WISCONSIN WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT, INC.

WISCONSIN WOMEN IN GOVERNMENT
2011 UNDERGRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP

GUIDELINES

Applications due April 29, 2011

PURPOSE

The Wisconsin Women in Government (WWIG) Undergraduate Scholarship program is designed to inspire women considering careers in public service, public administration and government affairs and to retain those students who have begun such studies, but who would have difficulty continuing their education without financial assistance. The purpose of the program is to make post-secondary education more accessible to women by relieving some of the financial burden. It is intended to retain those who have begun such studies but would have difficulty continuing without financial assistance.

The WWIG Undergraduate Scholarship program is funded through an annual fundraising banquet in Madison, Wisconsin.

SCHOLARSHIP VALUE

• $3,000 per year at any school among the U.W. System, Wisconsin Technical College System, and in-state private colleges affiliated with the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities. Six scholarships total will be awarded.

• May be used for tuition, school supplies, childcare and to reduce loan burden.

ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must:

• Be a Wisconsin resident;

• Have financial need as determined by the receiving school based on applicant's eligibility for either the Federal Pell Grant Program, Wisconsin Higher Education Grant (WHEG), Wisconsin Tuition Grant (WTG), or Talent Incentive Program (TIP);

• Be enrolled at the time of application as a full-time or part-time undergraduate student at any of the above institutions; and

• Plan to be enrolled as a full-time or part-time undergraduate student at any of the above institutions for the fall semester.

Students who will have received their Bachelor's degree by **August 15th** of the year of application are ineligible for this scholarship. Students in the process of transferring should apply through the institution where they will be enrolled in the fall semester.

CRITERIA

Students must:

• Have a C grade point average or better and maintain at least a C average for continuation;

• Possess leadership potential, initiative and excellent communication skills; and

• Have an interest in public service, government and the political process.

APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit the following items:

• A completed application form including answers to all questions;

• A copy of her current transcript (this need not be a certified copy);

• A letter from the financial aid office at her school confirming her eligibility for financial aid as defined in the "Eligibility" section; and

• Two letters of recommendation from people who are familiar with the applicant and her skills, personality, work habits, etc. Recommendations must come from:

1) a teacher, a school counselor or advisor; or

2) an employer or individual with whom she has worked in a business, community or charitable effort.

SELECTION PROCESS

Completed applications and accompanying documents should be submitted to the school the applicant will attend during the scholarship year, as follows:

• **U.W. System** applicants should submit completed scholarship applications to the Vice Chancellor's Office at their respective campuses.

• **Wisconsin Technical College System** applicants should submit applications to the financial aid director at their respective schools.

• **Private College** applicants who attend a college which is a member of the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges should submit applications to the financial aid director at their respective schools.

The school to which the applicant seeks admission shall first determine whether the applicant is eligible for the scholarship based on a process administered by the institution, which considers the criteria mentioned above. The U.W. System, Wisconsin Technical College System and Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities each may forward the names of up to six applicants for review and final selection by WWIG.

Completed applications and accompanying documents should be submitted to your school as instructed above no later than April 29th. Do not send letters of recommendation, transcripts or financial aid rulings separately; they will not be considered unless they are included with the original application.

In its review of the scholarship applications, the WWIG Scholarship Committee will look for women who show promise of making a positive contribution to society. Scholarship recipients will be selected based on their leadership, demonstrated ability to handle responsibility, initiative, communication skills, academic achievement, community involvement and commitment to public service. Preference may be given to past WWIG scholarship recipients.

Scholarships will be awarded by **July 29th**.

TERM

Scholarships are effective for one year.

CONTINUED ELIGIBILITY

Scholarship recipients must provide GPA evidence of their continuing eligibility at the end of each semester. Scholarship recipients must notify WWIG of any change in their enrollment status during the term of the scholarship. If the scholarship recipient discontinues her studies during any semester of the scholarship term, the WWIG Scholarship Committee may award the balance to another scholarship finalist.

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

Scholarship recipients will be invited to attend and will receive one complimentary ticket to WWIG's annual fundraising banquet in Madison, Wisconsin in the Spring of next year. If needed, scholarship recipients may be eligible to receive a nominal stipend as determined by the WWIG Scholarship Committee to defray travel and/or lodging costs to attend the banquet.

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APPLICATION FORM

Name: _____ Birthdate: _____

Email: _____ Secondary Email: _____

Primary Address: _____

Secondary Address (if any): _____

Primary Phone: _____ Secondary Phone (if any): _____

Name of School: _____

Major Field of Study: _____ Grade Level: _____

Awards or Other Recognition of Achievement: _____

_____

_____

Complete and organized answers on the application are important to the evaluation process.

PLEASE ANSWER THESE QUESTIONS ON NO MORE THAN THREE (3) TOTAL TYPEWRITTEN PAGES.

1. Tell us about you and your family. For instance: Where were you born and what was your life like growing up? What accomplishments are you most proud of and why? Who has had the greatest impact on your life and in what ways did that person influence you? Describe any incident in your life that changed your way of thinking or gave you a new perspective.

2. Describe any school, charitable, community or political activities in which you have participated. How have these made a difference in your life? (Such activities may include student government, student publications, political campaigns, charitable fundraising drives, events or public awareness functions on issues such as AIDS, homelessness, hunger, drugs, etc.)

3. Why is it important to you to continue your education? In what ways do you think it will change your life?

4. Describe the career(s) you have been considering. What has led you to consider these options? What is the greatest barrier you feel you will face in achieving your career goals and how will you overcome the barrier?

5. What is the most serious problem facing your community and how do you suggest it be solved?

I certify that this application contains accurate information.

_____

(Applicant Signature) (Date)

Please be sure to include the following: 1) this completed application form, 2) a copy of your transcripts, 3) a letter of financial eligibility, and 4) two (2) letters of recommendation. This information should be submitted to the school that you attend during the scholarship term . Please refer to the "Guidelines" "Selection Process" for specific submission requirements.

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RECOMMENDATION FORM

Name of Applicant: _____

Name of Person Making Recommendation: _____

Title of Person Making Recommendation: _____

Address (Street, City, State, Zip) : _____

Phone Number: _____

Date: _____

Thank you for taking time to support this applicant with your recommendation and for helping Wisconsin Women in Government make its decision. The purpose of this scholarship is to inspire women considering careers in public service, public administration, and government affairs. Please include all of the following information in your recommendation, and submit your response attached to this document.

1. How long have you known the applicant and in what capacity? In what ways have you seen the applicant grow during the time you have known her?

2. In your opinion, please describe the applicant's capacity for academic success in post-secondary education.

3. In what ways do the applicant's achievements distinguish her from her peers? How is she a positive role model for her peers?

4. In what ways has the applicant shown her ability to follow through on goals, commitments and responsibilities?

5. Please add any additional information you think would be important in evaluating this applicant.