



Minnesota Chapter of Women in Public Finance 2021 Scholarship Application



Program Overview

The Minnesota Chapter of Women in Public Finance is a non-profit, educational, and professional networking organization for women in the public finance industry. It is governed by a board of directors representing the areas of government, finance, banking and law. The Minnesota Chapter was founded in 2011 as a chapter of the national organization, Women in Public Finance.

What is Public Finance?

Public finance generally refers to how governments raise and spend money. Individuals who work in public finance help governments at all levels—national, state, and local—obtain the necessary financial resources to pay for services and building projects such as schools, roads, parks, water, police and fire protection, libraries and health care.

Scholarship Overview

The Minnesota Chapter of Women in Public Finance operates a scholarship program that typically allocates at least \$5,000 annually. The total amount to be awarded and the amount of individual awards may vary. The **goals** of the scholarship program are to:

- 1) Recognize college-bound, female high school seniors and female undergraduate students who have exhibited scholastic achievement (preferably with an established aptitude in mathematics) and demonstrated leadership skills;
- 2) Encourage the consideration of careers in finance and, more specifically, public finance; and
- 3) Provide an opportunity for scholarship recipients to meet women established in the public finance industry and learn about the career options and opportunities available in this important field.

Application

To *qualify* and *apply* for the Scholarship, the applicant must, at a minimum:

- 1) Identify as female;
- 2) Be graduating from a Minnesota high school or attending a Minnesota higher education institution and be entering her undergraduate freshman or sophomore year in the fall of 2021;
- 3) Have at least a 3.0 GPA or equivalent;
- 4) Exhibit leadership skills through extracurricular activities, volunteer positions, internships and/or other work experience;
- 5) Indicate an interest in pursuing a public finance related career in finance, government, nonprofits, banking or law;
- 6) Complete and submit the Scholarship application form, the required essays and a photocopy of your most recent unofficial high school OR college transcript, as appropriate, **VIA E-MAIL** to info@mnwpcf.org. The application must be **RECEIVED** no later than 11:59 pm Central Time June 1, 2021.

Selection and Recognition

- The Minnesota Chapter of Women in Public Finance will select recipients based on the qualifications of the candidates as demonstrated by the completed application and submitted essays.
- The Minnesota Chapter of Women in Public Finance may also elect to conduct phone interviews or seek additional information as part of the selection process.
- Scholarship recipients will be invited to accept the Scholarship at the Minnesota Women in Public Finance Annual Conference to be held in the Fall of 2021, the specific date to be determined. The conference will be held virtually or in downtown Minneapolis.
(Note: Attendance at the annual conference is not required to receive the Scholarship).

Scholarship recipients will be notified by approximately August 2, 2021.



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Please type or print all responses and *attach a photocopy of your unofficial school transcript to your application.* While typed responses are preferred, neatly handwritten responses will be accepted.

Date: / /2021

Name: _____ Age: _____

High School or College: _____ Level in fall 2021: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

Extracurricular Activities. Describe your extracurricular, community, and other activities or hobbies **in the order of interest to you.** Include specific events and/or major accomplishments such as musical instrument played, varsity letters earned, etc. Attach additional sheets if necessary and include your name and address on each sheet.

Activity	Dates of Involvement		Position Held, Honor Earned, Letter Earned, or Other Accomplishment	Approximate Time Spent	
				Hours per Week	Weeks per Year
		to			
		to			
		to			
		to			
		to			
		to			

Work Experience. Please list paid jobs or volunteer internships you have held including summer employment, if any. Attach additional sheets if necessary and include your name and address on each sheet.

Employer	Dates of Employment		Job Description	Approx. Time Worked	
				Hours per Week	Weeks per year
		to			
		to			
		to			
		to			
		to			

Please describe your interest in pursuing a finance-related career working with government or nonprofits and why this is a career path that interests you.

Name:

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Address:

Short Essay. Describe your favorite subject(s) in school and explain why the subject(s) is (are) your favorite and how that may benefit you in a career in public finance. Attach additional sheets if necessary and include your name and address on each sheet. Please limit your response to no more than 250 words.

Personal Essay. Please write a personal essay on two of the options listed below (responses should be 350 to 500 words each). Indicate your selected option by checking the appropriate box next to it. This personal essay helps us become acquainted with you as a person, apart from courses, grades, and other objective data. It will also demonstrate your ability to organize your thoughts and express yourself.

Option 1: Evaluate a risk you have taken or an ethical dilemma you have faced and its impact on you. If applicable, describe how your actions or decisions impacted the community, your school, family or peer group.

Option 2: Describe your career and educational goals and who or what has influenced these goals.

Option 3: What does diversity mean to you? Describe an event or experience that challenged your point of view. How did this experience affect you and what do you believe to be the result of such experience?

Option 4: Describe an event in which you took a leadership role and what you learned about yourself.

Attach your application, transcript and essays to your email. Please include your name and address on each individual attachment.

Disclaimer: Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their submissions are complete and are received by 11:59 pm Central time June 1, 2021. The Minnesota Chapter of Women in Public Finance will not consider applications that are submitted by means other than electronic submission to info@mnnwopf.org, that are incomplete or that arrive late, regardless of the reason.