



Women in Public Finance Sponsored 2012 Achievement Award and Scholarship Overview

Women in Public Finance is a non-profit, educational, and professional networking organization for women in the public finance industry. Governed by a 17-member board of directors representing the areas of finance, banking, and law, the organization also sponsors a variety of philanthropic events to support women's efforts.

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 certain services, including but not limited to, schools, roads, parks, water, police and fire protection, libraries, and health care.

Achievement Award and Scholarship Overview

Women in Public Finance has a scholarship program that provides, annually, up to ten recipients with an Achievement Award and a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to \$2,000. The *purpose* of the Women in Public Finance scholarship program is to:

- 1) Recognize college-bound high school female 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 award recipients to meet women established in the public finance area and expose young women to various career options and opportunities.

Application

To *qualify* and *apply* for the Achievement Award and scholarship, the applicant must, at a minimum:

- 1) Be a female, college-bound high school student entering her senior year in the fall of 2012
- 2) Display an aptitude in math;
- 3) Exhibit leadership skills through extracurricular activities, volunteer positions, and/or work experiences;
- 4) Have an interest in pursuing a career in finance, government, nonprofits, or law; and
- 5) Complete and submit the attached 2012 Achievement Award and scholarship application form including the required essays **along with a photocopy of your most recent unofficial high school transcript** via e-mail or mail so that the application is **RECEIVED no later than August 3, 2012** to:

Women in Public Finance Scholarship Committee
PO Box 1195
Chicago IL 60690-1195

e-mail: scholarship@wpfc.com

Selection and Recognition

The *Scholarship and Mentoring Committee* of Women in Public Finance will select up to ten recipients based on the qualifications of the candidate and the thoroughness of the completed application. Each recipient will be awarded our Achievement Award and a scholarship in the amount of \$1,000 to \$2,000. The scholarship will be paid in the form of a check payable to the award recipient. Award recipients, along with a parent, guardian, or teacher, will be invited to accept the Achievement Award and scholarship at the Women in Public Finance Annual Conference to be held on **Wednesday, October 3, 2012**, at The Standard Club located at 320 South Plymouth Court, Chicago, IL. (**Note:** Attendance at the annual conference is not required to receive the Achievement Award and scholarship).

The *Scholarship and Mentoring Committee* may elect to conduct phone interviews as part of the selection process.



Women in Public Finance
 Sponsored
2012 Achievement Award and Scholarship
Application

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. (Please visit our website at www.wpfc.com if you would like to download this application in MSWord format.)

Date: / /2012

Name: _____ Age: _____

High School: _____ Grade in fall 2012: _____

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

Home Phone: _____ Email Address (if any): _____

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	
		to		Hours per Week	Weeks per Year
		to			
		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	
		to		Hours per Week	Weeks per year
		to			
		to			
		to			
		to			

Please describe your interests in pursuing a career in finance, government, nonprofits, or law. _____

Name:

Address:

Short Essay. Describe your favorite subject(s) in school and explain why the subject(s) is (are) your favorite. 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 **one** of the option listed below (responses should be 350 to 500 words). 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: Describe your career and educational goals and who or what has influenced these goals.
- Option 2: Describe your favorite work experience and explain how this experience has helped shape or change your thoughts about possible career options.
- Option 3: Describe an interest you have pursued outside of your high school classes (e.g. independently or through a student organization, part-time work, sports, playing in a band, volunteering, etc.) and the knowledge or skills you have gained as a result of this interest.
- Option 4: Describe a goal you set for yourself and achieved. Explain how you achieved it.
- Option 5: Evaluate an experience, achievement, risk you have taken, or ethical dilemma you have faced and its impact on you.

Attach your essay to your application on a separate sheet(s) of paper (same size please). Include your name and address on each sheet.

One last reminder: please also submit a photocopy of your most recent unofficial high school transcript along with your application.

Disclaimer: Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their applications are received by the deadline date. Women in Public Finance will not consider applications that arrive late, regardless of the reason.