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**The Boston Chapter of Women in Public Finance**

**2024 Scholarship Application**

The Boston Chapter of Women in Public Finance (“Boston WPF”) (www.bostonwpf.com) is a 501(C)(6) non-profit organization for women in the public finance industry in the Greater Boston area. Founded in 2010, we provide educational and professional networking events throughout the year. Our mission is to support and advance the careers of women in public finance by fostering relationships, providing networking opportunities, and offering educational industry-related events.

Boston WPF is a chapter of the national organization, Women in Public Finance, which was founded in 1997 in Chicago, and has since expanded nationally. Participants include state and local government bond issuers (including but not limited to staff of states, cities, counties, and school districts), not-for-profit issuers (including but not limited to staff of universities and hospitals), investment bankers, attorneys, financial advisors, rating agency analysts, trust officers, and municipal market investors.

Boston WPF has adapted the scholarship application to further recognize the changing industry dynamic. Boston WPF would encourage women who are interested in a public finance career to apply for a scholarship to support their goals.

***What is Public Finance?***

Public finance (also known as Municipal Finance) generally refers to how governments raise and spend money for their services and capital needs. Individuals who work in public finance help governments at all levels—national, state, and local—obtain the necessary financial resources (such as through the sale of municipal bonds) to fund certain capital projects, including but not limited to, schools, roads, parks, water and sewer infrastructure, and police/fire stations.

**Scholarship Program**

In keeping with its tradition of supporting young women in their aspirations of achieving successful careers in the finance industry, Boston WPF offers an annual scholarship.

The purpose of the Boston WPF Scholarship is to:

* Recognize women that are enrolled in undergraduate or graduate school who have exhibited scholastic achievement and demonstrated leadership skills.
* Encourage young women to consider careers in public finance.
* Provide an opportunity for award recipients to meet women established in the public finance industry and learn about various career options and opportunities available to them.

**Scholarship Program Overview and Qualifications**

Boston WPF operates a scholarship program that provides a $2,000 scholarship each year, as determined by the financial resources of the organization. The winner of the Boston WPF scholarship will be automatically advanced to the National Women in Public Finance (“National WPF”) organization for consideration of an additional scholarship award from National WPF. In 2023, National WPF awarded 5 scholarships totaling $15,000. The first-place winner received $5,000 and the remaining four winners received $2,500 each.

For 2024, scholarship will be awarded to applicant who meet the following criteria:

1. Identify as a woman;
2. Are enrolled in an institution of higher education in the fall/winter of 2024-2025;
3. Applicants must demonstrate good academic standing;
4. All applicants must exhibit leadership skills through extracurricular activities, work experience, volunteer positions, and/or community service;
5. Have an interest in pursuing a public finance-related career, which may include the fields of finance, banking, government, non-profit, or bond law; and
6. Complete and submit the following documents, which comprise one (1) complete scholarship packet. It is preferred that documents be submitted as a single PDF:
   1. The 2024 Scholarship Application Form (see attached)
   2. The Essay Submission (see attached)
   3. Copies of your official academic transcripts that reflect no less than [three years of completed course work]; however, a longer academic history is welcomed. Transcripts will only be accepted in PDF format.
7. All completed scholarship packets are to be sent via e-mail in a single PDF file to kayla.macewen@mastersonadvisors.com and must be received no later than 11:59 P.M., Eastern Time, on May 1, 2024.

Please note that incomplete applications or applications submitted in formats other than described above, including multiple documents or files, will not be reviewed. In the event an applicant is not able to submit an application in the format requested, please email kayla.macewen@mastersonadvisors.com for assistance.

**Selection and Recognition**

Boston WPF will select a scholarship recipient based on the qualifications of the candidate as demonstrated by the completed application, official transcripts, and submitted essay.

The scholarship award will be mailed to the recipient’s institution of higher education no later than September 1 for the upcoming academic year in the form of a check made out to the year’s recipient for college or graduate school. Before we send the scholarship check, the recipient must provide (i) proof of college registration and (ii) appropriate contact information for the individual/department at their institution of higher education to which the scholarship check should be sent.

The scholarship recipient will be notified no later than June 15 and the winner will be posted on the Boston WPF website (www.bostonwpf.com).

**APPLICATION GUIDELINES**

To be considered, the application form must be completed in full. Typed responses are preferred, although neatly handwritten responses will be accepted. Please do **not** add your name to the application where it is not requested **or** to any of the essay pages.

All applicants must submit copies of their most recent, official academic transcripts that reflect no less than three years of completed coursework; however, a longer academic history is welcomed. Transcripts will only be accepted in PDF format and the entire scholarship packet (the completed application form, all transcripts, and essay) should be submitted as one (1) PDF document.

An updated scholarship packet can be submitted prior to the stated deadline after initially sending a scholarship packet. However, applicants must also include and resubmit ALL documents that comprise their FULL scholarship packet, since only the last submission will be evaluated.

***Any further questions?***

Please contact Boston WPF at kayla.macewen@mastersonadvisors.com.

