



WTS Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship

The WTS Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship was established in 1981 by WTS International to encourage women to pursue career paths in transportation. The scholarship is awarded to women pursuing graduate studies in transportation or a related field.

In memory of Helene M. Overly, the first Executive Secretary of WTS, the Board of Directors voted to name the annual WTS graduate scholarship the Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship to honor Helene for her dedicated service to WTS. Helene became a WTS member in 1981. She brought with her 15 years of experience in public service, tremendous organizational abilities, and a spirit of determination that helped WTS nearly double its membership in two years.

The WTS Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship is **\$10,000**. The minimum criteria for selection are:

- a. GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- b. Currently enrolled in a graduate degree program in a transportation-related field, such as transportation engineering, planning, finance, or logistics.
- c. Plans to pursue a career in a transportation-related field.

Applications must be submitted through local WTS chapters as typed documents. Scholarships are competitive and based on the applicant's specific transportation goals, academic record, and transportation-related activities or job skills. National awards will be presented during the WTS Annual Conference in May 2025, and attendance during the awards ceremony is strongly recommended. Conference registration for scholarship winners is complimentary. Local chapters will assist with arrangements upon selection and may have additional requirements, such as personal interviews or higher GPA. Please contact your local WTS chapter at the address listed on the application for specifics.

WTS Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship Application

I. Personal Information

Name YIFAN ZHU

Last First

E-mail Address yifanzhu206@gmail.com

Primary Phone none

Current Address (Street, City, State, Zip):

852 west main street

Charlottesville, VA 22903

Permanent Address (Street, City, State, Zip):

852 west main street

Charlottesville, VA 22903

II. Educational Background

Current College/University University of Virginia

City, State Charlottesville, VA

Expected Date of Graduation May 2026

Degree to be Received Master's of Engineering

Area of Concentration Civil Engineering - Infrastructure Track

Grade Point Average 3.925

(Minimum GPA of 3.0 required. Attach official copy of transcript to application.)

Previous Colleges/Universities Attended, Date Degree Earned and GPA:

Professional or School Affiliations (List any school, professional or community activities you have participated in. Include offices held and awards received. Attach additional sheets, if necessary, as typed word documents.)

American Society of Civil Engineers, UVA Chapter (member since 01/2024, elected secretary 11/2024), steel bridge competition team (member since 09/2024), engineering school tour guides (member since 02/2024), Society of Women Engineers, UVA Chapter (member since 08/2023)

III. Employment History

Work Experience (List full-time, part-time, co-op and summer employment.

Briefly describe duties and responsibilities. Attach additional sheets, if necessary, as typed word documents.)

Mead & Hunt, Inc. (starts 05/2025) – transportation intern

Newcomb Hall (UVA) (02/2024-present) – fulfill and distribute printing requests for student organizations, maintain communication between event staff and facilities management personnel, act as an informational resource for students and visitors

Asado Wing and Taco Company (11/2024-present) – collaborate with other employees to act dually as a server and host, provide accurate and quick customer service to optimize customer turnover, display thorough knowledge of restaurant offerings and operations to satisfy customer requests

North High Brewing Company (seasonal, 05/2023-08/2024) – utilize Toast POS systems to place customer orders, maintain a pleasant dining environment for guests by acting with speed and intention, multi-task to serve large parties or up to ten tables simultaneously

Olander Parks System (seasonal, 04/2022-09/2022) – engage with patrons to manage boat rentals and swim beach access, handle cash register operations accurately, assist managers and maintenance staff with projects as needed

IV. Recommendation: Two letters of recommendation by a professor or job supervisor must accompany your application.

V. Personal Statement: A statement about your career goals after graduation and why you think that you should receive the scholarship award. Statement should not exceed 500 words. Please attach to application form as a typed word document.

VI. Proof of Enrollment: Attach a copy of your tuition receipt or current registration card.

VII. Demographic Information: WTS is committed to recognizing the achievements of students pursuing transportation related degrees. To track our progress in reaching diverse applicants, we ask that you complete this confidential demographic information. **This is not required for scholarship awards and will not be used in the selection process.**

1. Race/Ethnicity (select all that apply)

- Asian
- Black
- East Indian
- Hispanic/Latino

- Indigenous
- Middle Eastern
- Multiracial
- Pacific Islander
- White
- Other (Please write in) _____
- Choose Not to Disclose

2. Age

- 15-18
- 19-23**
- 24-30
- 31-50
- 50 +

3. Anticipated or Current Mode of Transportation Career Focus (select all that apply)

- Aviation
- Freight
- Highway/Auto**
- Maritime/Port
- Multi-Modal**
- Non-Motorized
- Passenger
- Transit**
- Other (Please write in)

4. How did you hear about this scholarship?

- Friend
- School/Teacher**
- Social Media:
 - Facebook
 - Instagram
 - LinkedIn
 - Snapchat
 - TikTok
 - Twitter
 - YouTube
 - Other (Please write in) _____
- WTS Chapter
- WTS International Website
- Other (Please write in) _____

Applicant Signature Grace E Perry Date _____

Please email completed applications to Anna.Settlemyer@timmons.com no later than January 1, 2025 to be considered. Please make the subject line WTS Scholarship

Application-(last name).