

CA-NV Section, AWWA Scholarship Program

Frequently Asked Questions
2017-2018

What is the purpose of the Section's scholarship program?

The purpose of the Section's scholarship program is to encourage and support students interested in a career in a drinking water related field. This includes environmental and civil engineers, water/ wastewater treatment plant operators, field/ distribution system operators, chemists, lab technicians, biologists, ecologists, mechanical, electrical and plumbing trades, environmental scientists, financiers, economists...whatever the role that supports safe drinking water.

What scholarships does the Section offer?

The Section offers three types of scholarships for students interested in a career in drinking water.

- 1) We offer up to four \$2500 scholarships for students pursuing a two or four year undergraduate college degree in a drinking water related field of study.
- 2) We offer up to two \$5000 scholarships for students pursuing Masters or Doctorate graduate level university degrees in a drinking water field of study.
- 3) We also offer up two \$1000 scholarships for those studying to be a drinking water operator.
- 4) For this year only, we will also offer one \$1000 undergraduate scholarship in the memory of Linda Contreras.

What are the One AWWA Operator scholarships?

The CA-NV Section and AWWA jointly offer up to two \$1000 scholarships for those studying to be a drinking water treatment or distribution system operator. These scholarships can be used for college classes, operator training courses, study materials, and other training applicable to operator certification. Applicants may be those just entering the drinking water field, as well as certified operators seeking education for advanced certifications.

Eligibility

Who may apply for a CA-NV AWWA scholarship?

- 1) Applicants must be residents of California or Nevada.
- 2) Graduating high school students and students who will be or are currently enrolled full-time in a two-year or four-year undergraduate degree program are eligible for undergraduate scholarships.

- 3) Students entering or currently enrolled full-time in graduate school towards a Masters or Doctorate degree (or equivalent) are eligible for the graduate scholarships.
- 4) Those studying for an operator certification at any level and any age are eligible for the One AWWA Operator scholarship.
- 5) Applicants must be studying for a possible career pertaining to drinking water or wastewater (including water resources, water quality, technologies and treatment, and operations).

Does my year at school affect my eligibility for receiving a scholarship?

- 1) High School graduates and current college students are eligible for our undergraduate scholarships at any time during their studies.
- 2) Graduate students are eligible for our graduate scholarships at any time during their graduate studies.
- 3) All those pursuing certification as a water treatment or distribution system operator are eligible for a One AWWA Operator scholarship.

Do I need to be a full-time student to receive a scholarship?

Only full-time students are eligible for our undergraduate and graduate scholarships. Both full-time and part-time students are eligible for the One AWWA Operator scholarship.

Do I have to attend a California or Nevada school?

Yes, and you must be a California or Nevada resident at the time of application.

Can I apply for an undergraduate or graduate scholarship if I am not yet accepted or enrolled into a college program?

You may apply, but you cannot receive a scholarship until you are accepted and enrolled into a college undergraduate or graduate program.

Am I eligible to receive a CA-NV Section scholarship if I am already receiving other scholarship or award monies?

Yes, students who are receiving other scholarships or awards are also eligible to receive a CA-NV Section scholarship.

If I am a post-doc, am I eligible to receive a graduate scholarship from CA-NV Section?

No, post-doctoral researchers are not eligible to receive a scholarship from CA-NV Section. The CA-NV Section's scholarship program is meant to help support students currently earning their degrees.

Do I need to be a U.S. citizen to apply for a scholarship?

No, you do not have to be a U.S. citizen to receive a scholarship.

Do I need to be a member of AWWA?

No, but student or individual members of AWWA will be given preference in the selection process. Membership provides evidence of interest in a career in water.

Application Package**Where can I find the scholarship application?**

The scholarship application can be downloaded from the CA-NV Section's website at: ca-nv-awwa.org. Scholarship information and applications appear under the Membership section.

What must be included in the application?

- 1) Completed application form, including resume
- 2) Your academic transcripts
- 3) Two letters of recommendation
- 4) Statement of interest in a drinking water career
- 5) For those applying for a graduate scholarship, your study plan

What factors can disqualify my application?

Applications may be disqualified for the following reasons:

- 1) Application is not complete
- 2) Complete application does not arrive by the application deadline.
- 3) Complete contact information is not provided.
- 4) Transcripts are not provided in English.

What factors can help my application?

- 1) All instructions are followed completely.
- 2) The candidate provides a clear indication of interest and plans for a career in the drinking water sector.
- 3) The letters of recommendation provide a strong, in-depth endorsement.
- 4) The candidate shows both academic and community involvement.
- 5) The applicant shows involvement in AWWA, in a CA-NV Section student chapter, or in other drinking water related activities.
- 6) For applicants for a graduate-level scholarship, the study plan or research plan is organized, clear, succinct, and knowledgeable, and the proposed work addresses an important need in water science or policy.

