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 WTS graduate scholarship, the Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship, to honor her dedicated service to WTS. Helene became a WTS member in 1981, bringing with her 15 years of experience in public service, tremendous organizational abilities, and a determined spirit. Her contributions helped WTS nearly double its membership in two years.

The Northeast Ohio Chapter of WTS is accepting applications for the $2,000 Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship. The application of the selected winner will be forwarded for consideration of a $10,000 national-level scholarship. The minimum criteria for selection are:

a. Must be female
b. GPA of 3.0 or higher.
c. Must be a resident of Ohio OR be currently enrolled in an Ohio college or university
d. Currently enrolled in a graduate degree program in a transportation-related field, such as civil/structural/transportation engineering, construction management, aviation, planning, finance, public policy, or logistics.
e. Plans to pursue a career in a transportation-related field.

Scholarships are competitive and awarded based on the applicant's specific transportation goals, academic record, and transportation-related activities or job skills. Priority will be given to applicants who have not been previously selected for a WTS Northeast Ohio scholarship. Students are welcome and encouraged to apply for scholarships from other Ohio chapters of WTS (Columbus and Southwest Ohio). WTS Chapters may coordinate their selections in order to distribute the awards.

Presentation of the local scholarship will take place at a local chapter event in the Spring of 2027; the winner's attendance is requested. We also request your participation in the scholarship review committee in the Fall of 2027. National awards will be presented during the WTS Annual Conference on May 4-6th, 2027, in Washington D.C. and attendance of the national winner is strongly recommended.

Applications and all required attachments can be submitted via mail or email to:

Jacob Wroten – Scholarship Chair
c/o HDR Engineering
600 Superior Ave East, Suite 1700
Cleveland, Ohio 44114
E-mail: jacob.wroten@hdrinc.com

Applications and all required attachments must be received no later than December 4, 2026.

Any questions on the application process should be e-mailed to *jacob.wroten@hdrinc.com*.

WTS Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship Application

I. Personal Information

Name_____
Last First Middle
School E-mail address_____
Permanent E-mail address_____
Primary Phone (___) _____
Current Address (Street, City, State, Zip):
_____
_____
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Permanent Address (Street, City, State, Zip):
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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 a copy of transcript to application.)

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

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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)

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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 are uniquely deserving of this scholarship award. Statement should not exceed 500 words.

VI. Proof of Enrollment: Attach a copy of your tuition receipt or current registration card. Please also include a copy of your transcript or have them sent directly from your college or university. Unofficial transcripts will be initially accepted but the selected recipient will be required to submit an official transcript.

VII. Email Submission: For an electronic submission, please submit a single document containing the requested information in PDF file format.

Applicant Signature_____Date_____

Optional 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) _____