

Outright Grant Program

The Outright Grant Program offers grants for tuition, books and fees up to a maximum amount of \$1,500 to women who are seeking funds to be used at the junior level or above at an accredited college or university in the United States. An ABWA group must sponsor the applicant for an outright grant, must have contributed to the fund in the prior award year, and must purchase an ABWA student gift membership for the recipient unless she is already a member.

1. Guidelines

- The maximum grant amount awarded is \$1,500.
- The award is for one year, although recipients may reapply for subsequent years.
- Funds are to be used only for tuition, books and fees.
- The SBMEF trustees (the current ABWA National Board of Directors) serve as the selection board for all grants.
- Outright grants are not to be repaid.

2. Applicant Eligibility Requirements

- The applicant must be a female U.S. citizen.
- The applicant must be *at least* at the sophomore level in college (completed 45 credit hours or more) when applying for funds to be used the following year, when she is *at least* at the junior level or above (completed 60 credit hours or more). For example, as a sophomore in college, a student may apply for an outright grant to be awarded when she is a junior in college.
- An applicant must be sponsored by an ABWA group.
- Both ABWA members and nonmembers may apply - the applicant may or may not be a member either of the Association or of the sponsoring group.
- The applicant must have achieved a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or better on a 4.0 scale.
- The applicant must be seeking a baccalaureate degree or higher.
- The applicant must be attending an institution authorized to confer degrees at the bac

calaureate level or higher in the United States, its possessions, territories or districts.

3. Group Requirements for Participation

- The group must be in good standing (meaning that the group must have paid its administrative fee and submitted its slate of officers – who are current with their national dues – to ABWA National).
- Groups that donated funds to SBMEF during the previous award year may sponsor **one** outright grant during the following fiscal year. For example, if the group actively contributed to SBMEF between Aug. 1, 2008, and June 1, 2009, then it may sponsor **one** grant between Aug. 1, 2009, and June 1, 2010. (Funds contributed for Chapter Network Special Scholarships do not qualify).
- Groups must purchase a student gift membership (\$50 for a basic student or \$65 for an Express Network student membership) unless recipient is an ABWA member.

4. Procedures

- The group registers applicants at: www.sbmef.org
- The applicant must complete the SBMEF online application.
- The applicant must provide a current official transcript, a biographical summary and three current professional letters of reference .
- The group must vote to submit applicant.
- The group must submit the **Chapter/Network Sponsorship Form** and supporting documents to SBMEF for approval. *The application must be submitted to SBMEF by the group, not by the applicant.*
- The group must include a **completed ABWA membership application** and a **check payable to ABWA (\$50 for an ABWA basic student gift membership, or \$65 for an Express Network gift membership.)**
- Retain copies for your records.
- Applications must be received at SBMEF on or before June 1 of the award year. DO NOT

WAIT UNTIL THE DEADLINE. Applications will be reviewed as received.

- Once verified the application will be forwarded to the SBMEF trustees for consideration.
- Upon approval, a grant check made payable to the educational institution and the student along with the ABWA student gift membership will be sent to the president for presentation. If applicant is not approved, application materials will be returned to the president.