



2011-2012 Women's Environmental Council Scholarship Program Information and Application Form

Background

The Women's Environmental Council (WEC) is a nonprofit organization with three chapters in Southern California – Los Angeles, Orange County, and San Diego. WEC functions as a professional networking organization whose members primarily work for environmental consulting firms or local, state, and federal government agencies that oversee environmental activities.

One of WEC's goals is to support women who are preparing to pursue careers in the environmental field. To achieve this goal, we offer scholarships to women attending institutes of higher learning in Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties. The scholarship can be used for any aspect of education, including books, tuition, research, and housing.

The scholarships will be awarded at the WEC's annual meeting to be held on a Saturday in the first quarter of 2012 in San Juan Capistrano, California. Recipients are expected to attend both the annual meeting and the regular chapter meetings nearest their school, as schedules allow. This provides an opportunity for our scholarship recipients to explore job opportunities that may be available to them upon graduation.

Each scholarship awarded will be a minimum of \$1,000. The number of scholarships awarded will be determined by the scholarship board; however, we plan to award at least one scholarship per chapter.

In addition, the scholarship awardees and each eligible scholarship applicant will receive a complimentary one-year membership to WEC (*a \$50 value*).

Eligibility

WEC will accept applications from female college undergraduates (4-year college or community college) or graduate students who are in pursuit of a career in the environmental field. Applicants must be attending institutes of higher learning in Los Angeles, Orange, or San Diego counties. Your transcript or other official school document must provide proof that you are currently enrolled in college. If you have not yet been accepted to a college or university, please apply next year once you are enrolled. Applicants must have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA. Degrees or studies can include but are not limited to:

Architecture, Biology, Chemistry, Environmental Science,
Ecology, Engineering, Forestry, Geology, Urban Planning

HOW TO APPLY

Applications are available at <http://www.wecweb.org/Scholarships/scholarships.html>. The WEC Scholarship application package must be received by email or postmarked on or before **January 12th, 2012**. The application has a block for applicants to paste an image. The image can be anything from an environmentally inspired photo, project drawing or photo, a personal photo, or a logo and can be discussed further in the personal statement. A complete application packet includes:

- Application Form
- Personal Statement
- Transcripts (may be official or unofficial)
- Letter of Reference

If your reference chooses to submit their letter directly to the WEC scholarship committee, please notify the scholarship chair before submittal of application. Letters of reference must be received or postmarked prior to January 12th 2012.

All applicant material is subject to verification.

Submit application packet by email to: sarah.anunsen@gmail.com **OR** by mail to: Women's Environmental Council, Attn: Scholarships, P.O. Box 36, Solana Beach, CA 92075

Any questions contact: Sarah Anunsen, Scholarship Chair, via email at sarah.anunsen@gmail.com

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

1. Application Packet (5 pts)

The application packet will be reviewed and evaluated for thoroughness and professional presentation.

2. Grades and Course Work (10 pts)

An overall grade point average of 3.0 or better is required. The course work completed must demonstrate a curriculum in pursuit in the environmental field.

3. Letter of Reference (15 pts)

Provide a letter of reference from a teacher or employer, which substantiates your academic/professional drive, abilities and interests.

4. Personal Incentive, Volunteerism and Extracurricular Activities (20 pts)

The application includes a field to describe your extracurricular activities, community involvement, and/or work experiences that demonstrate your contribution to the environmental vocation.

5. Personal Statement (50 pts)

WEC considers the Personal Statement an important factor to evaluate applicants. Prepare a statement that describes yourself and your background – you can incorporate your application image in your statement. Emphasize your academic, professional, and environmental achievements and goals. Describe how you became interested in pursuing a career in the environmental field. Address how the scholarship will help you achieve your professional and personal goals. Do not exceed two pages - single sided.