

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 chapter/network 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 of ABWA

1. Guidelines

- If awarded the grant amount is \$1,500 (or \$2,000 if it meets the criteria of an “early application.”)
- The grant must be used within 6 months of date of issuance.
- Funds may only be used 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 have completed 45 credit hours or more when applying for funds. Funds may be used when the applicant has completed 60 credit hours.
- An applicant must be sponsored by an eligible ABWA chapter/network.
- Both ABWA members and nonmembers may apply - the applicant may or may not be a member either of the Association or of the sponsoring chapter/network.
- 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 baccalaureate level or higher in the United States.

3. Chapter Network Requirements for Participation

- The chapter/network must have paid the ABWA administrative fee and all officers

and chairs must be current with ABWA national dues.

- Chapter/networks that donated funds to SBMEF during the previous award year may sponsor **one** outright grant during the following year. For example, if the chapter/network contributed to SBMEF between Aug. 1, 2009, and June 1, 2010, then it may apply for **one** grant between Aug. 1, 2010, and June 1, 2011. Chapters/networks must purchase a student gift membership (\$50-basic or \$65- Express Network) unless recipient is an ABWA member.

4. Procedures

- The chapter/network must register at: **www.sbmf.org** and complete the online application.
- The student applicant must complete her SBMEF online application.
- The applicant must provide a current official transcript, a biographical summary and three current professional letters of reference .
- The chapter/network must vote to submit applicant.
- The chapter/network must mail or upload the **Chapter/Network Sponsorship Form** as part of the application.
- The chapter/network must purchase an ABWA national student gift membership. (\$50 for traditional/ \$65 for Express)
- Applications must be completed before June 1 of the award year. Complete applications will be reviewed as received.
- If eligible, 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 will be mailed to the chapter/network president for presentation.

***** NOTE: Grant submissions are **APPLICATIONS** and are **NOT** guarantees of funding. Both students and ABWA Chapters/networks must be eligible and complete fully portions of the online application process. **DO NOT** promise student aid. *****