Women in Public Finance – Los Angeles Chapter is a non-profit, educational, and professional networking organization for women in the public finance industry. Governed by a board of directors representing the areas of finance, banking and law, the organization also sponsors a variety of philanthropic events in support of women.

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

Scholarship Reward Overview

Women in Public Finance - Los Angeles Chapter operates a scholarship program that provides, annually, up to two recipients with a Scholarship in an amount up to $2,500. The purpose of the Women in Public Finance – Los Angeles Chapter scholarship program is to:

1) Recognize college-bound, female high school seniors and/or freshman in college, who have exhibited scholastic achievement 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 industry and learn about various career options and opportunities available to them.

Application

To qualify and apply for the Award and Scholarship, the applicant must, at a minimum:

1) Be a female, high school senior or college freshman who intends to attend college in the fall of 2020 or began college in the fall of 2019
2) Have at least a 3.0 GPA, or equivalent;
3) Exhibit leadership skills through extracurricular activities, volunteer positions, and/or work experience;
4) Have an interest in pursuing a public finance related career in finance, government, nonprofits, or law; and
5) Complete and submit the 2020 Scholarship application form, the required essays and a photocopy of your most recent unofficial high school transcript VIA E-MAIL to wpflascholarship@gmail.com so that the application is RECEIVED no later than 9:00 PM (Pacific Time) on July 31, 2020.

Selection and Recognition

Women in Public Finance – Los Angeles Chapter will select up to two recipients based on the qualifications of the candidate as demonstrated by the completed application and submitted essays. Scholarship recipients will be notified on or about August 15, 2020. Each recipient will be awarded a Scholarship in an amount up to $2,500. 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 Scholarship and Recognition at the Women in Public Finance – Los Angeles Chapter Quarterly Meeting to be held in December. (Note: Attendance at the Quarterly Meeting is not required to receive the Scholarship). Women in Public Finance – Los Angeles Chapter may also elect to conduct phone interviews as part of the selection process.
2020 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.

Date: _________, 2020
Name: 
Age: 
High School: 
Overall GPA: 
Home Address: 
City: 
State: 
Zip: 
Home Phone: 
Email Address: 

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, academic awards, etc. Attach additional sheets if necessary and include your name and address on each sheet. Please note you may also attach your Common Application resume.

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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. Please note you may also attach your Common Application resume.

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Please describe your interest in pursuing a public finance related career in finance, government, nonprofits, or law and why this is a career path that interests you.
**Personal Essay.** Please write a personal essay on one of the options 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 an interest you have pursued outside of your high school or college 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 2:** Describe a goal you set for yourself and achieved. Explain how you achieved it.
- **Option 3:** Describe your favorite subject(s) in school and explain why the subject(s) is (are) your favorite and how that may benefit you in a career in public finance.

Attach your application, transcript and essays to your email in Adobe pdf format. Please include your full name on each individual attachment.

**Disclaimer:** Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their submissions are complete and are received by 9:00 PM (Pacific Time) on the deadline date. Women in Public Finance – Los Angeles Chapter will not consider applications that are submitted by means other than electronic submission to wpflascholarship@gmail.com, that are incomplete or that arrive late, regardless of the reason.