



THE FLORIDA CHAPTER OF WOMEN IN PUBLIC FINANCE

2024 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

The Florida Chapter of Women in Public Finance (Florida WPF) was founded in 2016 as a chapter of the national organization, Women in Public Finance. The mission of the Florida chapter is to further the goals of the national organization which are to support and advance the careers of women in public finance by fostering relationships, networking, and providing educational and learning activities and forums.

Participants in our organization include state and local government bond issuers (including but not limited to staff of states, cities, counties, and school districts), not-for-profit issuers (including but not limited to staff of universities and hospitals), investment bankers, attorneys, financial advisors, rating agency analysts, bond insurers, and trust officers among others. Florida WPF has adapted the scholarship application to further recognize and support women in their educational goals who are interested in a public finance career.

What is Public Finance?

The field of Public finance, generally, focuses on how governments raise and spend money to provide services and address capital needs. Individuals who work in public finance help governments at all levels— national, state, and local—obtain the necessary financial resources (such as through the sale of municipal bonds) to fund certain capital projects, including but not limited to, schools, roads, parks, water and sewer infrastructure, and police/fire stations.

Scholarship Program Overview

Florida WPF will operate a scholarship program that provides scholarships annually. For 2024, our goal will be to award up to three annual scholarships based on a pre-determined budget amount. The scholarship program operates to support young women in their aspirations of achieving successful careers in the public finance industry.

The purpose of the Florida WPF Scholarship program is:

- Recognize women who are enrolled in undergraduate or graduate school and who have exhibited scholastic achievement and demonstrated leadership skills.
- Encourage young women to consider careers in public finance.
- Provide an opportunity for award recipients to meet women established in the public finance industry and learn about various career options and opportunities available to them.

Scholarship Program Qualifications

To qualify and apply for the 2024 scholarship, the applicant must, at a minimum meet the following criteria:

1. Identify as a women and plan to be enrolled in a Florida college or university in the fall of 2024 with junior (3rd year) status or higher (including graduate students);
2. Have an interest in pursuing a public finance-related career, which may include the fields of accounting, finance, banking, government, non-profit, or law;
3. Applicants must demonstrate good academic standing;
4. All applicants must exhibit leadership skills through extracurricular activities, work experience, volunteer positions, and/or community service.

Scholarship Application

All Applicants must complete and submit the following documents that comprise one (1) complete scholarship packet. It is preferred that documents be submitted as a single PDF:

- The 2024 Scholarship Application Form (see attached)
- The Statement of Interest Essay Submission (see attached)
- Copies of your most recent official academic transcripts that reflect no less than two years of completed course work; however, a longer academic history is welcomed. **Transcripts will only be accepted in PDF format.**

All completed scholarship packets are to be sent via e-mail in a single PDF file to scholarships@floridawpf.com and must be received no later than **11:59 P.M., Eastern Time, on May 31, 2024.**

Please note that incomplete applications or applications submitted in formats other than described above, including multiple documents or files, **may not** be reviewed. In the event an applicant is not able to submit an application in the format requested, please email scholarships@floridawpf.com for assistance.

Selection and Recognition

Florida WPF will select scholarship recipients based on the qualifications of the candidate as demonstrated by the completed application, official transcripts, and submitted essay. Interviews with finalists may occur as part of the review process.

Evaluators will score each complete scholarship packet for a maximum total of 100 points. Below is the score/weighting system:

Transcript	Essay	Extra-Curricular/Community Service/Work Experience	Major
30%	35%	25%	10%

The scholarship awards will be mailed to the recipient's institution of higher education no later than September 1 for the upcoming Academic year. Before the scholarship award can be sent, the recipient must provide (i) proof of college registration and (ii) appropriate contact information for the individual/department at their institution of higher education to which the scholarship check should be sent.

The scholarship recipients will be notified no later than July 15 and a list of all winners will be posted on the Florida WPF website (www.floridawpf.com).

Winners of the Women in Public Finance – Florida Chapter scholarships will be automatically advanced to the National Women in Public Finance (WPF) organization for consideration of an additional scholarship award from National WPF. In 2023, National WPF awarded 5 scholarships totaling \$15,000. The first place winner received \$5,000 and the remaining four winners received \$2,500 each.

Application Guidelines

To be considered, the application form must be completed in full. Typed responses are preferred, although neatly handwritten responses will be accepted. Please do not add your name to the application where it is not requested or to any of the essay pages.

An updated scholarship packet can be submitted prior to the stated deadline after initially sending a scholarship packet. However, applicants must also include and resubmit ALL documents that comprise their FULL scholarship packet, since only the last submission will be evaluated.

Any further questions?

Please contact Florida Women in Public Finance at scholarships@floridawpf.com.

2024 FLORIDA WPF SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Please complete the following in its entirety

First Name: _____	Last Name: _____	
Mailing Address: _____		
City: _____	State: _____	Zip Code: _____
Phone: _____	Email Address: _____	
School Currently Attending: _____		
Address: _____		
City: _____	State: _____	Zip Code: _____
College or graduate school you will attend in the fall/winter 2023-2024 semester (if transferring): _____		
Address: _____		
City: _____	State: _____	Zip Code: _____
Expected Graduation Date: _____	GPA on a 4.0 Scale: _____	

Certification Statement:

I certify the statements made in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and I understand the statements may be verified. I also understand providing false or incomplete information in this application and/or in any other supporting documents may cause me to be disqualified for scholarship consideration and/or receipt of scholarship funds.

Applicant's signature: _____

(Enter electronic signature above or print completed form and sign)

Date: _____

Extracurricular Activities may be replaced with a resume containing the same information

Describe your extracurricular activities or hobbies **in the order of interest to you**. Include specific events and/or major accomplishments. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Activity	Dates of Involvement	Approx. Time Spent	Position Held, Honor Earned, Letter Earned, or Other Accomplishments

Work Experience may be replaced with a resume containing the same information

Starting with your most recent position, please list paid jobs or volunteer internships you have held, including summer employment, if any. Include specific events and/or major accomplishments. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Employer	Job Title	Dates of Employment	Approx. Hours/Week	Job Description

Community Service may be replaced with a resume containing the same information

Starting with your most recent position, please list any community service you have participated in. Include specific events and/or major accomplishments. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

Name of Organization	Dates of Involvement	Description of Community Service Performed	Position Held, Honor Earned, or Other Accomplishment

What area(s) of public finance are you interested in?

Describe your leadership style (1 paragraph):

Public Finance Interest Essay

Public finance plays a critical role in shaping societies and funding essential services. Professionals in this industry work on issues that impact the finance of public entities and include bankers, lawyers, credit analysts and issuers.

For the Public Finance Interest Essay, **tell us about yourself and why you want to pursue public finance. Furthermore, elaborate on your vision of how you can positively contribute and influence the public finance sector.**

Essay Submission:

- Your essay should be submitted on a separate sheet or document.
- Do not include your name on the pages.
- Please limit your response to 500 words.