



WHAT IS THE HIKE-BIKE-A-THON?

Hike-Bike is a fun event that gives preschool through high school students an opportunity to contribute to their future by helping to raise money for scholarships. Starting at the **United Bank of Iowa parking lot**, participants walk or bike on the Pleasant Valley Trail with rest stops and water provided along the route. Relatives and friends sponsor the students by making donations to OABCIG Dollars for Scholars. All proceeds go toward providing scholarships for OABCIG students.

HOW DO I SIGN UP?

- 1. Complete the information on the front of this envelope.**
Please provide all information including the Parent/Guardian Signature which is required to participate in the event.
- 2. Complete the Sponsor Letters.**
Think of as many people as possible to sponsor your child with a tax deductible donation – aunts, uncles, grandparents, neighbors, friends, etc. Do not assume that someone does not want to donate – send them a sponsor letter and let them decide.

We suggest 15 sponsors per student to get a free t-shirt. There are 16 letters enclosed so you have an extra one. If you need more, you can get them at any United Bank of Iowa or school office. The more letters you send, the more money that will be raised for scholarships. And, your chances increase for winning one of the bikes. For each donation received, the student's name will be entered in the drawing for several bikes.
- 3. Return Sponsor Letters to United Bank of Iowa or School.**
You do not need to contact sponsors personally. Just address the letters to your sponsors and return them to any United Bank of Iowa or school office by March 20. Do NOT mail the letters yourself, we will mail them for you.

TRANSPORTATION

ODEBOLT: Buses will transport students to the United Bank of Iowa (UBI) parking lot in Ida Grove when school is dismissed. Bikes will be picked up at 10:00 am and transported to UBI.

IDA GROVE: Students are responsible for their own transportation to the event.

Parents are responsible for students and their bikes after the event.

SAFETY

The Ida Grove Sheriff's Department will help with major intersections and UBI staff and volunteers will be stationed at UBI and most intersections to promote safety.

Helmets are recommended! All bikers are strongly encouraged to wear a helmet. A supply of helmets will be available on a first come, first serve basis.

It is NOT a race! We ask bikers to go at a safe speed and be respectful to others on the trail. Do not make sudden stops and use caution when entering and exiting the trail.

Rollerblades, skateboards, and pets are not allowed.

Parents are welcome to attend and accompany their small children during the event.

HOW TO DONATE: We prefer donations be made online at www.hikebike.org. You will be able to donate to several students and make one payment with your credit card. If writing a check, make it payable to OABCIG Dollars for Scholars and return it in the enclosed envelope by May 1, 2026.

PRIZES

BIKES: For each donation received, the student's name is entered in a drawing for several bikes. Bikes are donated by the Ida Grove Ambulance, Christensen-Van Houten Funeral Services, Denison Wal-Mart and Cedeno/Hopkins Family.

T-SHIRT: Students who return 15 or more sponsor letters by March 20 will receive a Hike-Bike T-shirt.

GIFT: Each participant will receive a free gift.

HAMBURGER: Participants who conquer the high school hill receive a coupon for a hamburger at Ida Bowl in Ida Grove, compliments of Ida Bowl and Ida Grove Kiwanis.

PARTY: Elementary classes with at least 50% participation and middle school participants will receive pizza served by United Bank of Iowa staff.

SPECIAL PRIZES: Recognition will be given for the most donations and the donation from the furthest distance.

REFRESHMENTS: Refreshments served after the event are sponsored by Ida Grove Food Pride. Water served along the trail is donated by Culligan.

**PLEASE RETURN YOUR
SPONSOR LETTERS TO
ANY UBI OR SCHOOL
OFFICE BY
MARCH 20
STUDENTS WHO TURN IN
PACKETS LATE, MAY NOT
RECEIVE A T-SHIRT**



QUESTIONS?

Call United Bank of Iowa at 364-3393, ask for Taylor Hemer, Jessica Burk or Presley Cranston.

Scan to pay online!





OABCIG

Dollars for Scholars®

About OABCIG Dollars for Scholars

OABCIG Dollars for Scholars was established in 1994 as the BCIG Citizens' Scholarship Foundation. The Foundation's name was changed in 2010 to better reflect the Odebolt-Arthur and Battle Creek-Ida Grove school districts.

The scholarship foundation has awarded \$4,709,822 in scholarships to 1,697 graduates.

HIKE BIKE'S CONTRIBUTION

In 2025, the 577 participants of the Whitey Thompson Hike-Bike-A-Thon raised \$88,421.81 in donations, a new record!

Over the past 31 years, Hike-Bike has donated \$1,327,698.06 towards scholarships. Each past and future participant of Hike-Bike should be proud of their part in helping OABCIG Dollars for Scholars reach their goal of a scholarship for every graduate.

FROM UNITED BANK OF IOWA . . . A Tribute to Whitey Thompson

Whitey Thompson played a big role in the organization and success of the scholarship foundation by starting this event in 1995. His wife, Elaine, served on the board and helped with the event until her death in 2003. Whitey also served as a director at United Bank of Iowa for seven years contributing his wisdom and business insight.

Whitey and Elaine believed in supporting the youth in our communities. At United Bank of Iowa, we know our youth are our future and understand the value of higher education. Our employees donate their time and effort to carry on the event Whitey began, to ensure continued scholarships for years to come.

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Participation is Rewarded

Students earn points towards their scholarship for involvement in OABCIG Dollars for Scholars activities. Students can earn points two ways for Hike-Bike:

PARTICIPATING - sending out sponsor letters to raise donations

VOLUNTEERING - helping with the event

Students who send sponsor letters to raise donations are awarded more points than those who only volunteer. Students can send sponsor letters **and** help if they wish.

Event is sponsored by

United Bank of Iowa and OABCIG Dollars for Scholars

 Follow United Bank of Iowa on Facebook to stay current with Hike-Bike news.