**2024 Boston WPF**

**Scholarship Application**

**First Name: Last Name:**

**Mailing Address:**

**City: State: Zip Code:**

**Phone: Email Address:**

**School Currently Attending: Address:**

**Expected Graduation Date: GPA on a 4.0 Scale:**

**Summer/Fall 2024 School: Address:**

**Expected Graduation Date:**

**Certification Statement:**

I certify the statements made in this application are true and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief and I understand they may be verified. I also understand providing false or incomplete information in this application and/or in any other supporting documents may cause me to be disqualified for scholarship consideration and/or receipt of scholarship funds.

**Applicant’s signature:**

**Date:**

(Enter electronic signature above or print completed form and sign)

The Boston Chapter of Women in Public Finance (“Boston WPF”) hosts career/networking, educational, and other events throughout the year. We would like to invite any interested applicant to participate in these events as appropriate. If you are interested, please indicate so below.

*Your choice to be, or not to be, contacted is not a consideration in the evaluation of the scholarship application.*

Yes, I would like to learn more about future The Boston Chapter of Women in Public Finance events and I give Boston WPF permission to contact me with this information.

Yes, I would like to be added to the mailing list of The Boston Chapter of Women in Public Finance.

***Disclaimer:*** *Applicants are responsible for ensuring that their submissions are complete and received by 11:59 PM Eastern Time on the deadline date. Boston WPF will not consider scholarship packets that are submitted by means other than electronic submission to kayla.macewen@mastersonadvisors.com, scholarship packets that are incomplete, or scholarship packets that arrive late, regardless of the reason.*

**Please complete the following in its entirety**

**If known, college or graduate school you will attend in the fall/winter 2024-2025 semester:**

**Extracurricular Activities** *may be replaced with a resume containing the same information*

Describe your extracurricular activities and other hobbies **in the order of interest to you.** Include specific events and/or major accomplishments. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

**Activity:**

**Position Held, Honor Earned, Letter Earned, or Other Accomplishment:**

**Dates of Involvement**:

**Approximate Hours/Week:**

**Activity:**

**Position Held, Honor Earned, Letter Earned, or Other Accomplishment:**

**Dates of Involvement**:

**Approximate Hours/Week:**

**Activity:**

**Position Held, Honor Earned, Letter Earned, or Other Accomplishment:**

**Dates of Involvement**:

**Approximate Hours/Week:**

**Activity:**

**Position Held, Honor Earned, Letter Earned, or Other Accomplishment:**

**Dates of Involvement**:

**Approximate Hours/Week:**

**Work Experience** *may be replaced with a resume containing the same information*

Starting with your most recent position, please list paid jobs or volunteer internships you have held, including summer employment, if any. Include specific events and/or major accomplishments. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

**Employer:**

**Job Title:**

**Dates of Employment**:

**Approximate Hours/Week:**

**Positions Held, Honor Earned, or Other Accomplishment:**

**Current Job Description:**

**Employer:**

**Job Title:**

**Dates of Employment**:

**Approximate Hours/Week:**

**Positions Held, Honor Earned, or Other Accomplishment:**

**Current Job Description:**

**Employer:**

**Job Title:**

**Dates of Employment**:

**Approximate Hours/Week:**

**Positions Held, Honor Earned, or Other Accomplishment:**

**Current Job Description:**

**Employer:**

**Job Title:**

**Dates of Employment**:

**Approximate Hours/Week:**

**Positions Held, Honor Earned, or Other Accomplishment:**

**Current Job Description:**

**Community Service** *may be replaced with a resume containing the same information*

Starting with your most recent position, please list any community service you have participated in. Include specific events and/or major accomplishments. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

**Name of Organization:**

**Positions Held, Honor Earned, or Other Accomplishment:**

**Description of Community Service Performed:**

**Dates of Involvement**:

**Name of Organization:**

**Positions Held, Honor Earned, or Other Accomplishment:**

**Description of Community Service Performed:**

**Dates of Involvement**:

**Name of Organization:**

**Positions Held, Honor Earned, or Other Accomplishment:**

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**Positions Held, Honor Earned, or Other Accomplishment:**

**Description of Community Service Performed:**

**Dates of Involvement**:

**Public Finance Interest**

Public Finance historically has been a male-dominated field. The goal of Boston WPF is to advance leadership opportunities for women by fostering relationships and providing educational activities and forums. Please provide some background into your interest in Public Finance (and/or a related area of study) and how Boston WPF can help guide you in your future goals. Please limit response to 500 words.)

**Essay Submission**

* Your essay should be submitted as a separate sheet or document.
* Do not include your name on the pages.
* Select one essay from the options below.
* Your response should be no less than 500-words (minimum), no more than 1,000-words (maximum). Responses may be single-spaced or double-spaced.

**Option A –Leadership**

Describe a specific example of demonstrated leadership ability in your school, work, or community. (This is not intended to be a restatement of a resume.)

**Option B – Public Policy**

Describe a public policy issue about which you are passionate and outline both the challenges and potential solutions regarding such issue.