



Hospitality Minnesota Education Foundation and Women Who Really Cook Sue Zelickson Scholarship Criteria

Academic scholarships are available for women pursuing higher education in hospitality, culinary, foodservice, food science, food systems, or other food-related field degrees.

1. Student **must** be a resident of Minnesota.
2. Student **must** be a woman.
3. Student **must** be pursuing a hospitality, foodservice, food science, culinary arts or food-related degree at an accredited post-secondary institution. Full-time and part-time students are eligible (with a minimum of nine credit hours). This is limited to schools in Minnesota.
4. The Hospitality Minnesota Education Foundation (HMEF) and Women Who Really Cook (WWRC) Boards maintain the right to disapprove of the educational institution or program in which the student is enrolled.
5. Student **must have a minimum 3.0 GPA.**
6. Student is required to submit an essay as outlined on the scholarship application.
7. Student must submit at least two letters of recommendation from persons other than family. We suggest both academic and employment references.
8. Students are required to submit official high school transcript.

Scholarship Denominations, Payment & Eligibility

1. WWRC Board and HMEF Board of Directors & Scholarship Committee will determine denominations of each scholarship given.
2. Scholarship awards will be limited to academic tuition and paid directly to the educational institution. The institution will contact HMEF requesting funds and verify that the student has completed his/her coursework satisfactorily.
3. Students may reapply for a scholarship if they demonstrate a 3.0 Grade Point Average and provide a letter of recommendation from a faculty member.
4. The WWRC and HMEF Board of Directors will make the determination of annual scholarships based on funds available and applicant pool.
5. Relatives of the members of the HMEF Board of Directors are ineligible.
6. Relatives of contributors are eligible, as are students who are also employed by contributing companies.
7. Relatives of the directors or officers of the MRA, MLA and MRCA Boards will be eligible, so long as they do not serve on the HMEF Board of Directors.
8. \$3500 as the maximum award and change the years for program enrollment to 2026-2027
9. To ensure unbiased scholarship awards, a selection committee will use a standard application and scoring system based on academics, community involvement, hospitality experience, and a submitted essay.

Additional Benefits

In addition to the financial support of the scholarship, awardees will receive complimentary membership in Women Who Really Cook while they are enrolled in their school program. Women Who Really Cook (WWRC) is a professional networking organization for women in the food and hospitality industry. It was founded in 1993 by Sue Zelickson, a James Beard Award winner, Twin Cities food columnist and radio personality. Students will have the opportunity to participate in a mentorship program with WWRC volunteers.