

# AZ WATER SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

## PURPOSE AND SCOPE

It is our vision to provide financial aid for students aspiring to make a difference in Arizona's water future. AZ Water will do this by awarding scholarships to undergraduate and graduate students at Arizona colleges and universities pursuing studies related to the water / wastewater profession.

## BACKGROUND

The AZ Water Association (AZ Water) is a nonprofit educational organization founded in 1928 with a membership of more than 3,000 water and wastewater professionals dedicated to preserving and enhancing Arizona's water environment. The vision of AZ Water is to be the recognized advocate for enhancing Arizona's water and environmental resources.

## SELECTION COMMITTEE

The selection committee consists of members of the Young Professionals Committee who review the submitted applications after verifying there are no conflicts of interest.

## CAN I APPLY???

Applicants must be students during the current academic year at an Arizona institution. U.S. citizenship is not a requirement.

The AZ Water annual scholarship judging takes into consideration the experience and interest of the students as well as their academic status (graduate, undergraduate, etc.) and students will be judged against their peers. To maintain fairness and equal opportunity, applicants categorized by academic level, ensuring that all disciplines and degree of experience are treated equally.

Applications will be judged based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated achievement in chosen area of study.
- Understanding of a pertinent water issue in Arizona.
- Applicability of personal history and future plans.
- Creativity and writing ability.

## NOMINATION PROCESS

To apply for the AZ Water Scholarship, please submit the following:

- A completed online scholarship application

- A unique (not previously submitted) two page (or less) written description of your interest in an Arizona-related water issue and how your personal history and planned future relate to that issue. (***Space is provided on the application***).

## AWARD PRESENTATION

AZ Water Scholarship recipients represent the future of Arizona's water and wastewater systems. They are a bright group of driven individuals who plan to pursue careers related to water. Recipients are recognized during a dinner awards night at the Annual AZ Water Conference and receive recognition from the assembled members. Note: acceptance of scholarship constitutes permission to use recipient's name and scholarship story for purpose of promotion

## FAQ'S

- I'm graduating this December, but the award is issued next Spring, can I apply?
  - Yes.
- How is the scholarship issued?
  - Disbursement of the funds will be made directly by AZ Water to the financial office of recipient's college, university, or technical school.
- What can I use the money for since I already have a scholarship from the school?
  - Items related to books, manuals, laptops, and other educational resources available through the school.
- I'm only a freshman, how am I supposed to win a scholarship over a Ph.D. student?
  - The selection committee only compares Bachelor seeking applicants vs other bachelor seeking applicants, Ph.D. applicants vs other Ph.D. applicants, etc. to keep the scoring fair.
- I'm a business student, but the application of my education is water-related... Can I apply?
  - Yes! It does not have to be a water resources degree. We accept majors outside of science and engineering, but it needs to be something where they want to apply their future in water.
- Where does the money come from?
  - Our money is generated through some donations, a raffle the AZ Water Young Professionals Committee puts on during the annual conference, and an annual golf tournament.
- When does the selection committee begin scoring?
  - We stop accepting applications at ***the end of March every year***. We score through April and announce winners in time for the Annual AZ Water conference (held in early May).

Do you have further questions?

Please feel free to contact the administrator at [scholarship@azwater.org](mailto:scholarship@azwater.org)