_date=20260306&at\\_send\\_id=4559303&at\\_link\\_title=https%3a%2f%2fwww.bbc.com%2ffuture%2farticle%2f20260303-listen-to-stone-age-chat-the-lost-languages-of-ancient-humans&at\\_bbc\\_team=crm&at\\_audience\\_id=263441302](https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20260303-listen-to-stone-age-chat-the-lost-languages-of-ancient-humans?at_campaign_type=owned&at_medium=emails&at_objective=awareness&at_ptr_type=email&at_ptr_name=salesforce&at_campaign=newsbriefing&at_email_send_date=20260306&at_send_id=4559303&at_link_title=https%3a%2f%2fwww.bbc.com%2ffuture%2farticle%2f20260303-listen-to-stone-age-chat-the-lost-languages-of-ancient-humans&at_bbc_team=crm&at_audience_id=263441302)

Includes Turkana Boy, *Homo erectus*(1.6M y-a); Nana, *Homo neanderthalensis* (50,000 y-a); The Old Man, *Homo sapiens* (30,000 y-a)

[Discovered in a cave in France](#) in 1868, The Old Man – or "Cro-Magnon 1" – was one of the [earliest anatomically modern human beings](#) to appear in Western Europe around 30,000 years ago.

[Cro-Magnons](#) were early *Homo sapiens* that lived around 40,000 to 10,000 years ago – when symbolic art, long-distance trading and technologically advanced tools [appeared in abundance](#).

They possessed all the physical features associated with spoken language that we have today; the vocal tract, the structure of the brain and the size of the spinal cord are identical to our own.



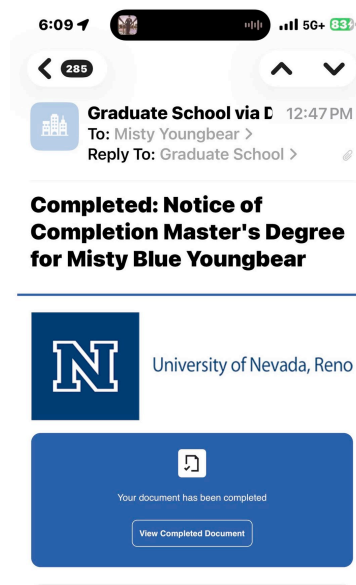
*Homo sapiens* finally had it all – the physical capability to use a wide range of sounds, including the final vowel, the all-important "i", as well as the cognitive capacity to process and transmit abstract ideas.

We are the "wise men", according to the translation of "*Homo sapiens*". Over our [300,000 years of existence](#) (or [perhaps even longer](#)), we have finally mastered the most complex communication system of all life on Earth.

Language is "infinite", says Violet. "You can talk for hours, going from digression to digression, combining a succession of words in all directions." It's "pretty incredible", she says.

But listen closely and you might hear echoes of the distant past, says Mithen. "I think some of the words we use are really ancient. If we look across all languages today, [there are some commonalities](#), like the words for 'mother' is often mum, mom, mama – it's an 'm' sound. There's an argument that the 'm' sound originates from babies sucking at the breast. That's a typical example of an iconic word. I'm sure the Neanderthals probably used a very similar word to that for their own mothers."

Today, there are [over 7,000 languages](#) spoken all over the world. Sadly, almost half of these are [in danger of disappearing](#). But language, like us, is [always evolving](#). As the world we live in changes and human needs change with it, so too will our mode of communication. What will humans sound like in millennia to come?



- 
- **DEI is back. A federal judge in New Hampshire shot down the Trump administration's directive that public K-12 schools and colleges end diversity, equity and inclusion programs, or risk losing millions in federal funding, [Word in Black reports](#).**

*Last week was National Procrastination Week. Hope y'all had fun. Missed it but celebrate all the time!*

*Among many things, March is National Crochet Month.....so go spin a yarn.*

- 
- [Markwayne Mullin: Oklahoma senator with a fighter's reputation is Trump's choice to lead DHS](#)
- [Trump's pick for DHS secretary leaves US Senate vacancy in deep-red Oklahoma](#)

---

## **Florida Has Deemed All Existing Intro to Sociology Textbooks Illegal and Produced Its Own**

The Board of Governors overseeing the new curricula includes roofing contractors, insurance execs, and no professors.

[https://truthout.org/articles/florida-has-deemed-all-existing-intro-to-sociology-textbooks-illegal/?utm\\_source=Truthout&utm\\_campaign=bf35dbf74c-EMAIL\\_CAMPAIGN\\_2026\\_03\\_06\\_07\\_27\\_COPY\\_01&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_term=0\\_bbb541a1db-bde349abf8-654259769](https://truthout.org/articles/florida-has-deemed-all-existing-intro-to-sociology-textbooks-illegal/?utm_source=Truthout&utm_campaign=bf35dbf74c-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2026_03_06_07_27_COPY_01&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_bbb541a1db-bde349abf8-654259769)

### **From AI:**

New Florida textbooks and standards present a Eurocentric view that minimizes tribal sovereignty, reduces Indigenous peoples to basic, generalized lifestyles, and often highlights violence committed by Native Americans while downplaying colonial violence. These materials emphasize a narrative that promotes the invisibility of Indigenous peoples in contemporary society.

