

Scholarship for Assistance in Graduate Applications for Women in Chemistry

Scholarship Announcement

The **Bold Women in Chemistry** (BWIC) organization is announcing the Scholarship for Assistance in Graduate Applications (**BWIC-SAGA**). BWIC has made available a number of scholarships to financially assist undergraduate women in chemistry at the University of Texas at Austin who are applying to chemistry graduate programs. The successful applicant(s) will be awarded a monetary scholarship **ranging from \$200-\$250** to cover graduate school application fees, to be provided as a reimbursement for the submitted application(s).

Background

Although undergraduate chemistry programs are on average equally represented by male- and female-identifying students, chemistry graduate enrollment is currently below 40% women, and the number of women occupying postdoctoral and academic roles in chemistry is below 20%¹. The goal of this program is to increase representation for women at higher levels of education by reducing the financial barriers which prevent students from applying to the top graduate programs.

Criteria

The number of awards will be determined based on available funding. BWIC is seeking female students with high potential for success in graduate school. We are seeking students who are committed to improving representation for girls and women in chemistry through service and outreach. The selection committee will review applications and notify recipients of their selection prior to November 30th, 2019.

Eligibility

This award is reserved for current female-identifying seniors who will apply to graduate programs in chemistry before May 1st, 2020. Full-time student status is not necessary. There is no GPA requirement for this award, and any academic information provided to the committee will be used strictly to collect demographic information for applicants and awardees. Prior membership in BWIC is not required; however, priority will be given BWIC members who have been active in BWIC for more than one semester.

Application Instructions

Applicants are asked to fill out the application form and provide with their application a copy or draft of the personal statement they will submit with their graduate school application. We also request the names and contact information for up to three references that the committee may contact to discuss the applicant's character and potential as a role model for women in chemistry. Non-faculty references such as peers and teaching assistants are strongly encouraged.

Responsibilities for Awardees

Immediate: Successful applicants will be expected to provide confirmation that they have applied to their selected program(s) as well as payment confirmation so that the reimbursement award may be processed.

Future: Students who receive an award will share their final graduate school decision with BWIC. Recipients will also write a short thank-you letter to our HornRaiser project donors detailing the impact of their award on their future plans for graduate studies and service to women in chemistry.



About BWIC

Bold Women in Chemistry (BWIC) is an organization at the University of Texas at Austin made up of undergraduate and graduate chemistry students. Our mission is to connect women in chemistry at all levels with role models, provide a community to foster mentorship, and encourage women to continue pursuing their scientific goals. We acknowledge and thank all of our donors who have contributed to this scholarship fund to make these awards possible.

¹ L.Wang, "Women crack the academic glass ceiling", *C. & En.* **2016**, 94, 18-21.