

# Women's International Fund for Education



Scholarship Application  
2016

# Women's International Fund for Education

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## Women's International Fund for Education

The Women's International Fund for Education (WIFE) is an organization in the United States of America that aims to support young women throughout the world in reaching their goals to become college graduates and leaders in their communities. WIFE strives to make the world can become a better place by educating women showing leadership potential. WIFE was formed in 2010 by a group of young women in California. The funds available for the scholarship were raised through the generous donations of community members and a few small businesses.

The Women's International Fund for Education's scholarship program is dedicated to serving young women who strive to become leaders within their community. The scholarship is designed to be the "seed" that allows each applicant to grow and develop innovative projects and careers. Scholarships will be awarded to women who demonstrate their desire to improve the quality of life in their communities as well as the state of the environment.

The Women's International Fund for Education offers scholarships to women who show tremendous potential. The scholarship is offered for **one academic year**. Throughout the school year the applicant is required to update WIFE regularly, through e-mail or Skype correspondence. After the completion of the applicant's first year, the applicant is required to fill out a survey to provide WIFE with information on their accomplishments. Applicants are encouraged to re-apply for the scholarship annually.

Thank you for your interest in the Women's International Fund for Education's scholarship program. We look forward to hearing from you and helping you achieve your educational goals by supporting you in this journey!

With gratitude,

The Women's International Fund for Education

# Women's International Fund for Education

## II. General Information on the Application Process

All sections of the application must be completed in English. Unless otherwise indicated, the requested information is required. If a question or section does not apply to you, please mark it NA (not applicable). Some additional documentation may be submitted separately - see instructions for each section. However, sending everything in one packet is encouraged.

Eligible applicants must demonstrate financial need, academic ability, leadership skills, career goals and a desire to improve the welfare of their community and/or the health of the environment. To be eligible, you must:

- Be a woman at least of age to enter college/university
- Demonstrate financial need
- Demonstrate leadership skills in your community
- Be able to commit to WIFE's binding contract and mentorship program
- Demonstrate the desire to improve your community and the environment

The application deadline is February 10, 2016. Scholarship funds awarded by the Women's International Fund for Education will be applied to the recipient's account at her school, NOT directly to the individual. Certain cases may be required to answer follow up questions to determine eligibility.

**Submit your application, postmarked no later than the application deadline to:**

Women's International Fund for Education  
Attn: Melissa Mello  
5733 Alta Punta Ave.  
El Cerrito, CA. 94530 USA

Or Via e-mail: [Applicants@wifeducation.org](mailto:Applicants@wifeducation.org)

Please **write your name at the top of each page** and make sure to write or print clearly. Applications missing required information WILL NOT be considered. The Women's International Fund for Education is not responsible for any lost or destroyed documents. Please mark the appropriate box below when items are arriving separately from this application.

**Your complete application must include each of the following documents (unless waived by WIFE):**

- The entire **9-page** application form
- Written essay on community and environmental leadership goals
- Written essay on educational and career goals
- Proof of residency
- Your signature and date on the Declaration on page 12 of this application
- Your signature and date on the Terms of Acceptance on page 13 of this application
- Three letters of recommendation from non-relatives using the WIFE form, mailed separately (this can be included in the packet as long as the letter are sealed and have not been viewed by the applicant)
- Extra pages as necessary for clarification or additional information
- An official copy of your transcripts
- Signed WIFE contract

**Please include the following documents if relevant to your experience:**

- Resumes, copies of certificates, awards, etc.

# Women's International Fund for Education

## III. Application Form

### 1. General information:

Name:

Address:

Country:

Best way to contact you:

Mailing address (if different from the one above):

Phone number(s) with country and area code:

(1)

(2)

E-mail address:

Secondary E-mail address:

Additional contact information (optional):

Age:                      Date of birth: .

Are you a resident of the country in which you hope to attend college, if so - for how long?

Your marital status:

Single       Married/domestic partnership       Divorced       Widowed

Spouse/Partner's name:

Spouse/Partner's occupation:

Number of children:

## Women's International Fund for Education

2. Your educational program (for which funds are requested):

Semester and academic year (for example, Fall 2013):

Degree, program or course of study (for example, economics):

Name of school, college or institution (for example, University of South Africa):

Complete school address:

This school is a:  public institution  private institution  distance learning/online  
 Other \_\_\_\_\_

Number of years your degree takes to complete (for example, four years to complete degree):  
\_\_\_\_\_

Number of years you have left to complete your degree (for example, I have three years left in school): \_\_\_\_\_

Semester and year you expect to finish your program (for example, Spring 2016):

You are attending:  Full time  Part time

Cost per semester/quarter (in local currency):

Cost for entire academic year (in local currency):

# Women's International Fund for Education

### 3. Your educational background:

a. List below (from the **most recent** school you attended to all schools before that), all degrees and certifications you have completed prior to attending university. Include name of school, address, name or type of degree/certification, and number of years attended.

