

2024 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The Big Bend Branch of the American Public Works Association Scholarship Program is designed to assist those individuals who are pursuing a career in the public works field. Encompassing disciplines from engineering, public administration, or continuing education for career enhancement of public agency employees is the philosophy of the Association. This assistance in education promotes and ensures a continuation of the high level of skill, talent, and professionalism that is the pride of every member.

For more than one hundred years, the American Public Works Association (APWA) and its Chapters traditionally strive for the advancement and continued development of all the various components that make up the public works family. It is incumbent upon the membership of the Big Bend Branch to lend a helping hand to those who have chosen the public works field as their career. The Scholarship Program is an integral part of achieving this goal.

In addition to traditional college or university scholarships, the APWA Big Bend Branch MAY award scholarships to individuals that are enrolled or have recently attended the Florida Public Works Institute or a Public Works Academy programs. The Florida Public Works Institute program and Public Works Academies provide leadership, management and operational training for public works employees who are looking to enhance their skills and advance their careers by developing an emphasis in real-world situations.

SCHOLARSHIP CATEGORIES

The Big Bend Branch Scholarship Program includes five (5) categories for which scholarships MAY be awarded:

1. **CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM:** Awarded to a full or part-time employee of a public works agency who is currently registered for or recently attended formal training or a conference to enhance their professional development for public works employment or advancement opportunities. Examples of training include (but not limited to): heavy equipment certification; APWA Emerging Leaders Academy; Florida Water and Pollution Control Operators Association courses; CDL; and entry level college courses that pertain to the Public Works field. A scholarship for attendance at a Public Works related conference shall only be awarded for first time attendees of that conference.
2. **PUBLIC WORKS ACADEMY PROGRAM:** Awarded to an individual who is currently enrolled or has recently attended a Public Works Academy program to enhance their personal and professional development for public works employment opportunities or advancement.
3. **PUBLIC WORKS INSTITUTE PROGRAM:** Awarded to an individual who is currently enrolled or has recently attended the Florida Public Works Institute program to enhance their personal and professional development for public works employment opportunities or advancement.
4. **UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM:** Awarded to a college student who is currently enrolled at an accredited college or university, seeking a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering or other public works related field.
5. **GRADUATE PROGRAM:** Awarded to a person who is currently enrolled and pursuing an advanced degree in Public Works Engineering, Management, Public Administration, or other public works related field at an accredited college or university.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

- The scholarship award amount and how many scholarships are determined each year by the Big Bend Branch Executive Committee and may be up to \$500.00.
- Funds shall be used for fees including, but not limited to, tuition and books at an accredited private college, state university or college, technical centers and agencies, Florida Public Works Institute, or Florida Public Works Academy; or for documented registration and travel expenses related to first time attendance at the APWA Florida Chapter Expo, APWA National PWX, or other public works related conference at the discretion of the committee.



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- Upon scholarship award, recipients shall provide the Scholarship Committee details for the anticipated use of funds. Awarded funds will be issued in the form of a check made out directly to the recipients designated school, business, or organization. Awarded funds check cannot be made out directly to recipient.

APPLICATION PROCEDURE

The Big Bend Branch Scholarship Committee Chairperson will inform each applicant, as to the status of their application and the date the scholarship will be awarded. Scholarships shall be presented in categories as determined by the executive committee. The application procedure is as follows:

1. Obtain an application in any of the following ways:
 - a. Contact a member of the American Public Works Association Big Bend Branch and request an application.
 - b. Contact the appropriate guidance counselor at the college or university the applicant attends and request a Florida Chapter APWA Scholarship Application.
 - c. Visit the APWA Big Bend Branch website at apwabigbend.net and download a copy.
2. Complete the application. Include all requested information. Incomplete applications, applications that do not include the requested documents and information, and applications not received by the submittal deadline **will not** be considered for award.
3. All applicants **must provide** a personal statement that addresses the following questions. (Personal statements should not exceed two pages in fonts no smaller than 10pt, double space).
 - a. Why are you interested in the field of Public Works?
 - b. In what area of Public Works do you intend to pursue a career?
 - c. What does the APWA tagline "First to Respond, Last to Leave" mean to you?
 - d. How do you currently participate in your community and/or the Public Works professional community?
 - e. Where do you see yourself in five years?
4. Return the application via email with the, application and scanned documentation attached, to the Big Bend Branch Scholarship Committee Chairperson:

Joseph Banta, Scholarship Chair
joseph.banta@atkinsrealis.com

Or scholarships may be submitted in hard copy format to:

Joseph Banta, Scholarship Chair
AtkinsRéalis
3522 Thomasville Road, 5th Floor
Tallahassee, FL 32309

- A. **Deadline for Submittal is May 3, 2024.** Applicants are responsible for submitting all materials on time. Incomplete or late applications will not be evaluated.
- B. Scholarships are awarded for one year only. Applicants must apply for award each year. The actual number of scholarships awarded each year is contingent upon available Branch funds.
- C. The total number of scholarships and amount awarded in each category may vary each year.
- D. The Big Bend Branch application mimics the Florida Chapter application. Applicants may submit applications for both scholarships.



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2024 Scholarship Application Form

Please type or print all information on the application form. If application requirements (page 2, PROCEDURE) are not met, the application will be deemed incomplete and will not be considered eligible for award. **Deadline for submittal is May 3, 2024.**

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM You must check the appropriate scholarship program (**only one please**) for which you are applying

- CAREER DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM:** Awarded to a full or part-time employee of a public works agency who is currently registered for or recently attended formal training or a conference to enhance their professional development for public works employment or advancement opportunities. Examples of training include (but not limited to): heavy equipment certification; APWA Emerging Leaders Academy; Florida Water and Pollution Control Operators Association courses; CDL; and entry level college courses that pertain to the Public Works field. A scholarship for attendance at a Public Works related conference shall only be awarded for first time attendees of that conference.
- PUBLIC WORKS ACADEMY PROGRAM:** Awarded to an individual who is currently enrolled or has recently attended a Public Works Academy program to enhance their personal and professional development for public works employment opportunities or advancement. **The applicant must provide proof of program completion or registration with this application.**
- PUBLIC WORKS INSTITUTE PROGRAM:** Awarded to an individual who is currently enrolled or has recently attended the Florida Public Works Institute program to enhance their personal and professional development for public works employment opportunities or advancement. **The applicant must provide proof of program completion or registration with this application.**
- UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM:** Awarded to a college student who is currently enrolled at an accredited college or university, seeking a Bachelor of Science (BS) in Civil Engineering or any public works related field. **The applicant must provide a transcript from an accredited college/university with this application. Digital transcript format is acceptable, but official transcript may be requested at Committee's discretion.**
- GRADUATE PROGRAM:** Awarded to a person who is currently enrolled and pursuing an advanced degree in Public Works Engineering, Management, Public Administration, or any public works related field at an accredited college or university. **The applicant must provide a transcript from an accredited college/university with this application. Digital transcript format is acceptable, but official transcript may be requested at Committee's discretion.**

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name: _____ Email Address: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Telephone: _____ Date of Birth: _____
 Are you a member of APWA: Yes _____ No _____ If yes, what Branch: _____ Membership #: _____
 US Citizen / Resident Alien*: Yes _____ No _____ (*This is for taxing purposes only and will not affect application review.)

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Current Employer: _____ Position Title: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____
 Supervisor's Name: _____ Office Telephone: _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Current College / University: _____ GPA: _____
 Major: _____ Anticipated Graduation Date: _____
 Academic Advisor: _____ Telephone: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____