



**Scholarship Committee
Central Coast Women for Fisheries, Inc.
430 Quintana Road, #106
Morro Bay, CA 93442-1948
<http://www.womenforfish.org>**

Central Coast Women for Fisheries, Inc. is pleased to announce the Fishing Heritage Scholarship Program to benefit the California commercial fishing community. This program will be administered and funds awarded by the Central Coast Women for Fisheries, Inc. Scholarship Committee. To avoid conflicts of interest, personal judgments will not enter into any decisions; rather, Applicants will be ranked based solely on information provided on the application form and any supplemental letters requesting renewal. In no instance may a related person be involved in determining the recipient of any scholarships awarded under this program. The term "related person" includes grandmothers, mothers, sisters, aunts, wives, daughters, partners, etc.

Fishing Heritage Scholarship Requirements

ORIGINAL APPLICATION: To qualify for a Fishing Heritage Scholarship, an Applicant must:

- ▶ Be either the:
 - Descendant of a licensed California commercial fisherman;
 - Descendant of the current spouse of a licensed California commercial fisherman; or
 - Holder of a valid California commercial fishing license for at least the past ten (10) years.
 - San Luis Obispo County qualified applicants will have priority of the available scholarship funds.
- (Please note that the Central Coast Women for Fisheries, Inc. Scholarship Committee, in its sole discretion, may require any Applicant to furnish additional evidence of their qualifying under this provision.)
- ▶ Have a minimum 2.0 cumulative grade point average ("C").
 - ▶ Be enrolled in at least 6 units or an equivalent of what your school defines as "1/2 time".
 - ▶ Be in a degree or certification program or taking classes for transfer requirements.
 - ▶ Complete the Scholarship Application (available at www.womenforfish.org) and all attachments and submit two copies to Central Coast Women for Fisheries, Inc.'s Scholarship Committee at the above address by May 31. Applicants are advised to take care in completing the forms, as all information requested is considered in ranking.
 - ▶ Attach a recent photograph.
 - ▶ Obtain suggested recommendations:

- Up to two members of the board of directors of Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization, Inc., or Port San Luis Commercial Fishermen's Association, Inc.
- One representative of either the Morro Bay Harbor Department or the Port San Luis Harbor District.
- Up to two instructors, counselors, principals, deans, employers, volunteer service coordinators or fishing community members.

Recommendation Forms are available at www.womenforfish.org/scholarship.htm for the convenience of the fishing association and harbor department representatives; however letters on relevant letterhead will be accepted in addition to or in lieu of the attached forms.

▶ **Submit transcripts.**

- High school students need to submit transcripts that include their most recent term.
- Continuing trade or vocational school students must enclose a copy of all transcripts from programs previously taken.
- College students must enclose a copy of their academic transcripts from all colleges attended.

Unofficial transcripts will be accepted; however, the Scholarship Committee in their sole discretion reserves the right to request verification thereof.

▶ Be accepted or enrolled in an accredited university, college or vocational/technical school in either an undergraduate or graduate level program. Proof of current enrollment or intent to attend via transcripts, letter of acceptance or registration receipt must be provided with the completed Application.

▶ Not be related to any current member of the Central Coast Women for Fisheries Scholarship Committee or have a relative serve on the Scholarship Committee. As used herein, "relatives" include grandmothers, mothers, sisters, aunts, wives, daughters, cousins and partners.

▶ Achieve a minimum ranking of fifty percent (50%), based on pre-assigned values given to information requested. A high value will be given to first time applicants.

RENEWAL: Following completion and acceptance of their original application, as long as funding is available, Applicants will continue to be eligible for Fishing Heritage Scholarships; provided they remain enrolled in at least 6 units, maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA and annually by May 31 furnish the Scholarship Committee with a report of their grades for the school year, together with a letter expressing their intent to remain in school for the coming year. Note that there is a limit of four (4) years that an applicant can receive a scholarship award from this program.

AWARDS –Scholarship Fund:

All scholarship funds are generously provided by the Central California Joint Cable/Fisheries Liaison Committee and can vary annually. At no given time will the total awards for all scholarships in a year be more than \$20,000. Also, of any available funds in a given year, no more than 15% will be awarded to out of county scholars. Available funds will be divided pro-rata into the following categories and awards will be given based on the number of qualifying Applicants and their level of education, up to a maximum cap.

▶ Qualifying Applicants who will be attending vocational/technical school or community college will receive a pro-rata share of 15% of the fund, or up to \$500 per Applicant per funding round;

- ▶ Qualifying Applicants who will be attending other colleges or universities will receive a pro-rata share of 35% of the fund, or up to \$1,250 per Applicant per funding round;
- ▶ Qualifying Applicants who will be attending graduate school will receive a pro-rata share of 50% of the fund, or up to \$2,500 per Applicant per funding round.

In any award year in which there are not qualifying Applicants for one of the above categories, that category's portion of the Scholarship Fund shall be used to supplement the categories for which there are Applicants, based on the above ratios, to the extent needed to help satisfy awards for qualifying Applicants, up to the maximum amounts listed.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS:

The applications are evaluated during the first two weeks in June. Upon receipt of notification of an award, the Applicant is required to write a letter to the Scholarship Committee indicating whether the awarded funds should be paid to the school of Applicant's choice or, following Applicant's submission of receipts, to Applicant as a reimbursement of book and tuition costs. Please note that funds paid directly to an Applicant *may be considered taxable income* reportable to the Internal Revenue Service.

WITHDRAWAL FROM SCHOOL:

If a successful Applicant withdraws from school during the semester immediately following any receipt of scholarship funds from this program:

- ▶ Any monies which were made directly payable to Applicant must be repaid to the Fishing Heritage Scholarship Program within sixty (60) days of such withdrawal from school; and
- ▶ Any monies which were paid directly to Applicant's school on behalf of Applicant and refunded to Applicant must be repaid to the Fishing Heritage Scholarship Program within ten (10) days of receipt thereof by Applicant.

In the event an unforeseen emergency caused Applicant's withdrawal from school, this provision may be appealed in writing to the Scholarship Committee; however, their decision will be final.

OBLIGATIONS:

Successful Applicants have no obligation to Central Coast Women For Fisheries, Inc. They are, however, required to supply Central Coast Women For Fisheries, Inc. with current transcripts and to notify them of any change of address, school enrollment or other relevant information. Except as described, no obligation is assumed by Central Coast Women For Fisheries, Inc.

DISCLAIMER:

Central Coast Women for Fisheries, Inc., reserves the right to revise the Fishing Heritage Scholarship Program requirements in future years. Both new and renewal Applicants are advised to visit the Fishing Heritage Scholarship website (www.womenforfish.org/scholarship.htm) annually and review the requirements prior to May 31.

