2027 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

The Suncoast Branch of the Florida Chapter American Public Works Association (APWA) Scholarship Program is designed to assist those individuals who are pursuing a career in one of the many, varied Public Works fields.

This assistance in education promotes and ensures a continuation of the high level of skill, talent, and professionalism that is the pride of every member.

In addition to traditional college or university scholarships, the Suncoast Branch of Florida Chapter APWA awards scholarships to individuals that are pursuing operational training, leadership, and management skills at technical schools.

The Association includes Public Works employees, Utility engineers, City managers, Fleet staff and managers, property and equipment superintendents, Utilities staff and managers, Treatment plant operators, Community Development directors; Transportation managers, Stormwater staff and managers, Park directors, and countless others.

These are the people who work tirelessly to maintain the infrastructure and resources so that the residents of their cities and towns have safe and wonderful places to live, work, and play.

For over one hundred years, APWA with its Chapters and their Branches continue the advancement and development of the various components that make up the public works family. It is incumbent upon the membership of the Suncoast Branch of the Florida Chapter to lend a helping hand to those who have chosen the Public Works field as their career. The Scholarship Program is an integral part of achieving this goal.

SCHOLARSHIP CATEGORIES

1. **CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM**: Awarded to students and employees of a public works agency who are currently registered for or recently attended formal training to enhance their professional development. Examples include (but are not limited to) heavy equipment certification; APWA Emerging Leaders Academy; Florida Water and Pollution Control Operators Association courses; CDL certification. ***Applicants must provide proof of program registration and/or completion with this application.*** **Up to $2000 Award**.

2. **UNDERGRADUATE/GRADUATE PROGRAM**: Awarded to a student who is currently enrolled or enrolling at an accredited college or university seeking a degree in a public works-related field; OR a graduate college student who is currently enrolled at an accredited college or university pursuing an advanced degree in a public works-related field. ***An applicant entering college or university for the first time must provide proof of registration. An applicant continuing their undergraduate/graduate studies must provide proof of registration and a transcript from an accredited college/university with this application. Digital transcript format is acceptable, but official transcript may be requested at Committee's discretion.*** **Up to $2,000 Award per year. Available for a maximum of 2 years ($4000 total).**

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

1. Award amounts are determined each year by the Suncoast Branch Scholarship Committee.
2. Funds are disbursed to the institute at which the student is enrolled. There is no restriction on the use of the scholarship funds.
3. Upon request, recipients shall furnish receipts to the Scholarship Committee validating proper use of funds. Failure to furnish receipts, or spending funds on unapproved items will result in the applicant being ineligible for future funding.

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APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The application procedure is as follows:

1. Obtain an application in any of the following ways:
   a. Contact the Suncoast Branch of the Florida Chapter of American Public Works Association and request an application. Email address for the Suncoast Branch is: apwa.fl.suncoast.branch@gmail.com.
   b. Contact the Suncoast Branch Scholarship Committee Chairperson or designee and request an application. The Chairperson is Ken Stokes (email address: kstokes@scgov.net).
   c. Download the application from the Education Foundation website.
2. Complete the application, ensuring all requested information is provided. Incomplete applications and applications that do not include the requested documents and information **will not** be considered for award. **Application deadline date is 30 April 2027.**
3. All applicants must provide a **separate** personal statement that addresses the following questions:
   (Personal statements should not exceed two pages in fonts no smaller than 10 pt)
   a. Why are you interested in the field of Public Works?
   b. In what area of Public Works do you intend to pursue a career?
   c. What are your educational goals?
   d. How do you plan to learn more and become involved in your community, the Public Works professional community and APWA? If currently involved, please explain.
   e. Where do you see yourself after graduation?
4. Return the completed application form with documentation attached to the Suncoast Branch Scholarship Committee at: apwa.fl.suncoast.branch@gmail.com.
5. Please include "Scholarship Committee" in the subject line.

Note: There is a lifetime limit of $4,000 per degree or program.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Applicants are responsible for submitting all materials. Incomplete applications will not be evaluated.

Scholarships are awarded for one year at a time. Applicants must apply/re-apply each year.

The actual number of scholarships awarded each year is contingent upon available Branch funds.

2027 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION

Please type or print all information on this application form (**2** pages). If application requirements (Page 2, APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS) are not met, the application will be deemed incomplete and will not be considered eligible for award.

Please provide the following with your application:

College-bound Undergraduate Program
- High school transcript
- Proof of Registration
- Recommendation from school counselor

Enrolled Undergraduate/Graduate Program
- Most recent official transcript
- Proof of registration

PERSONAL INFORMATION

_____ _____
Name Email Address

_____ _____
Mailing Address City

_____ _____ _____
State Zip Code Cell Phone Number

Are you or a family member a member of the Suncoast Branch of APWA?

☐ Yes Relationship _____ Family member's Membership # _____
☐ No

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION, if applicable

_____ _____
Current Employer Position/Title

_____
Mailing Address

_____ _____ _____
City State Zip Code

_____ _____
Supervisor's Name Office Telephone/Cell Number

2027 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

_____ _____
Current College/University, if enrolled GPA

_____ _____
Major Anticipated Graduation Date

_____ _____
Academic Advisor Office Telephone/Cell Number

OTHER FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Please list any other scholarships you have been awarded. If necessary, please attach a separate sheet.

_____
Amount Awarded by

_____
Amount Awarded by

_____
Amount Awarded by

If employed, does your employer provide tuition reimbursement? _____ Yes _____ No

If yes, reimbursement is based on _____

PERSONAL STATEMENT

Attach a **separate** personal statement answering the questions on **Application Instructions, Page 2, Items 3 a-e** regarding your educational and career plans and goals.

AFFIDAVIT

I certify that the information in this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and that I am a student in good standing at _____ and/or plan to enroll at _____ for the following time _____.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Recipients are encouraged to attend a meeting of the Suncoast Branch APWA in Sarasota to meet members and discuss educational and career opportunities.