

**ASSOCIATION FOR WOMEN IN SCIENCE
SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER
2026 Scholarship Policy & Guidelines**

The Association for Women in Science – San Francisco Chapter (AWIS-SF) established the 2026 Scholarship Program to support women pursuing STEM education and training at San Francisco-based institutions. Applicants are encouraged to review the following guidelines carefully before submitting the application.

1. Eligibility

Applicants must meet all eligibility requirements at the time of application:

- a) Identify as female and be pursuing education or training in a STEM field.
- b) Be enrolled in an eligible academic or training program, including **high school, undergraduate, graduate/master's, doctoral/PhD, or postdoctoral training.**
- c) Attend or be affiliated with a school, college, university, research institution, or educational institution **physically based within the City and County of San Francisco.**
- d) Institutions located elsewhere in the broader San Francisco Bay Area are not eligible.
- e) AWIS membership is **not required** to apply.

2. Scholarship Awards

AWIS-SF will award **two scholarships of \$500 each** during the 2026 scholarship cycle.

Scholarships are awarded to the individuals selected through the AWIS-SF scholarship review process. Selection as a recipient does not guarantee eligibility for future AWIS-SF scholarships, awards, programs, or funding.

3. Application Period & Deadline

Applications will be accepted from **September 10 through October 10, 2026.**

All required application information and supporting materials must be submitted by the stated deadline. Late submissions may not be considered.

4. Required Application Materials

Applicants must complete the official AWIS-SF Scholarship application and provide all required information and materials, which may include:

- a) Applicant and academic information

- b) Most recent academic transcript (official or unofficial accepted)
- c) Current resume or CV
- d) Academic/STEM activities, leadership, service, community involvement, awards, or other relevant accomplishments
- e) Personal statement addressing the required scholarship prompts
- f) Information relevant to financial need
- g) Required acknowledgments and consents

Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their application is complete before submission.

5. Accuracy of Information

All information provided in the application must be **complete, accurate, and truthful to the best of the applicant's knowledge.**

AWIS-SF reserves the right to request clarification or additional information when reasonably necessary to evaluate eligibility or application materials. Material misrepresentation or falsification of information may result in disqualification or withdrawal of a scholarship award.

6. Review & Selection

Applications will be reviewed based on the information and materials submitted through the official application.

Scholarship consideration may include factors such as:

- a) Academic achievement and merit
- b) Leadership, service, commitment, and initiative
- c) STEM engagement and accomplishments
- d) Educational and career goals
- e) Community involvement
- f) Financial need
- g) Potential impact of the scholarship on the applicant's educational journey

Meeting the eligibility requirements **does not guarantee selection.** Scholarship decisions will be made through the AWIS-SF review and selection process.

7. References & Verification

AWIS-SF reserves the right to contact the references provided in an applicant's application as part of the scholarship review and verification process.

References will only be contacted for applicants who advance to the finalist stage. Applicants are responsible for providing accurate and current reference information, including a valid and verified email address.

Applicants are encouraged to notify their listed references in advance that they have applied for the AWIS-SF Scholarship and that they may be contacted by AWIS-SF if the applicant is selected as a finalist.

If AWIS-SF is unable to verify a reference or obtain a response, AWIS-SF may contact the applicant for clarification or alternative verification information. Inability to verify a reference or obtain a response may be considered as part of the final review process.

8. Incomplete or Late Applications

Applicants should submit all required materials before the application deadline.

Applications that are incomplete, missing required documentation, or submitted after the deadline **will be excluded from consideration**. Applicants should carefully review their responses and uploaded documents before submitting the application.

9. Notification & Recipient Recognition

Selected scholarship recipients will be contacted using the information provided in their application following completion of the review and selection process.

AWIS-SF intends to recognize scholarship recipients in connection with the **annual AWIS-NCC Awards Ceremony**, when feasible. The timing and format of recipient announcements and recognition are **subject to change based on the application review timeline, program scheduling, and other operational considerations**.

If recipient selection is completed in time for the Awards Ceremony, selected recipients may be invited through AWIS-SF to attend and receive their scholarship certificate.

All final notification, recognition, and event details will be communicated directly to selected recipients. **AWIS-SF reserves the right to modify the timing or format of recipient announcements and recognition as necessary.**

10. Recipient Publicity & Recognition

As part of scholarship recognition, selected recipients **will be asked to provide a headshot and short biography for potential publication through AWIS-SF communication channels**, including the AWIS-SF website and social media. Any use of a recipient's name, photograph, biography, or likeness will be handled in accordance with the consent provided through the scholarship application.

Any required publicity or media consent should also be presented clearly within the scholarship application so applicants understand how their information or likeness may be used.

11. Privacy & Use of Application Information

Information and documents submitted through the scholarship application will be used for purposes related to **scholarship administration, eligibility verification, application review, recipient selection, and program management.**

Application materials should be shared only with individuals involved in administering or reviewing the scholarship, except where the applicant separately authorizes information to be used for recipient recognition or publicity.

12. Program Administration

AWIS-SF reserves the right to interpret and administer these guidelines and, when reasonably necessary, to modify the scholarship timeline, application process, or program details.

Any material changes affecting applicants will be communicated through the AWIS-SF scholarship webpage or directly to affected applicants, as appropriate.

Questions regarding eligibility or the application process may be directed to info@awis-sf.org.

Effective: September 10, 2026
AWIS-SF 2026 Scholarship Cycle