

For Candidates Pursuing a Degree in Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering, or Public Works Related Field

The American Public Works Association (APWA) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit educational and membership organization whose exempt purpose shall be the advancement of the theory and practice of the design, construction, maintenance, administration, and operation of public works facilities and services; the dissemination of information and experience upon, and the promotion of improved practices in public works administration; the encouragement of the adherence by public works officials to a high professional standard; the professional and social improvements of its members; and the promotion of cooperation among all public, quasi-public, and private persons, firms, corporations, bodies, utilities, and agencies which have interests in the field of public works.

In line with our exempt purpose, the APWA has established a Mission *to promote professional excellence, understanding of and competency and credibility in public works*. This Mission is further served by delivering technical workshops, seminars, educational conferences, trade shows and credentialing combined with the offering of educational scholarships to further support students and Public Works personnel working towards an undergraduate or graduate degree in a public works-related field or pursuing certifications or licensing.

To fulfill our Mission, the Chicago Metro Chapter – Fox Valley Branch (Branch) of the American Public Works Association is sponsoring a scholarship program for candidates pursuing continuing education or a degree in Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering, or a Public Works related field.

CANDIDATE ELIGIBILITY AND INFORMATION

ELIGIBILITY:

Applicants who plan to attend an accredited university in the Fall of 2026, at the undergraduate or graduate level, whose major course of study encompasses the field of Civil or Environmental Engineering, Public Works Administration or other programs within the public works field are eligible. Applicants may be part time or full time at community colleges or universities; however, candidates must be seeking a degree or certification.

Candidates must reside or be employed within the geographic boundaries of the Fox Valley Branch of the APWA Chicago Metro Chapter. This area includes the entire counties of McHenry, DeKalb, Kane, and Kendall, plus the Cities of West Chicago, Warrenville, Aurora, and Naperville - all in Illinois. No other areas will be considered, as other Branches of the APWA Chicago Metro Chapter have their own scholarship programs.

Active members of the Fox Valley Branch Scholarship Committee of the APWA Chicago Metro Chapter and their family members are not eligible. Applicants may reapply yearly for scholarship awards, provided a new application is submitted each time.

2026 FOX VALLEY BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE:

We will only consider providing scholarships toward tuition as well as books, fees, supplies and equipment, if required of all students within the course. Candidates who receive monies from other sources are eligible to apply for this award. Financial need is only one of the many criteria to be reviewed in determining the best qualified recipients. For public works personnel seeking certification or licensure, the test fee shall be an eligible expense.

AWARD AMOUNT:

The 2026 award ranges from \$500 to \$2,500. The Branch reserves the right to not issue a scholarship if submitted applications are deemed to indicate a scholarship issuance is unwarranted.

DEADLINE AND SCHEDULE:

All application materials must be submitted via email on or before March 20, 2026, and submitted to the current Scholarship Committee Co-Chairpersons. Interviews of the most qualified candidates will be conducted by the Fox Valley Branch Scholarship Committee starting on May 11, 2026. Notification of interviews will be by April 17, 2026, and an award presentation will be made at the Branch Luncheon Meeting June 9, 2026.

DISBURSMENT:

Award monies will be disbursed prior to the start of the 2026 academic Fall session following the award notification. A letter will be sent to the educational program, college or university informing them of the award. The award check will be made payable to the student's applicable institution.

The Fox Valley Branch of APWA is interested in assisting students in obtaining summer internships. Visit our website at <http://chicago.apwa.org> for more information.

2026 FOX VALLEY BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICATION AND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION TO BE SUBMITTED

All applications and supplemental information are to be submitted via email in ONE scanned or .pdf file, in the order listed below, with the applicant's name for the file name (i.e., 2026 APWA Scholarship Application Doe John). Please ensure that each required part of the application is included in your submittal in the correct orientation. Incomplete or illegible applications may be deemed ineligible.

- Complete the application form. An electronic (fillable form) of the application can be accessed at Chicago.APWA.org/education/stipends-and-scholarships/.
 - High School Candidates complete all parts except for Part D.
 - Undergraduate/Graduate Candidates complete all parts except Parts C and D.
 - Certification/Licensure Candidates complete all parts except Parts B and C.
- All candidates must list a person of reference (Part F) who may be an instructor, academic counselor, public works professional or person other than family member who is knowledgeable of the applicant's interest in the public works field. A brief letter of recommendation is requested but is not mandatory.
- Essay Section (Part H) please answer the questions accurately and honestly.
- If seeking an undergraduate or graduate degree, attach an official copy of a transcript of your grades for the previous two semesters or terms. A sealed copy is not required. Web transcripts are acceptable.
- Attach a list of the courses you are presently taking, along with a brief description of each.
- If you are currently a high school student, please attach a copy of your letter of acceptance to the college you plan to attend, if available.

