



Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) Philadelphia Chapter Sylvia Alston Graduate Scholarship Application Carmen E. Turner Graduate Scholarship Application

WTS Philadelphia 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 Sylvia Alston Graduate Scholarship and the Carmen E. Turner Graduate Scholarship to women currently pursuing graduate degrees in a transportation-related field.**

Sylvia Alston dedicated her life to transportation and supporting women in transportation. Sylvia spent over 20 years at Amtrak. She wore many hats while at Amtrak, but most remember her as the Officer of Supplier Diversity. She had an extraordinary commitment to WTS and recruited many WTS members that are still active in the Chapter. She received the WTS Philadelphia Member of the Year award in 1996 and was President of the Chapter from 1998 to 2000. She was instrumental in developing the Gateway Membership and the Milestone Award. Her quiet and determined demeanor made her an excellent leader of the Chapter and an inspiration to all who served with her. The Chapter honors her commitment to WTS by naming a graduate scholarship in her name.

Carmen E. Turner was the General Manager of the Washington (DC) Metropolitan Area Transportation Authority (WMATA). The first African American woman to head a major transit system, Ms. Turner held that post from 1983 through December of 1990. Her exceptional abilities were recognized in 1989 when the American Public Transit Association presented her with its Jesse-Haugh Award for Outstanding Transit Managers. Since Ms. Turner's untimely death in 1992, the Philadelphia Chapter of WTS has been proud to recognize an exceptional human being and attempt to continue her achievements and leadership by making our annual contribution to the future in her name.

The minimum criteria for selection are as follows:

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

The scholarships are competitive and based on the applicant's specific transportation involvement, goals, job skills and academic record. WTS Philadelphia is committed to the inclusion of differences and similarities related to ethnicity, age, and gender identity. Local recipients will be announced in November 2023. The final decision for all scholarship awards is solely within the discretion of the WTS Philadelphia Scholarship Committee.

Local Philadelphia Chapter winners for each scholarship may advance for the opportunity to win the WTS International Foundation's national scholarship award. Winners of the WTS Philadelphia Chapter Sylvia Alston and Carmen E. Turner Graduate Scholarships may be entered at the International Level for one of the graduate level scholarships: the WTS International Helene M. Overly Graduate Scholarship and the WTS Leadership Legacy Scholarship.

All materials must be typed and submitted in electronic format (submission of a single .pdf is preferred). Except for the letter of recommendation, all materials must arrive in a single email with the subject line "WTS GR Scholarship - <insert your last name>". All materials must be received by **11:59pm EST on Friday, November 3, 2023**. All submission materials and questions should be directed to:

Theresa Loux
WTS Philadelphia Scholarship Chair
scholarships@wtsphiladelphia.org

WTS will not review incomplete or illegible applications. You will receive an email confirmation when all parts of your application have been received. The WTS Philadelphia Chapter is very excited to receive your applications and wishes all applicants the best of luck!

For additional information, please refer to our website at:

<https://www.wtsinternational.org/chapters/philadelphia/student-outreach/scholarships>



**Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) Philadelphia Chapter
Sylvia Alston Graduate Scholarship Application
Carmen E. Turner Graduate Scholarship Application**

I. Personal Information

Legal Name _____

Preferred Name (First, Last) _____

Phonetic Spelling of Your Preferred Name (First, Last)

Pronouns _____

School E-mail Address _____

Permanent 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) _____

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.)

III. Employment History

Work Experience (List full-time, part-time, co-op, and summer employment. Briefly describe duties and responsibilities. Resumes are preferred and will be included in the WTS Philadelphia Student Outreach Resume Book.)

IV. Recommendation(s): Two (2) letters of recommendation by a professor or job supervisor are required. The letters of recommendation may accompany the rest of the application or may be sent directly from the recommender separately from the rest of the application materials. Please title email subject line: WTS Recommendation - <applicant's last name>. Letters of recommendation must be signed and received via email as an electronic document (.pdf preferred) by the application deadline.

V. Personal Statement: Include 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.

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

VII. Transcript: Include an official copy of transcript of your most recent year of study to application that includes your current semester course load. First year graduate students may submit their undergraduate transcript. Digital transcripts must bear a digital verification and/or be signed and dated by a counselor, professor, or program coordinator. Applicants must also include a current semester course load, if not already listed in transcripts.

VIII. Applicant's Biography: Include a one (1) paragraph statement describing the applicant's background, schooling, focus of degree, academic accomplishments, and interest in the transportation industry. (Note, if selected for a scholarship, this paragraph will be utilized in the event program.)

IX. WTS Philadelphia Involvement: Are you currently a member of the WTS Philadelphia Student Chapter? Yes No

X. WTS Philadelphia Family: Are you related to a current WTS Philadelphia Chapter member? Yes No If yes, member name and relation: _____

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____

Demographic Information (OPTIONAL): 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) _____