Name of institution	Address & Country	Type of certification/ degree	Year(s) attended

b. Include with your application a recent official transcript showing your grade point average. Your transcript may be submitted separately. If you do not have a recent transcript, please explain.

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**4. Your employment history over the past 5 years:** List in order, starting with your **most recent** employment. Do not substitute a resume for this section, but we encourage you to include supplemental resume/CV:

Job title/description	City & Country	Start/End Date	Salary

## Women's International Fund for Education

### 5. Your financial circumstances (please indicate all amounts in local currency):

If available, include a copy of a recent pay-stub for all income sources

a. Your annual household income (in local currency, if you do not have an annual income write NA):

Wages/salary (applicant): \_\_\_\_\_

Wages/salary (spouse/partner): \_\_\_\_\_

Other sources of financial support (e.g., family/community, government):

\_\_\_\_\_

Total annual income: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have no income because women are unable to own property or manage funds please check here: \_\_\_\_\_

b. Education-Related Annual Income (in local currency):

Loans: \_\_\_\_\_

Grants/scholarships: \_\_\_\_\_

Student financial aid: \_\_\_\_\_

Total annual educational-related income: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have no income because women are unable to own property or manage funds please check here: \_\_\_\_\_

c. Current annual expenses and deductions - excluding educational expenses (in local currency):

Medical expenses: \_\_\_\_\_

Food: \_\_\_\_\_

Transportation: \_\_\_\_\_

Children's expenses: \_\_\_\_\_

Miscellaneous (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Other living expenses (specify): \_\_\_\_\_

Total annual expenses: \_\_\_\_\_

If you have no expenses please explain why:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_



# Women's International Fund for Education

If you have no expenses because women are unable to own property or manage funds please check here: \_\_\_\_\_

Please explain all differences between your income and your expenses. If your total income is less than your total expenses, please explain how you will provide for yourself and your family while you are attending school:

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d. If you have other educational expenses not included above, please list them here.

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e. Financial assets:

Please list any financial assets you have (for example: car, house, property):

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If you have no assets because women are unable to own property or manage funds please check here: \_\_\_\_\_

f. Financial aid:

Please state the type and amount of loans, scholarships, and grants you receive or expect to receive for the semester you listed in question #2, as well as the source of the funds and the status of your award:

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g. What is the outstanding balance of all educational loans you now have? \_\_\_\_\_

## 6. Financial Information:

Note: Please indicate all amounts in local currency.

a. What is the minimum amount required for you to attend school? \_\_\_\_\_

b. What is the total amount needed to cover all education related expenses for one academic year? \_\_\_\_\_

c. If the WIFE scholarship does not cover the entire cost of your tuition, how will you pay for the remaining costs? \_\_\_\_\_

## 7. Special circumstances (optional, but recommended):

If you believe the WIFE review committee should consider any unusual expenses, hardships, or personal challenges that you face, please use this space or attach another page to explain.

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## Women's International Fund for Education

### 8. Community service:

Please list any volunteer work, awards/recognitions you have received, service projects, or organizations in which you have participated.

Organization	Start Date	End Date	Hours

9. Please describe the grading scale in your country (for example: The United States uses the grading scale - A,B, C, D, F. Where A is the best possible grade and F is the lowest).

# Women's International Fund for Education

## 10. Statement of Purpose (required):

WIFE seeks to support women who are, or will become leaders in their communities. We target women who show dedication to improving the quality of life in their community as well as the state of the local and global environment. We seek to fund education for these women so they can build a better world, and achieve the goals they are already setting out to accomplish.

Please include a statement describing your academic and career goals. Please include why you want to study what you are proposing to study and how that education will help you achieve your professional goals. Include what your long term professional goals are. Your essay should describe what you hope to achieve through education. (No more than 2 pages)

## 11. Personal History Statement (required):

In an essay (no more than 3 pages), describe the experiences you've had that have shaped who you are as a person and how you came to choose your career and educational goals. Please include obstacles/hardships you have faced in your life and how you have persevered despite these challenges OR how you have helped others overcome challenging life situations.

Please include your name on each page of the essay.

## Women's International Fund for Education

### Declaration (required):

To be eligible for an award from the Women's International Fund for Education, you must agree to the following statement and indicate your approval with your printed name, your signature and the date you signed.

I understand that I will not receive any money personally from the Women's International Fund for Education. All funds will go directly to the school specified in this application. I declare that, to the best of my knowledge, the information provided on this application is correct and complete. The Women's International Fund for Education has my permission to verify any information provided and contact any credit reporting agency as deemed necessary.

