STUDENT APPLICATION

South Central Branch
James Bader Scholarship/Stipend Fund

INTRODUCTION

The South Central Branch of the Texas Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) established the James Bader Scholarship/Stipend Fund in 2000. It honors Mr. James Bader, P.E. from the Department of Public Works, City of San Antonio, Texas.

James Bader was a proud and kind man. His dedication and sincerity toward his career in public works and toward others was like no other. James began his career with a rather bouncy and rough start. His employment with various industries such as the lime, pre-cast concrete and commercial painting industries invariably ended with layoffs and the beginning of another job search. Through this varied experience, James was able to bring to the table a variety of talents and perspectives. He was not just a "drainage" expert. He was not just an "environmental", "structural", "paving", or "concrete" expert. He was well versed in all aspects of engineering and construction as they relate to public works.

In the midst of his bouncy and rough career, James recognized the importance of a formal technical education. He enrolled in night school to begin the long journey toward obtaining his Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering. With a wife and children to support, James worked a full-time job during the day and attended classes in the evening and on weekends. After many years of hard work, James obtained his Civil Engineering degree. The immense pride that James held for his Civil Engineering degree was surpassed only by his pride upon receiving his Professional Engineering license four years later.

James received his license as a Professional Engineer while employed with the City of San Antonio. During his service with the City, he was an integral and critical part in numerous projects. From drainage projects to reconstruction projects, to new construction projects, James' input and involvement was integral and sought after. His insight into technical issues and dedication to the public that he served was truly admirable. He worked long hours, with many weekend and evening public meetings and constantly visited the projects under his watch. Even during his illness, James was always ready to serve.

James was a proud man – proud of his wife, proud of his family, and proud of his profession. His dedication to these passions was admirable. Many times, James was heard saying as he drove through a construction project, "Now THAT is a fine looking piece of road." He was proud of who he was, who he had become, and where he had come from.

James' yearning for professional development in the public sector is untouched by any other as evidenced by his undaunted quest for a college degree in Engineering. He strived to serve all, and we want to remember his passion for service by giving this scholarship/stipend to other persons who may also be struggling to reach the ultimate sacrifice of public service.

The Scholarship/Stipend Fund was created to provide scholarships/stipends for the higher education of members of the South Central Branch of the APWA and their family members.

It is the goal of the Branch to award scholarships/stipends up to $3,000.00 for higher education scholarships/stipends.

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ELIGIBILITY

To apply for a scholarship/stipend from the James Bader Scholarship/Stipend Fund, you must meet one or more of the following criteria:

- ☐ Be an active member (an active member is defined as a member of the South Central Branch of the APWA for 3 or more months prior to the date of the application), or a family member of an active/former member
- ☐ Be sponsored by an active member (Must include letter of recommendation from sponsor)
- ☐ Be sponsored by a College Professor or advisor, or a High School Teacher or Counselor (Must include a letter of recommendation from sponsor)
- ☐ Be a resident of the State of Texas for 12 or more months prior to the date of application
- ☐ Be enrolled as a full-time student (12+hours) in an undergraduate or higher degree program at an accredited college or university in the State of Texas
- ☐ Be an active member enrolled as a degree-seeking student in an undergraduate or higher degree program at an accredited college or university in the State of Texas
- ☐ Actively participant in community service or extra-curricular activities
- ☐ High school students, in their senior year, meeting other requirements are also eligible
- ☐ Have a minimum grade point average of 3.0 (for students: Please provide official sealed transcripts)

SELECTION

A specific course of study is required to apply. Eligible degree areas for application include: Engineering, Public Administration, Chemistry, Geology, Biology, Business Management, Business Finance, Computer Technology, Architecture, Construction Science and other public service or public sector career fields as determined by the Branch Executive Board.

Applicants must complete the application form accompanied by a letter of no more than two pages that address the following topics: why the funding is desired, course of study, career field you are working toward, and why you chose the major and career field. Forms are available from the Scholarship/Stipend Committee Members. Applicants will be selected on the basis of academic achievement, course of study, career goals and community service/extra-curricular activities.

Additional consideration will be given to applicants who actively participate in APWA South Central Branch community service and public involvement events. Demonstrated involvement in these activities reflects a strong commitment to public service and aligns with the mission of the organization.

The South Central Branch of the Texas Chapter of the American Public Works Association (APWA) may use applicant information and photographs for scholarship-related publicity.

Priority shall be given to members of the South Central Branch of the APWA, their family members. Priority will be given to these individuals.

ADMINISTRATION

Applications must be postmarked (or emailed) on or before **May 15, 2026,** to allow time for review and presentation of the award prior to the Fall College semester. The scholarship/stipend committee will notify the Scholarship/Stipend recipients in **June 2026.** Scholarship/Stipend will be contingent upon proof of registration and subject to the eligibility requirements above.

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APPLICATION

Applicant is: (Circle one)

Active Member

Family member of an Active Member of the South Central Branch, Texas Chapter of APWA

Sponsored by Active or Former Member of the South Central Branch, Texas Chapter of APWA

Sponsored by a College Professor or advisor or High School Teacher or Counselor (must include letter of recommendation from sponsor)

Name of Applicant_____Years lived in Texas_____

Address_____Phone Number_____

Please List 3 Character References:

Name_____Address & Phone #_____

Name_____Address & Phone #_____

Name_____Address & Phone #_____

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Present Employer_____Years of Employment_____

Present Position_____

COMPLETE ONLY IF YOU ARE RELATED TO A SOUTH CENTRAL BRANCH, TEXAS CHAPTER OF APWA MEMBER

Member Name:_____

Member Affiliation (Circle One): Life Member Active Member Inactive Member Other_____

Member Employer:_____

Position:_____

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EDUCATIONAL DATA
ATTACH TRANSCRIPT OF MOST RECENT SCHOOL ATTENDED

School Attended	Address	Year Grad.	Major/Minor	Degree Earned	GPA

List scholastic honors; club/organization memberships, religious affiliations, community service/ extracurricular activities:

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PLEASE ATTACH REQUESTED TWO PAGE LETTER (AS EXPLAINED ON PAGE ONE), AND THE PHONE & FAX NUMBERS OF YOUR REFERENCES

I hereby certify the foregoing information is true and correct and agree is selected as a recipient of the James Bader Scholarship/Stipend Fund, the funds received will be used in assistance of attending a college, university, or any special courses as defined by the Scholarship/Stipend Committee or stated in the eligibility requirements. If the funds provided to me are not utilized accordingly, it will be returned to the James Bader Scholarship/Stipend Fund.

Signature of Applicant_____Date_____

MAIL (OR EMAIL) COMPLETED APPLICATION TO:
TPWA Secretary (sctpwa@gmail.com)
AG3 Group, 4800 Fredericksburg Road, Suite 200SL
San Antonio, Texas 78229
ATTN: APWA Scholarship/Stipend Committee

SCHEDULE:
Applications Due: **May 15, 2026**
Scholarship/Stipend recipients Notified
By **June 2026**