Do I need to provide GRE or other test scores?

No, you do not need to send us test scores of any kind. We are only interested in your transcripts.

May I include copies of my publications and/or other materials to support my applications?

No, please do not send us publications or other materials as part of your application. Please list publications and other applicable items in your application.

Transcripts & International Transcripts

What transcripts are required?

Read this carefully. You may need to supply more than one transcript!

- 1) For those graduating from high school, or in your freshman or sophomore year of college, please provide your high school transcripts.
- 2) For all undergraduate and graduate students, please provide all college or university transcripts.
- 3) For those applying for the One AWWA Operator scholarships, please provide all transcripts.

May I mail officially certified, sealed transcripts to CA-NV AWWA, or must transcripts be sent directly from the school or college?

If the transcript is certified and sealed, you may send it to us yourself.

What are the rules regarding international transcripts?

Students from institutions outside the U.S. may have difficulties providing us with official school transcripts. Therefore, we will accept certified, sealed transcripts or photocopies of transcripts from international educational institutions (please ensure the transcript is in English). This exception only applies to international transcripts.

Do you accept transcripts that are not translated into English?

No, we will not accept transcripts provided in languages other than English.

Application Deadline & Mailing Issues

When is the next application deadline?

March 15, 2018

What happens if my application and/or transcripts arrive after the application deadline?

If your application and/or transcripts arrive late, then your application may be disqualified.

What is the preferred way to submit the application?

You may mail, fax or email your application materials to us.

What is CA-NV Section, AWWA's mailing address

Armando Apodaca
Scholarship Committee
California-Nevada Section, AWWA
10435 Ashford Street
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730

May I fax my scholarship application?

Yes. The fax number is 909 481-4688

May I email my application materials?

Yes. Please email materials to Armando Apodaca at aapodaca@ca-nv-awwa.org

Will I receive notification that CA-NV Section received my application?

Yes, we will notify you AFTER THE DEADLINE that we received your application. If you require additional verification for items sent by mail, please request "proof of delivery" and/or use other tracking services offered by your post office or shipping provider.

Selection Process & Announcements**Who selects the fellowship recipients?**

CA-NV Section's Scholarship Selection Committee selects new scholarship recipients each year. The committee is made up of AWWA members with expertise in drinking water subjects.

May I contact the Scholarship Selection Committee?

No, please do not contact the Scholarship Selection Committee regarding any aspect of the application process. All questions from you or others should be directed to the CA-NV Section Scholarship Coordinator.

How many students receive scholarships each year?

The Section may give up to eight scholarships each year (four \$2500 undergraduate, two \$5000 graduate, and two \$1000 One AWWA Operator scholarships). This year only, we may give one additional \$1000 undergraduate scholarship.

When are the new scholarships recipients announced?

CA-NV Section will announce the scholarship awardees by June 1 each year. The awardees will be contacted either by phone or email (sometimes both) and their names listed on our website. The awardees will receive a letter from the CA-NV Section informing them of the scholarship award amount, and describing the terms and conditions of the award.

Will I be notified if I am not selected to receive a scholarship?

Yes, you will receive an email from CA-NV Section informing you whether or not you received a scholarship.

If I am not selected to receive a scholarship, is it possible to find out why?

No, as we do not provide comments or feedback on any application sent to us.

Financial Award

What is the source of funding for the CA-NV AWWA Scholarship program?

The scholarship program is underwritten by the Section and by donors. The Section is very grateful for the support provide by these partners.

How much is a CA-NV Section scholarship award?

The Section currently offers up four \$2500 undergraduate, two \$5000 graduate, and two \$1000 One AWWA Operator scholarships each year.

When will I receive the scholarship money?

A check will be sent to you after we receive notification of your acceptance and full-time enrollment for the following academic year.

How can I use the scholarship money?

We have no stipulations on how the money is spent. However, awardees must provide a report at the end of the school year on how the scholarship advanced their education.

Terms and Conditions

What are the terms and conditions of receiving a scholarship?

- 1) For the undergraduate and graduate scholarships, you must be continuously enrolled as a fulltime student with a college or university. For the One AWWA Operator scholarship, you must provide us with documentation on your operator training activities.
- 2) You must provide us with a letter at the end of the school year on what you used the money for and how it enhanced your education.
- 3) For those receiving graduate-level scholarships, you are expected to present on your work at a CA-NV Section conference.

Further questions

If you have other questions, you may contact the Scholarship Committee Chair, Bruce Macler, at 925 323-1180 or macler@sbcglobal.net, or Armando Apodaca, Member Engagement Manager, at aapodaca@ca-nv-awwa.org, or 909-291-2119.