I fully understand that it is a punishable crime to knowingly make any false statements concerning any of the information in this application.

I understand that my application for funds will not be reviewed until my application form is complete and accompanied by three letters of recommendation, official transcripts, proof of residency and a statement of acceptance from the institution, unless waived by WIFE.

Name (printed):

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Women's International Fund for Education

## Terms of Scholarship Acceptance:

If an applicant is awarded a scholarship, the recipient is required to participate in the Women's International Fund for Education's Follow Up Program.

The Follow Up Program is designed to allow the Women's International Fund for Education (WIFE) to stay connected to the recipient throughout their educational career. This allows WIFE to monitor the success of each recipient in reaching her goals. Monitoring each recipient is necessary for WIFE to evaluate the ultimate success of the scholarship program.

WIFE's Follow Up Program consists of the following responsibilities:

- I. Regular updates with WIFE organizers in the United States of America, via e-mail or Skype correspondence
- II. Regular updates with the recipient's mentor - usually a professor or local professional (more information on the mentorship program will be sent upon acceptance)
- III. Completion of surveys provided throughout the school year from WIFE
- IV. Completion of the end-of-year survey, providing detailed information on how the scholarship has helped you reach your academic goals
- V. Outreach to potential applicants in the community (more information on the outreach program will be sent upon acceptance)
- VI. Acquisition of materials (photos, statistics etc.) requested by WIFE that will support the organization's development (more information will be provided upon acceptance)

The purpose of the Follow Up Program is to provide WIFE with information that can be used in future grant application and other fundraising avenues. By participating in the tasks listed above, the recipient will be supporting the organization in obtaining future funds to sponsor future applicants. The tasks will not be extensively time consuming and will be given with fair timing. WIFE understands and respects each recipient's dedication to her coursework.

I understand the terms of acceptance and am willing to participate in the tasks listed above, created by the Women's International Fund for Education. I understand that failure to comply with these requests can result in the loss of funding during the school year.

Name (printed):

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Women's International Fund for Education

## Release of Information for Publicity Purposes (signature required):

If I receive a WIFE scholarship award, I grant permission to the Women's International Fund for Education to produce, publish, and/or distribute for public relations, educational, and/or research purposes, the following items from my application (mark all that apply):

- My name
- My educational program and school
- My age
- The city where I live
- My grade-point average
- Information about my family
- Excerpts from my statement of educational and career goals
- Excerpts from my statement regarding extenuating circumstances

I agree that the information indicated above may be used in any form deemed appropriate, including but not limited to, news releases, the Women's International Fund for Education's website, Facebook, twitter, Instagram and publications, and it may be edited, copied, and modified accordingly.

I fully understand that such materials as named above become the property of the Women's International Fund for Education.

By providing my signature below, I acknowledge that I will not be paid for taking part in the production of these materials or from any proceeds that may come from their publication.

YES, I agree:

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(Signature) (Date)

If there is any information (for example: name) you would not like publicly shared please list that information here:

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## Women's International Fund for Education

**Note to applicant:** Please do not include your name or other identifying information on this page.

### Voluntary Information:

Completion of any part of this section by the applicant is **entirely voluntary**. This information is confidential and will not affect your eligibility for a Women's International Fund for Education scholarship. Should you decide to provide the following information, it may be used as statistical data in our efforts to increase our scholarship funds.

If you think this information should be considered in determining whether you should receive a WIFE scholarship, you may include it under “**(7) Extenuating Circumstances**” on **page 10** or in your Statement of Educational and Career Goals or another attachment.

If you decline, please indicate:

I choose not to answer any of these voluntary questions

Ethnicity/race (Please indicate the category that best describes you):

- African
- American Indian or Alaska native
- Asian descent
- Latin American
- European descent
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander

Survivor of violence:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| Have you ever been a victim of physical or sexual abuse?      | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Have you ever been a victim of a partner's/spouse's violence? | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |
| Have you ever been a victim of any other violent crime?       | <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No |

First generation college student:

Looking back over the last three generations, are you the first in your family to attend an institution of higher education?  Yes  No

# Women's International Fund for Education

## IV. Supplemental Application Documents

Please attach the following documents to your application.

- 1.) Proof of residency
- 2.) Statement of acceptance and bill for tuition (from your university)
- 3.) Three letters of recommendation
- 4.) Transcripts
- 5.) Resume/CV
- 6.) Essays

### **Proof of residency (required):**

Your application packet must include photocopies of these TWO documents:

#### 1. Proof of country residency:

- A photocopy of a photo ID with proof of current address

AND

#### 2. Proof of citizenship:

- A photocopy of your birth certificate      OR       A photocopy of your passport



# Women's International Fund for Education

## Statement of Acceptance and Schedule of Fees:

Note to applicant: This document must be completed and signed by the authorized admissions or financial officer of your school/university. This document may be mailed separately or with your application.

