

Central Washington University Retirement Association (CWURA)

Graduate Student Scholarship

Description

This competitive scholarship is offered to provide \$1,000 to one student per year who holds an earned bachelor's degree from Central Washington University and who is admitted to or currently enrolled in a master's degree program at Central Washington University for the purpose of defraying all or part of the student's unmet financial need as determined by the Office of Financial Aid.

Requirements

- Have an earned bachelor's degree from Central Washington University
- Be admitted to a master's degree program at Central Washington University with the intent to be a full-time student. (Students may be newly admitted and planning to begin the following fall or they may be continuing master's degree students.)
- Submit a completed FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid) before the financial aid office's priority deadline of March 15.
- Have at least \$1,000 in unmet financial needs as determined by the Office of Financial Aid using federal criteria.

Application Process

- The applicant shall write a letter of application to the CWURA Graduate Student Scholarship Committee and submit it no later than April 15 prior to the academic year for which the scholarship is available.
- The letter should clearly describe reasons why the applicant feels he or she should be awarded the scholarship, including a statement of educational and professional goals, his or her undergraduate and—where appropriate—graduate scholarship and service activities, and leadership positions he or she has held.
- The letter **must** also include the following statement: "To facilitate the selection process for the CWURA Graduate Student Scholarship, I hereby give permission to members of the CWURA Graduate Student Scholarship Committee to review my master's program application materials and Central Washington University transcript. I also grant permission for committee members to be informed by a staff member in the Office of Financial Aid about the amount of "unmet need" I have according to records kept in the office. Last, should I be the recipient of the scholarship, I grant permission for university personnel to release my name to the media and in other ways to publicize my receipt of the scholarship."
- Letters may be sent via U.S. or electronic mail to the appropriate address listed below.

Supplemental Materials Required

None

Screening Process

Staff in the Office of Graduate Studies and Research will verify, for each applicant, that his or her application is complete and that he or she meets the basic requirements specified above.

Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee shall consist of three members of the CWU Retirement Association, including the committee chair who shall be a member of the CWURA board. All members shall be appointed annually by the CWURA president.

Selection Criteria

The Scholarship Committee shall select and rank-order, from among those who meet the basic requirements, three individuals who combine the best academic and leadership records with the greatest promise for scholarship in their fields.

Notification Process

The CWURA president will write letters notifying all applicants of their status; specifically,

- The top-ranked person will be notified in a letter that he or she is the recipient of the scholarship and the two remaining individuals will be notified that they are first or second alternate who would receive the scholarship should the recipient (or in the case of the second alternate, the recipient and the first alternate) no longer meet the requirements for the scholarship.
- The three top-ranked applicants will be informed that they should write a letter in which they accept the award (recipient) or acknowledge their status as an alternate to the president of the CWURA. An address for their letters will be provided.
- All other applicants will receive a regrets letter.

Dissemination of the Award

- Pending receipt of a letter from the recipient that includes formal acceptance of the award, funds will be allocated in equal amounts for each of the three quarters in the year for which the scholarship is awarded.
- Should the first-ranked person no longer meet the requirements for the scholarship (for example, his or her financial situation changes such that he or she no longer has the required level of financial need or he or she withdraws from full-time enrollment in the program) all or the remainder of the scholarship will be offered to the first alternate under the same conditions as those extended to the original recipient. Should the first alternate no longer meet the requirements for the scholarship, all or the remainder of the scholarship will be offered to the second alternate under the same conditions as those extended to the original recipient.

Contact

Scholarship Coordinator
Office of Graduate Studies
400 E University Way
Ellensburg, WA 98926-7510
Phone: (509) 963-3101
Fax: (509) 963-1799
masters@cwu.edu

Award Amount

\$1,000 for the academic year

Deadline

April 15 preceding the first quarter in which the funds are to be awarded

Scholarship Tags

Financial need

Department

Open to those with an earned bachelor's degree from any department at CWU and admitted to any master's degree program at CWU.

Type

Graduate need for eligibility; merit for award