



VOWRA's mission is to support, strengthen, advance and unify the onsite wastewater industry in the Commonwealth of Virginia through education, training, and representation.

President: Trapper Davis
President Elect: Paul Small
www.vowra.org

Educational Scholarship Program 2017

VOWRA is offering educational scholarships for students in a water quality environmental field or a trade that supports the water quality environmental field.

Three categories of scholarship are available:

1. Graduate
2. Undergraduate
3. Trade

All applicants must be permanent residents of Virginia. Attendance at a Virginia school will receive a higher ranking than a non-Virginia school.

Recipients of scholarships are barred from applying for future scholarships for a period of one year. No more than two scholarships can be awarded to any one individual.

Graduate Scholarships:

Two, \$1000 scholarships will be awarded to a graduate student pursuing a degree in a water quality environmental field. A complete application consists of:

1. A completed application form.
2. A summary of professional goals and reasons for pursuing a career in a water quality environmental field (200 words or less).
3. A description of graduate research project and goals for the project.
4. 3 letters of recommendation/support. Two letters must come from faculty and one must come from an active VOWRA member.
5. A copy of academic transcript from current program

Scholarships will be awarded based on:

1. Relevance of research to water quality field, especially wastewater or onsite wastewater
2. Strength of recommendation letters
3. Strength of summary essay of career reasons and goals
4. Academic strength

Undergraduate Scholarships:

Three, \$500 scholarships will be awarded to an undergraduate student pursuing a degree in a water quality environmental field. The applicant must be currently enrolled in an associate or bachelor's degree program in an environmental field related to water quality and have completed at least one year of classes (rising sophomore). A complete application consists of:

1. A completed application form.
2. A summary of professional goals and reasons for pursuing a career in a water quality environmental field (200 words or less).
3. 3 letters of recommendation/support. Two letters must come from faculty/teacher/mentor and one must come from an active VOWRA member.
4. A copy of academic transcript from current program

Scholarships will be awarded based on:

1. Strength of recommendation letters
2. Strength of summary essay of career reasons and goals
3. Academic strength

Trade

A total of three, \$500 scholarships will be awarded to an individual pursuing certification in a trade. The applicant must be accepted into a trade certification program, such as CDL, plumbing, or electrical, and beginning the program within 3 months of the scholarship application deadline. A complete application consists of:

1. A completed application form.
2. A summary of professional goals and reasons for pursuing a career in a water quality environmental field (200 words or less).
3. 3 letters of recommendation/support. Two letters must come from faculty/teacher/mentor and one must come from an active VOWRA member.
4. A copy of acceptance into trade program.

Scholarships will be awarded based on:

1. Strength of recommendation letters
2. Strength of summary essay of career reasons and goals
3. Relevance of trade to water quality environmental field, especially wastewater or onsite wastewater

Review of Applications:

The VOWRA Administrator will accept all applications and review for completeness. If an application is not complete, the Administrator will notify the applicant that the application has been rejected as incomplete. The Administration will divide the complete applications into the three scholarship categories. The administrator will then forward the applications to the review committee.

The review committee for each scholarship class will consist of two VOWRA Board members and two adhoc VOWRA members. If an application is received from a relative or an employee of a member of the review committee, that review committee member will be replaced. VOWRA may create one review committee or multiple committees depending on the number of applications received.

The review committee members will independently rank the applications in accordance with the following criteria.

Graduate Scholarship Review

Each category is ranked 1-5 with 5 being the highest

| Category | Rank |
|--|------|
| Relevance of research to onsite wastewater | |
| Strength of recommendation letters | |
| Strength of summary of career reasons and goals | |
| Academic Strength | |
| Virginia School (rank 2 if Virginia School; rank 1 if other) | |
| Total: | |

Undergraduate Scholarship Review

Each category is ranked 1-5 with 5 being the highest

| Category | Rank |
|--|------|
| Strength of recommendation letters | |
| Strength of summary of career reasons and goals | |
| Academic Strength | |
| Virginia School (rank 2 if Virginia School; rank 1 if other) | |
| Total: | |

Trade Scholarship Review

Each category is ranked 1-5 with 5 being the highest

| Category | Rank |
|--|------|
| Strength of recommendation letters | |
| Strength of summary of career reasons and goals | |
| Relevance of trade to VOWRA's Mission Statement | |
| Virginia School (rank 2 if Virginia School; rank 1 if other) | |
| Total: | |