



Association for Women Geoscientists

THE GEOSCIENCE IDEA SCHOLARSHIP

The Geoscience Inclusion, Diversity, Equality, and Accessibility (IDEA) Scholarship program encourages women from under-served communities to pursue an education and career in the Geosciences, or Earth Sciences. Many research studies show the Geosciences are the least diverse community in all STEM fields. This Scholarship aims to counteract this and enhance diversity within the future Geoscience workforce.

NOTE: Geoscience, herein, is defined as- the academic or educational study of Geology, Geophysics, Geodynamics, Geochemistry, Geobiology, Geoarchaeology, Geoinformatics, Geomorphology, Historical Geology, Hydrogeology, Economic/Mining Geology and Energy Resources, Engineering Geology, Environmental Geology, Mineralogy, Paleontology, Planetary Geology, Petrology, Structural Geology/Seismology, Stratigraphy, Soil and Soil Development Processes, Volcanology, or Geoscience Education/Educator. Other areas of study may include Oceanography, Meteorology, and/or Climatology.

The scholarship provides up to \$5000 (USD) in awards, annually, typically split between two or more undergraduate students, and matches them with AWG mentors to enhance their careers. It also includes a one-year, sponsored, AWG student membership. Students will have the opportunity to develop close relationships with their mentors, contacting them to discuss ideas, obtain advice or guidance for a variety of Geoscience career paths. Any applicant may request an AWG mentor, even if she is not awarded the scholarship. Applicants who are not selected for the award may still be selected to receive a one-year sponsored AWG student membership.

SCHOLARSHIP ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must:

- 1) Be a female, or female-identifying person, who is an undergraduate-level student or a high school senior entering college.
- 2) Identify in one or more historically marginalized or underserved communities, including but not limited to: Black/African-American, Indigenous/Native-America, Latin/Hispanic, Asian/Asian-American, LGBTQIA+, or living with disabilities.
- 3) Be enrolled in an accredited, post-secondary, or higher education institution in the United States.
- 4) Have declared Geoscience or Earth Science as a major of study. (NOTE: This scholarship does not support students in STEM programs outside of the Geosciences. Please see the description above for more information on qualifying majors.)



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High school seniors: If you are selected as a scholarship recipient, the funds will not be released until the Scholarship Committee receives proof of your enrollment at your chosen accredited institution. This may be in the form of a letter from an academic advisor, a registered course schedule, or other form of proof from the Institution.

Past applicants and recipients of this Geoscience Scholarship may reapply for support during each of their educational years. The continued need for support and an update on academic progress, as a result of receiving this Scholarship from the prior year must be addressed in the application. Preference is not given to those who submit a new application.

APPLICATION PROCEDURES

Questions and application materials should be sent by email to IDEAscholarship@awg.org or mailed to the AWG Headquarters at:

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Attn: *Geoscience IDEA* Scholarship
1333 West 120th Ave, Suite 211
Westminster, Colorado 80234

Completed application materials must be received by **June 30** each award year. (NOTE: Late or incomplete applications will not be accepted.)

AWG must receive the following materials to be considered:

- Sign and complete the online [Geoscience IDEA Scholarship Application](#).
- Transcripts from your current institution. Official or unofficial transcripts are acceptable.
- Two letters of recommendation from faculty or staff members at the institution you are attending at the time of application. This can include one from a high school counselor, your primary advisor, an academic advisor, a Geoscience professor or Earth Science instructor, or a general science instructor. **Please allow enough time for the recommender to complete the Letter of Recommendation by the submission date.**
- If you are entering as a freshman and your institution will not allow you to declare a major until your sophomore year, you must also submit a letter signed by your academic advisor which states that you plan to major in the geosciences/earth sciences.

Renewal applications must include a completed application form, transcript(s) from your undergraduate institution(s), and two new letters of recommendation. Letters can be written



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from previous reference(s) and must discuss updates in your academic progress in the geoscience major. (NOTE: Continuing support is contingent upon a student's academic progress and financial need, and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.)

Winner(s) will be notified in August and the award(s) will be distributed in early fall, to coincide with the beginning of the school year.

The applicant is responsible for ensuring that all application materials are submitted by the deadline.

Note to Recommender: All letters of recommendation may be sent directly to the AWG email, or mailing, address above. Please describe the candidate's strengths, whether in academic achievement, intellectual abilities, leadership, or character. Comment on any other characteristics that would be important for the reviewing committee to consider. Support your statement with reference to your personal experience with the applicant. Please address any circumstances that would cause the student's academic record not to reflect their capabilities. Your assistance in this task is greatly appreciated! Please be prompt in submission of this recommendation, as late recommendations cannot be accepted. **This section should be submitted on school/department letterhead and attached in .pdf form.**