

2022-2023

WTS Chicago Diversity in Transportation Scholarship

WTS' goal of fostering the development of women in the transportation field can be realized by encouraging bright new professionals to undertake careers in the area of transportation. The Diversity in Transportation Scholarship is awarded to women pursuing undergraduate or graduate studies in transportation or a related field who demonstrate a commitment to civic engagement and diversity/inclusion.

The purpose of the Diversity in Transportation Scholarship is to motivate and reward women who demonstrate a commitment to diversity, inclusion and/or social justice initiatives within the transportation industry. Diversity of backgrounds, experiences, and perspectives is essential to assure that the transportation systems of the future respond to the needs of all. These qualities will receive special attention in the selection of the award winner.

The Diversity in Transportation Scholarship through the Greater Chicago Chapter is **\$2,000**. The minimum criteria for selection are:

- a. GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- b. Currently enrolled in an undergraduate or graduate degree program in a transportation-related field, such as transportation engineering, urban planning, finance, logistics, construction management, social equity, and public policy.
- c. Currently enrolled in a school in Illinois, currently enrolled in a school outside of Illinois and have a permanent Illinois address, or currently enrolled in a school outside of Illinois and have an internship in Illinois.
- d. Plans to pursue a career in a transportation-related field.
- e. One letter of recommendation.
- f. Proof of enrollment.
- g. Personal statement.
- h. First generation student in post-secondary college education (preferred). (A first-generation college student refers to a person who has completed or is in the process of completing at least a bachelor's degree but does not have a parent who has completed a bachelor's degree.)

Applications must be submitted through local WTS chapters **electronically**. Scholarships are competitive and based on the applicant's specific transportation goals, academic record, and transportation-related activities or job skills. Minority candidates are encouraged to apply. The Chicago Chapter awards will be presented at the annual scholarship event to be held in Chicago, IL in the Summer of 2023. If selected for a scholarship, attendance at the awards event is strongly recommended. Please contact your local WTS chapter at the address listed below for specifics.

Questions may be sent via e-mail to Scholarship@wtsgreaterchicago.org.

Word versions of the application form may be downloaded from <https://www.wtsinternational.org/chapters/greater-chicago/student-info/scholarships>

**The Diversity in Transportation Scholarship is solely a WTS Chicago Chapter scholarship and awardees will not be nominated for WTS Foundation awards.*

**Completed applications must be received by your local chapter no later than:
Monday, January 9, 2023.**

Submittal Instructions & Checklists

The requested documents are to be e-mailed following the instructions below.

E-mail: scholarship@wtsgreaterchicago.org:

Subject Line: "Last Name – Scholarship Name" (ie. "Smith-Diversity Scholarship")

Documents to Include:

- 1. Signed Application Form (pdf)
- 2. Official Transcript
 - a. Certified pdf OR
 - b. Direct electronic transfer from school emailed directly to scholarship@wtsgreaterchicago.org
- 3. Recommendation Letter(s)
 - a. Recommender(s) must email their letter directly to scholarship@wtsgreaterchicago.org with the subject line: *Recommendation Letter-"Last Name – Scholarship Name"* (i.e. "Recommendation Letter-Smith-Banks Scholarship")
 - b. Letter must be on official letterhead
- 4. Personal Statement (pdf)
- 5. Proof of Enrollment (pdf)
- 6. Resume (optional, pdf)

E-mail must be received by 11:59pm CT, January 9, 2023.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: Who do I contact with questions?

A: Questions can be e-mailed to scholarship@wtsgreaterchicago.org

Q: Can I e-mail my application?

A: See the submittal instructions on page two of the application packet.

Q: Can I apply for more than one scholarship?

A: Yes. You can apply for all scholarships for which you meet the minimum criteria for selection that are included on page one of the application packet.

Q: Can I apply if I am a part-time student?

A: Yes.

Q: What should I include for my transcript if this is my first semester?

A: Include a transcript from your last program (ie. high school, another college/university, etc.).

Q: Can I use my student ID as proof of enrollment?

A: No. Examples of proof of enrollment include an official listing of courses which you are currently enrolled in from the registrar's office or a tuition receipt for the current semester. Images from a course catalog do not count.

Q: Are international students eligible to apply?

A: Yes. International students are eligible and encouraged to apply. Students must be attending a school in Illinois to be eligible for a scholarship from the Greater Chicago Chapter.

Q: Are "dreamers" eligible to apply?

A: Yes. "Dreamers" (Development, Relief, and Education for Alien Minors Act) are eligible to apply.

Q: When will I be notified if I have been selected for the scholarship award?

A: Students are typically notified if they have been selected for the Greater Chicago Chapter Award by February.

Q: When will scholarship funds be received from the WTS Greater Chicago Chapter?

A: Scholarships will be issued at the annual scholarship awards event in the summer.

Q: Can I apply for a scholarship if I have applied in previous years?

A: Yes.

Q: Can I apply for a scholarship if I am a past recipient?

A: Yes. Past recipients can apply for other chapter scholarships and are not eligible for the specific scholarship award(s) that they have previously won.

Q: If I am enrolled in a joint undergraduate/graduate program, do I apply for the undergraduate- or graduate-level scholarships?

A: If your proof of enrollment or transcript indicates that you are an undergraduate student, you may only apply for the undergraduate scholarships, no matter how many years of the program you have completed. If your proof of enrollment or transcript indicates that you are graduate student, you may only apply for the graduate scholarships.

1. Race/Ethnicity (select all that apply)

- Asian
- Black
- East Indian
- Hispanic/Latino
- Indigenous
- Middle Eastern
- Multiracial
- Pacific Islander
- White
- Other (Please write in)
- Choose Not to Disclose

2. Age

- 15-18
- 19-23
- 24-30
- 31-50
- 50 +

3. Anticipated or Current Mode of Transportation Career Focus (select all that apply)

- Aviation
- Freight
- Highway/Auto
- Maritime/Port
- Multi-Modal
- Non-Motorized
- Passenger
- Transit
- Other (Please write in)

4. How did you hear about this scholarship?

- Friend
- School/Teacher
- Social Media:
 - Facebook
 - Instagram
 - LinkedIn
 - Snapchat
 - TikTok
 - Twitter
 - YouTube
 - Other (Please write in)_____
- WTS Chapter
- WTS International Website
- Other (Please write in)_____

Applicant
Signature_____Date_____