Key details regarding the portrayal of Native Americans in Florida education:

- **Minimized History:** Critics argue the content distorts history by focusing on, for example, the [Jamestown Massacre of 1622](#) to highlight Native violence while ignoring the broader context of colonial conflict.
- **Controversial Narratives:** Some materials have suggested Native Americans were "glad to go live on reservations" and found fulfillment in crafting souvenirs.
- **Erasure and Bias:** Research indicates that the curriculum supports an underlying narrative of colonization, omitting Indigenous perspectives and reducing diverse groups to simplistic, stereotypical roles.
- **Rejection of Content:** The Florida Department of Education rejected, or required revisions to, textbooks that were deemed to include "prohibited topics," which critics say results in a sanitized, inaccurate portrayal of history.

These changes align with state efforts to restrict how race and history are taught, often focusing on a "traditional" view of American history.

While specific, public statements from Florida tribes regarding recent, controversial textbook revisions are limited in the provided search results, research indicates a long-standing, persistent, and unaddressed bias in U.S. history textbooks against Indigenous peoples. General academic critiques focus on the perpetuation of harmful narratives.

Key points regarding the context of these concerns include:

- **Historical Accuracy:** The Seminole Tribe of Florida (referred to as the "Unconquered People") and the Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida have a history rooted in resisting forced removal by the U.S. government, which is often misrepresented or oversimplified in historical texts.
- **General Bias:** Indigenous researchers have highlighted that despite decades of research, bias against Native Americans remains in educational materials.
- **Instructional Changes:** Recent changes to Florida textbooks have included the removal of content related to social justice and the revision of text regarding racial history, which critics argue undermines the inclusion of diverse perspectives.

The provided search results do not contain specific, direct quotes from the Seminole or Miccosukee tribes regarding the most recent 2022-2023 textbook revisions.