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION AND SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION MUST BE
EMAILED NO LATER THAN MARCH 20, 2026, AND SENT TO BOTH:**

Questions may be addressed to the Committee Co-Chairs:

Troy Strange
Scholarship Committee Co-Chair
Hampton, Lenzini, and Renwick, Inc.
Phone: (847) 697-6700
tstrange@hlreng.com

AND

Chris Ott
Scholarship Committee Co-Chair
Engineering Enterprises, Inc.
Phone: (630) 466-6700
Cott@eciweb.com

2026 FOX VALLEY BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

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 a Degree in Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering or Public Works Related Field

An electronic (fillable form) of this application can be downloaded from
Chicago.APWA.org/education/stipends-and-scholarships/

PART A: CANDIDATE INFORMATION	
NAME	
HOME STREET ADDRESS	MAILING STREET ADDRESS (if different)
CITY, STATE	CITY, STATE
ZIP CODE	ZIP CODE
HOME PHONE	ALT. PHONE
EMAIL	
PLEASE CHECK as applicable for educational year 2026/2027:	
Undergraduate Program	Graduate Program
Certification / License	Full Time
	Part Time
PART B: HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION (ONLY COMPLETE IF CURRENTLY A SENIOR IN HIGH SCHOOL)	
HIGH SCHOOL NAME	
HIGH SCHOOL ADDRESS	
TENTATIVE GRADUATION DATE	
HIGH SCHOOL COUNSELOR CONTACT	
Name	
Phone	
PART C: SCHOOL INFORMATION FOR FALL 2026 (ANTICIPATED FOR HS SENIORS)	
UNIVERSITY NAME	
COLLEGE/PROGRAM NAME	
DEGREE ANTICIPATED (Major & Minor, if applicable)	
TENTATIVE GRADUATION DATE	
COLLEGE CONTACT (Dean/Counselor/Professor) (if applicable)	
Name	
Phone	

2026 FOX VALLEY BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

PART D: CERTIFICATION / LICENSE PROGRAM INFORMATION			
PROGRAM NAME			
CERTIFICATION / LICENSURE ANTICIPATED			
TENTATIVE COMPLETION DATE			
ARE YOU IN AN EMPLOYER SPONSORED TUITION PROGRAM?			
If yes, provide details.			
PART E: EMPLOYER INFORMATION (CURRENT OR PREVIOUS, PLEASE PROVIDE SUMMER INTERNSHIPS IF ANY)			
EMPLOYER			
CONTACT NAME			
ADDRESS			
CITY, STATE, ZIP			
PHONE			
PLEASE CHECK as applicable:	Full Time	Part Time	Summer Intern
POSITION/WORK DESCRIPTION			
PART F: REFERENCE INFORMATION			
REFERENCE NAME			
REFERENCE EMPLOYER			
WORK ADDRESS			
CITY, STATE, ZIP			
WORK PHONE			
APWA CHAPTER & BRANCH AFFILIATION (if any)			

2026 FOX VALLEY BRANCH SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

PART G: FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE & NEED

Please provide details on any financial programs from which you did or will receive monies. Please be specific. We will only consider providing scholarships toward tuition as well as books, fees, supplies and equipment if required of all class participants in the course and testing fees for certifications/licensure.

Note: Total Anticipated value between need and assistance should match.

ANTICIPATED EXPENSES	FALL 2026	SPRING 2027
Tuition & Fees		
Books, Supplies, & Equipment		
Room & Board		
TOTAL ANTICIPATED NEED		
ANTICIPATED ASSISTANCE	FALL 2026	SPRING 2027
Personal Loans		
Grants		
Other Scholarships		
Parent / Self Contribution		
TOTAL ANTICIPATED ASSISTANCE		

PART H: ESSAY (PLEASE RESPOND TO THE FIVE ESSAY QUESTIONS. A PARAGRAPH OR TWO IS SUFFICIENT)

A – What do you want to get out of your career?

B – If you were not in the Engineering and Public Works field, what would you be doing, and why?

C – Tell us about a personal achievement that makes you proud?

I certify that all the information submitted in this application to be true and correct. I further certify that neither I nor any member of my family is an officer, director, or a member of the Fox Valley Branch Scholarship Committee of the APWA Chicago Metro Chapter.

Signed _____ Date _____
(Applicant)