



WTS Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship

WTS fosters the development of women in the transportation field by encouraging bright new professionals to undertake careers in the area of transportation. One way it does this is by awarding the WTS Sharon D. Banks Memorial Scholarship to women pursuing undergraduate studies in transportation or a related field.

The scholarship honors Sharon D. Banks, chief executive officer of AC Transit in Alameda-Contra Costa County, California. As its CEO throughout most of the 1990's, Banks led the agency in a pioneering effort to introduce cultural and organizational changes aimed at motivating the public-transit work force. She was a member of the WTS Advisory Board and received the WTS San Francisco Chapter Woman of the Year and Employer of the Year awards.

The WTS Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship is \$2,000. The winner will be submitted for consideration for the WTS International scholarship of an additional \$5,000. The minimum criteria for selection are:

- a. GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- b. Currently enrolled in an undergraduate 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. Minority candidates are encouraged to apply.

Please return the completed application to:

Barbara Ritter, Phoenix Metropolitan Chapter Scholarship Director
c/o Maricopa County Department of Transportation
2901 W. Durango St.
Phoenix, Az 85019

Or electronically to: WTSMetroPhoenix@gmail.com

Applications must be returned to your local chapter no later than November 29, 2019.

Checks will be issued at the WTS Metropolitan Phoenix Annual Awards Ceremony.

For any questions, please contact Barbara Ritter at 602.248.7962 or at Barbara.Ritter@maricopa.gov.

How to Create a Successful Scholarship Application

When applying for a WTS Scholarship, please keep the following in mind to be sure your application gets the utmost consideration:

1. Review the requirements of the scholarship carefully and be sure that you meet all criteria.
 - a. Some scholarships are open only to graduate students while other scholarships are for undergraduate students.
 - b. Some scholarships have a minimum GPA requirement and will be looking at your transcripts to show your commitment to transportation and career trajectory.
 - c. Some scholarships ask you to highlight your career goals, leadership experience and commitment to transportation.
 - d. Please include a paragraph on how you will support the goals of WTS.
2. Be sure to submit supporting documentation with your application as required by the scholarship:
 - a. GPA/Transcripts
 - b. Recommendation Letters
 - c. Personal Statement
 - d. Proof of Enrollment
3. Be sure your personal statement and your goals support your commitment to transportation and a career in a transportation-related industry. Highlight organizations you belong to and how your participation has helped you. Include internships and volunteer work in your resume.
4. Proof read! Have someone review your submitted application and personal statement to catch errors and misspelled words (especially the name of the scholarship). Writing skills and career goals as reflected in the personal statement are given greater weight for undergraduate students than curriculum given that there has been less opportunity to participate in courses directly related to transportation.

Scholarship Checklist

- Verify scholarship requirements are met
- Transcripts are attached
- Correct number of recommendation letters attached
- Personal Statement attached
- Proof of Enrollment attached
- Application and personal statement have been thoroughly reviewed for grammar, spelling and punctuation

WTS Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship Application

I. Personal Information

Name _____
Last First Middle

E-mail address _____

Primary Phone (____) _____

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

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

II. Educational Background

Current College/University _____ City, State _____

Expected Date of Graduation _____ Degree to be Received _____

Area of Concentration _____

Grade Point Average _____

(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.)

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.)

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

V. Personal Statement: A statement about your career goals and/or continuing education after graduation and why you think that you should receive the scholarship award. **Applicants must address the issue of leadership, its importance in a transportation career, and the applicant’s leadership achievements.** Please include a paragraph on your support of the goals of WTS now and in the future. 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.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____