AI can make mistakes, so double-check responses (*posted by AI*)

~~~~~`

*Older reports*

### [Florida's Board of Education Standards Receive Rebuke ...](#)

[Native News Online](#)

<https://nativenewsonline.net> > [Education](#)

Jul 22, 2023 — The new standards provide only cursory references on *how Native American history should be taught*. References to Native Americans are found ...

Missing: ~~textbooks~~ | Show results with: [textbooks](#)

### [NCAI Issues Statement in Response to Florida Board ...](#)

<https://www.ncai.org> > [news](#) > [ncai-issues-statement-in-r...](#)

Jul 26, 2023 — “Native people *are* far too familiar with the devastating consequences caused by education systems that have at various times ignored, fabricated ...

### [investigating the portrayal of native americans in florida's k- ...](#)

[Florida Atlantic University](#)

<https://digitalcommons.fau.edu> > [etd\\_general](#)

by MM Schnirman · 2025 — This study confirms that biases continue to exist in *textbooks* and promote the harmful narrative that Indigenous peoples *are* people of the past.

## [New Florida standards teach that Black people benefited ...](#)

[NBC News](#)      <https://www.nbcnews.com/news/us-news/new-flori...>

Jul 20, 2023 — *Florida's public schools will now teach students that some Black people benefited from slavery because it taught them useful skills.*

## [A Decade Perspective?](#)

[NSUWorks](#)

<https://nsuworks.nova.edu/cgi/viewcontent>

Mar 2, 2015 — Abstract. The purpose of this study was to describe and explain the portrayal of American *Indians* in U.S. *textbooks*.

---

## **History Bits**

**1849 Mar 10** “Constitution of the Provisional State of Deseret” adopted by Constitutional Convention.

**1873 Mar 12** President Grant signed an executive order reserving land in Nevada’s Moapa Valley “for Indians of that locality.”

**1876 Mar 9** *NSJ*: Figures show that each Indian costs the government about \$2000 a year to keep him alive, but the figures also show that to kill the Indians all off could cost about \$1,000,000 for each Indian. It is cheaper to let them live.”

**1880 Mar 12** Judge Elmer Dundy proclaimed Indians “indeed persons within meaning of law”.

**1908 Mar 8** Schurz was enjoying an economic boom with about a hundred miners in town awaiting transport to the new boom camp of Rawhide. (Contract for Construction of a railroad to Rawhide was signed on March 7.)

**1928 Mar 14** The Quapaw tribe in court to recover lead and zinc mines from which they earned \$2M/yr until DOI Secy Albert Fall transferred them to Eagle Picher Corporation (Tea Pot Dome scandal.)

**1939 Mar 8** In the House, federal officials unveiled elaborate program for making Indians self supporting and independent of the government, reporting

only 77 of 266 eligible tribes had rejected the supposedly assimilationist IRA.

**1848 Mar 10** The US Senate ratified the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, ending war of conquest against Mexico, bring territory that became Nevada into the Union. (The Treaty had been signed Feb 2; proclaimed on July 4.

**1950 Mar 11** The Confederated Tribes of Nevada began a conference in Nixon to discuss the impending withdrawal of federal guardianship over Native Americans and other issues.

**1984 Mar 12** RSIC acquired title to 491 Golden Street.

**1989 Mar 14** Edward Abbey, Thoreau of the desert, who worked to redefine the west and especially the desert from a movies sterotype to a besieged region victimized by corporate greed and government exploitation, died in Arizona.

**05 Mar 9 Sarah Winnemucca** statue installed in US Statuary Hall to keep an ironic eye on Senator Pat McCarran statue. One wonders about their conversation.



**Scholarships with April 1-3 Deadlines**

|                                                                                |          |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|----------------|
| <a href="#">Sage DE&amp;I Scholarship Award</a>                                | \$1,500  | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Sharon Melton Myers Memorial Scholarship</a>                       | \$1,000  | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">SMAC Cancer Fighter Scholarship</a>                                | \$1,000  | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Society of Plastics Engineers Foundation Scholarship</a>           | \$12,500 | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Southern Scholarship Foundation</a>                                | \$12,770 | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">The Chief Petty Officer Scholarship Fund</a>                       | \$2,000  | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">The Herbert Lehman Education Fund Scholarship</a>                  | \$12,000 | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">The Susan Fund Scholarship</a>                                     | \$7,500  | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Thomas G. Giolas, Ph.D. Memorial Scholarship</a>                   | \$1,500  | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Tim Sloan Teammate Scholarship</a>                                 | \$1,000  | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Timothy J. Penny State &amp; Federal Public Service Fellowship</a> | \$5,000  | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Tom Coughlin Jay Fund Foundation Scholarship</a>                   | \$6,832  | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#">Troy Industrial Solutions Manufacturing Scholarship</a>            | \$1,500  | April 01, 2026 |

|                                                                                           |              |                |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| <a href="#"><u>Two Ten Footwear Foundation Scholarship for Footwear Employees</u></a>     | \$16,000     | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>TxDOT Conditional Grant Program</u></a>                                    | \$8,000      | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>UMHEF Scholarships</u></a>                                                 | \$5,000      | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>United States Navy Memorial Scholarship</u></a>                            | \$5,000      | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>UPS for DownS Scholarships</u></a>                                         | \$2,000      | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Vicki Soto Memorial Scholarship</u></a>                                    | \$12,000     | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Virginia Military Survivors &amp; Dependents Education Program</u></a>     | Full-Tuition | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>VMDAEC Educational Foundation Scholarship</u></a>                          | \$3,000      | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>WIIT Scholarships</u></a>                                                  | \$3,000      | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Won Buddhism Chicago Scholarship</u></a>                                   | \$1,000      | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>WRA Education Foundation Scholarship in Culinary &amp; Hospitality</u></a> | \$2,250      | April 01, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>YWCA Billings Salute to Students Scholarship</u></a>                       | \$5,000      | April 01, 2026 |
|                                                                                           |              |                |
| <a href="#"><u>Captain Spectrum Be Kind Scholarship</u></a>                               | \$1,000      | April 02, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>PAFMG Annual Pre-Med Scholarship Awards</u></a>                            | \$30,000     | April 02, 2026 |
|                                                                                           |              |                |
| <a href="#"><u>ACF Carl F. Scott Scholarship Fund for Tucumcari Lodge No. 27</u></a>      | \$2,000      | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ACF Davis-Kozoll Scholarship</u></a>                                       | \$5,000      | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ACF James Ledwith Memorial Scholarship</u></a>                             | \$2,000      | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ACF Kiwanis Club of Albuquerque Scholarship Program</u></a>                | \$1,000      | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ACF Robby Baker Memorial Scholarship</u></a>                               | \$1,000      | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ACF Woodcock Family Education Scholarship</u></a>                          | \$40,000     | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>APCF Mega Bank Scholarship Program</u></a>                                 | \$1,000      | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Carl Tapp Technician Scholarship</u></a>                                   | \$7,500      | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>CFJS Scholarships</u></a>                                                  | \$2,500      | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Four Star Leadership Scholarship</u></a>                                   | \$5,000      | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>ISL Education Lending Scholarship</u></a>                                  | \$1,000      | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Lanford Family Highway Worker Memorial Scholarship Program</u></a>         | \$10,000     | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>SEMA Memorial Scholarship Fund</u></a>                                     | \$5,000      | April 03, 2026 |
| <a href="#"><u>Sussman-Miller Educational Assistance Award Program</u></a>                | \$8,000      | April 03, 2026 |