



Scholarships for Women

Scholarships Available

The Northwest Minnesota Women's Fund, a component fund of the Northwest Minnesota Foundation, is pleased to offer scholarships to women who are pursuing post-secondary education at a public higher education institution. These scholarships are available thanks to donors who have provided the financial support and identified specific eligibility guidelines as described here.

NW Minnesota Women's Fund Scholarship

Eligibility Guidelines:

- The female student must reside in the 12-county¹ service region of the Women's Fund.
- The student must intend to pursue post secondary education at a public higher education institution in the region (Bemidji State University, Northwest Technical College in Bemidji, Northland Community and Technical College at Thief River Falls and East Grand Forks, the University of Minnesota Crookston, and the White Earth Tribal College) within six months of the award.
- Preference will be given to women who intend to remain in the region upon graduation.
- Scholarship funds are to be used for tuition and books or direct educational material expenses.
- Previous recipients may reapply for a second year scholarship. Scholarship renewals are not guaranteed.

University of Minnesota Crookston Women's Scholarship

Eligibility Guidelines:

- The student must reside in the 12-county service region of the Women's Fund.
- The student must intend to pursue post secondary education at University of Minnesota Crookston, within six months of the award.
- Preference will be given to women who intend to remain in the region upon graduation.
- As advised by the donor, preference will be given to an older than average woman student.
- Scholarship funds are to be used for tuition and books or direct educational material expenses.
- Previous recipients may reapply for a second year scholarship. Scholarship renewals are not guaranteed.

¹ Counties include Beltrami, Clearwater, Hubbard, Kittson, Lake of the Woods, Mahnommen, Marshall, Norman, Pennington, Polk, Red Lake, and Roseau.



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Application Process

The student applicant must provide the following information:

1. A completed **Women's Fund Scholarship Application Cover Sheet and Narrative** (application² available at this [site](#)).
2. A copy of the applicant's **letter of acceptance from the higher education institution**.
3. A **high school** (grades 9-12) **transcript**; current or returning college students should also include a college transcript.
4. A **letter of recommendation** (from a person other than a family member) in a sealed envelope.
NOTE: Letter must include the name of the recipient and the name, address and telephone number of person giving the recommendation.
5. If applying for a second year scholarship, applicants must provide evidence of successful completion of the first year and enrollment for the second year at the higher education institution.

Selection Process

Criteria

The scholarship selection will be made in accord with the terms of the scholarship and the general selection policies, procedures, and guidelines established by the Northwest Minnesota Women's Fund Advisory Committee.

A scholarship review committee will consider these areas when reviewing applications that meet the guidelines as they make recommendations for scholarships.

1. **Participation and/or Leadership.** *NOTE: Describing school, community and/or work roles.*
2. **Grade Point Average [GPA] and Test Scores [ACT/SAT].** *NOTE: A minimum "C", or its equivalent, high school grade point average is required; ACT/SAT test scores may not apply.*
3. **Reasons for Seeking this Scholarship.** *NOTE: Including such things as interest in continuing education, financial need, and/or other things the applicant would like to share.*

Award Notification

1. Scholarship recipients will be notified.
2. The recipient must send a written acknowledgement to the Women's Fund Advisory Committee within 30 days of the award of the scholarship.
3. The recipient must give written permission to publicize the award in the local media.
4. The award check will be issued to the educational institution for the student after completion of their first semester of study.
5. The award must be used in the year it is presented and may not be carried over to a following year. It is forfeited if not used when stipulated.
6. If a scholarship recipient withdraws from school or transfers to another educational institution, the Northwest Minnesota Foundation must be immediately notified.
7. If the first choice of the selection committee fails to attend college as scheduled, the award may be transferred to a second candidate.

² Questions regarding the scholarship or the application should be directed to: Brina Ellison, Northwest Minnesota Foundation ~ 201 3rd Street NW, Bemidji, MN 56601 ~ 218-759-2057 or 800-659-7859 ~ brinae@nwmf.org