Mail the completed and signed form to:

Or submit via e-mail to:

Women's International Fund for Education

Applicants@wifeducation.org

Attn: Melissa Mello  
5733 Alta Punta Ave.  
El Cerrito, CA. 94530 - USA

This is to certify that:

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ has been accepted by  
Name of Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For enrollment in Semester: \_\_\_\_\_ Year: \_\_\_\_\_ in: \_\_\_\_\_  
(degree program/course of study)

## Women's International Fund for Education

### Itemization of Expenses for Student's Educational Program for this Semester:

Please include estimated tuition, fees, textbooks, and miscellaneous expenses required for this program and the date that payment is due. (Please use local currency)

_____	_____	_____
Type of expense	amount	date due
_____	_____	_____
Type of expense	amount	date due
_____	_____	_____
Type of expense	amount	date due
_____	_____	_____
Type of expense	amount	date due

Total tuition, fees, textbooks and miscellaneous fees for this semester: \_\_\_\_\_  
Attach your business card here with clear tape. No staples, please.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of authorized admissions or financial aid officer

Title \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

# Women's International Fund for Education

## Recommendation Form (not to be filled out by friends or family members)

Please take a moment to complete this confidential information, attach separate sheet if more room is needed. In addition, please include a separate letter describing why you recommend this applicant. Please include thoughts on their character, past experiences that shaped them as a leader, their work ethic and other leadership roles you've seen them in. After completion, please place this form and your letter into a sealed envelope with your signature across the back seal. Applicant should not view this information. Thank you!

Name of scholarship applicant:

Your name and title:

Your contact information (or attach a business card):

How long have you known the applicant?

Please describe your personal or professional relationship with the applicant:

3. How would you rate the applicant's past academic, employment, or volunteer record?

Excellent  Good  Average  Below average

Explain:

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4. How would you rate the applicant's ability to undertake and complete her educational program?

Excellent  Good  Average  Below average

Explain:

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5. In your opinion, does this applicant deserve a scholarship?

6. The Women's International Fund for Education seeks to fund education for women who are leaders in their community and want impact their community in a positive way, either through social or environmental means. In your opinion, does this applicant embody the mission of WIFE? Why/how?

7. Is there any other pertinent information you'd like to add (use the back or additional paper if needed)

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(your signature ) (date )

Please submit letter of recommendation with attached form to:  
Women's International Fund for Education  
Attn: Melissa Mello  
5733 Alta Punta Ave.  
El Cerrito, CA. 94530 USA or via e-mail: [Applicants@wifeducation.org](mailto:Applicants@wifeducation.org)

# Women's International Fund for Education

## V. Directions for Submitting Application

Application Deadline: **February 10, 2016**

Applications may be submitted prior to deadline.

### List of Documents for Submission:

- 9-page application form (fully completed)
- Essay on community and environmental leadership goals
- Essay on educational and career goals
- Proof of residency in home country
- Your signature and date on the Declaration on page 12 of this application
- Your signature and date on the Terms of Acceptance on page 13 of this application
- Three letters of recommendation from non-relatives using the WIFE form - sealed and signed across back seal or mailed separately
- Extra pages as necessary for clarification or additional information
- An official copy of your transcripts

### List of Optional Documents for Submission:

- Voluntary information form (page 15)
- Resume
- Copies of certificates
- Copies of awards
- Other documents

The entire application must be completed upon submission. If your application is incomplete, it will **not be considered**.

Submit your application, postmarked no later than February 10, 2016 to:

Women's International Fund for Education  
Attn: Melissa Mello  
5733 Alta Punta Ave.  
El Cerrito, CA. 94530 USA  
Or via e-mail to: Applicants@wifeducation.org

Please type or print clearly and make sure to **write your name at the top of each page**. Applications missing required information will not be considered. The Women's International Fund for Education is not responsible for any lost or destroyed documents.

### Acceptance Process:

- I. Once applications are submitted, the Women's International Fund for Education will contact applicants to notify them that their application has been received.
- II. Applications will be reviewed in detail.
- III. Applicants will be contacted directly by the Women's International Fund for Education with the status of their application within 2-4 weeks of the application deadline.
- IV. Qualified applicants might be asked to join in an interview in person or via Skype with a representative from the Women's International Fund for Education.
- V. If applicant is accepted for award further information on the scholarship terms of acceptance will be sent and the college/institution will receive funding for student's tuition.