



January 2017 Scholarship Application Procedures

Dear Student, Professor, or Other Interested Party:

Please find enclosed instructions for applying for an American Wine Society Educational Foundation (AWSEF) Scholarship.

If you are a **student**, please carefully read the requirements for eligibility before completing the online forms.

If you are a **professor**, please inform as many students as you see fit and post this information on a suitable bulletin board.

If you are **another interested party**, please help us locate eligible students and direct them to our website to find information on how to apply.

Please note that in 2016 the AWSEF awarded seven scholarships of \$3,500 each.

We are using a web-based system to submit applications electronically. ALL documents must be submitted electronically:

1. Your application with professional letter of intent (Part A) and research project importance (Part B),
2. Three letters of recommendation (including one from your advisor), and
3. Your graduate academic transcripts. Details on how to submit are enclosed.

More information about the AWSEF can be found at <http://www.awsef.org>.

To contact me, email me at: vpscholarships@awsef.org or call (256) 424-3667.

Good luck to all of you!

Kristen Lindelow
Vice President for Scholarships
Cell: (256) 424-3667
vpscholarships@awsef.org



Application Checklist

All application materials should be sent via the American Wine Society Educational Foundation (AWSEF) website (www.awsef.org). Additional inquiries about the scholarship program should be addressed to: Kristen Lindelow, *Vice President for Scholarships*.

Phone: (256) 424-3667

E-Mail: vpscholarships@awsef.org

APPLICATION DEADLINE: Application period opens January 1st. All completed forms, current academic transcripts, letters of recommendation, and other pertinent materials must be submitted by **March 31st** to be considered for a scholarship the following academic year.

Applications will be considered complete upon receipt of the following:

1. The completed scholarship application,
2. A total of ***three*** letters of recommendation using the online form. One of those letters must be from your academic advisor, and
3. Current official transcripts of all graduate academic work.

PLEASE NOTE: For first year MS students only we also require undergraduate transcripts.

Criteria for Awards

The AWSEF emphasizes that it seeks to support those outstanding individuals who have a genuine interest in pursuing a career in a wine related field. Award recipients will be announced approximately June 2017, and scholarship monies are usually for the following fall semester or quarter.

Applications will be evaluated on the strength of the application, accompanying recommendations, and graduate academic transcripts.

Final Instructions:

If you use acronyms or other technical terms, please spell out the word or phrase for the first use.

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Instructions on Submitting Web Based Applications

The application is a 3-step process involving a student application form, most recent academic transcripts (MS or Doctoral only, no undergraduate transcripts required *unless you are a first-year MS student*, and three letters of recommendation (one of which must be from your advisor).

Here are the steps (NOTE: *It is critical that all of these steps be followed exactly to ensure proper receipt of all application materials by the AWSEF Scholarship Selection Committee*):

Step 1: *STUDENTS*: Log onto the AWSEF website (www.awsef.org), go to the Application tab, and click “Register” to create an account – if you applied last year, your account information has not changed. Registration requires a username and a password. Students will find an online form to be completed with easy instructions as to how to submit the application. Notification emails will be provided to students once their applications have been received.

Step 2: *RECOMMENDERS*: Log onto the AWSEF website (www.awsef.org) to create an account or use the same log on information as last year (see above student directions). You will need to have the student’s email address to submit each recommendation (the same email address that the student used to create their account, please get this from the student before creating an account). Once the account is created, recommenders will find an online recommendation form, with submission instructions, that is to be used for the students they have been asked to support. Notification emails will be provided to recommenders that their material has been received.

Step 3: *TRANSCRIPTS*: Each student must arrange with his or her Registrar’s Office (or other office that handles transcripts) to have the appropriate official academic transcripts sent directly to the student such that the student uses his/her log in information and uploads the documents directly to the AWSEF via the AWSEF website. This means that the student has to receive their transcripts (either a soft copy via email or a hard copy that they scan in) from the institution in order to complete this step.

If you have any questions on these procedures please contact AWSEF Vice President of Scholarships, Kristen Lindelow, at vpscholarships@awsef.org or AWSEF President, Bonnie Lance, at president@awsef.org for further assistance.

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American Wine Society Educational Foundation Scholarship Program

Eligibility Requirements

The American Wine Society Educational Foundation (AWSEF) annually awards academic scholarships to support students pursuing an academic program in enology, viticulture, or health aspects of wine.

ELIGIBILITY (All requirements must be met.)

1. Full time graduate students who have completed at least one semester in a graduate program leading to an M.S., Ph.D., or equivalent in enology, viticulture, or health aspects of wine as stated above, and who express their intent to work in one of these areas upon completion of their graduate degree. Ph.D. candidates with an M.S. from another graduate program are eligible.
2. Applicants must be North American (U.S., Canada, Mexico, Bahamas, and West Indies Islands) citizens or permanent residents, who are already enrolled for their degree in a North American institution of higher learning.
3. Previous AWSEF scholarship recipients may apply a second time in open competition with new applicants, but students are limited to receiving two (2) scholarships. AWSEF scholarship applicants may apply every year they are eligible.
4. The decision of the Scholarship Committee will be final.
5. The AWSEF does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, or gender.
6. It is important to fill out all forms fully, make sure all reference material is completed, and that it is all submitted online by the March 31 deadline.

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Initial Screening Procedure

- A. Assignment:** The American Wine Society Educational Foundation (AWSEF) *Vice President for Scholarships* is the leader of the selection committee to advertise the scholarships and it is his or her job to communicate with the students who applied and to ask/answer questions as needed. Further, the AWSEF President will communicate the Committee's decision to the applicants, as well as announce the winners to those people and organizations involved.
- B. Initial Screening Procedure:** The initial screening procedure involves a checklist of objective criteria only and does not require subjective evaluations of relative merit or value that necessarily come into play in the final evaluations. The screener will approve and recommend to the full AWSEF Board all student applications that include the following:
1. Timely receipt of completed application.
 2. Complete statements of professional intent (Part A) and research project (Part B).
 3. Required advisor and other recommendations.
 4. Graduate academic record as appropriate.
 5. Proper citizenship/residency qualification.
 6. Appropriate field of academic study.
 7. Enrollment in an appropriate program at a qualified institution.

Areas of Evaluation

Below is the complete meaning of each area of evaluation. Please be advised that (1) Items A, B, and C below constitute the most important part of your application, and (2) the total word count of A plus B must not exceed 750 words. Help is provided using online forms to stay within the word limits.

- B. Statement of Professional Intent:** The student's statements of professional intent should fully and precisely describe their current and future professional goals post university. (30% of score)
- C. Research Project's Importance to the North American Wine Industry:** What does the student believe is the importance of their research to the North American wine industry, and/or what important result do they hope to accomplish? (25% of score)

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Initial Screening Procedures cont...

- D. Advisor and Other Recommendations:** The recommendations address the qualifications of the student in question, with specific reference to the student's strengths and weaknesses (areas for improvement), progress in studies and

research, and promise for the student's future contribution to the North American wine industry or wine education. (Advisor: 10%; Other Recommendations 5% each, 10% Maximum)

- E. Shows Promise of Working in the Wine Industry or Education:** The student's and/or the advisor's statements indicate a clear potential for the student to be employed after graduation in the American wine industry or in wine education. What are the student's career goals? (12.5% of score)
- F. Academic Record:** The academic record is considered an indicator of useful intellectual qualities and strengths that would enhance a productive career. In evaluating the graduate studies record, areas of study that are appropriate for the student's degree will be considered along with the numerical GPA. (5% of score)
- G. Overall Evaluation:** (7.5% of score)