Scholarship Application Form

Fall 2026

Applications due 10/31/2026

Scholarship Purpose

The APWA Iowa Chapter Public Works Scholarship supports students pursuing post-secondary education in public works, infrastructure, and related fields. The scholarship recognizes individuals dedicated to careers that help plan, build, operate, and maintain the transportation systems, utilities, facilities, and infrastructure that serve Iowa communities. By investing in future public works professionals, the scholarship promotes leadership and innovation in enhancing public health, safety, and quality of life across Iowa.

Scholarship Eligibility

Applicants must:

- Have completed a public works-related summer internship
- Demonstrate an interest in pursuing a career in the public works profession.
- Be enrolled or accepted for enrollment in a post-secondary educational institution.
- Be pursuing a degree in a public works-related field, including but not limited to:
    - Civil Engineering
    - Construction Management
    - Environmental Science
    - Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
    - Public Administration
    - Transportation Engineering
    - Urban Planning
    - Water Environmental Technology (WET) Program
    - Water Resources
    - Other programs directly related to public works infrastructure and services.

Required Application Materials

Applicants must submit:

- Completed scholarship application
- Resume or curriculum vitae
- "Why Public Works" Essay
- One letter of recommendation
- Minimum GPA of at least 3.0

Award

Consideration will be given based on academic achievement, character, participation in professional organizations, and previous work experience in the area of public works. The APWA Iowa Chapter expects to award one or more scholarships annually, subject to available funding and approval by the Scholarship and Grants Committee. Award amounts may vary from year to year.

Section 1: Applicant Information

Full Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____

Email Address: _____ **Phone #:** _____

Section 2: Academic Information

Educational Institution: _____

Institution Address: _____

Field of Study (Select One):

- ☐ Civil Engineering
- ☐ Construction Management
- ☐ Public Administration
- ☐ Environmental Science
- ☐ Urban Planning
- ☐ Transportation Engineering
- ☐ Public Policy
- ☐ Water Resources Management
- ☐ Geographic Information Systems (GIS)
- ☐ Other: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____ **Minimum GPA of 3.0?** ☐ Yes ☐ No

Section 3: Public Works Interest and Career Goals

Intended Public Works Career Area:

- ☐ Transportation and Roads
- ☐ Water Distribution Systems
- ☐ Wastewater Collection and Treatment
- ☐ Stormwater Management
- ☐ Solid Waste Management
- ☐ Public Facilities Management
- ☐ Parks and Recreation Infrastructure
- ☐ Fleet and Equipment Management
- ☐ Construction Inspection
- ☐ Municipal Administration
- ☐ Other: _____

Career Goals: Briefly describe how you plan to contribute to the public works profession

Section 4: Internship, Employment, and Practical Experience

Please list any internships, seasonal employment, apprenticeships, or work experience related to public works, construction, utilities, engineering, municipal government, transportation, or infrastructure.

Employer: _____

Position Title: _____

Dates: _____

Responsibilities: _____

_____

Employer: _____

Position Title: _____

Dates: _____

Responsibilities: _____

_____

Section 5: Community and Campus Involvement

Please list leadership roles or involvement in campus organizations and/or community service projects.

Organization	Role/Position	Dates

Section 6: Honors, Awards, and Certifications

Please list academic achievements, certifications, licenses, or awards.

Award/Certification	Organization	Year Received

Section 7: Why Public Works Essay Question

Please attach an essay, no more than 500 words, describing:

- Why are you interested in a public works career?
- What public works means to your community.
- How do you plan to make a positive impact through your profession?

Section 8: Letter of Recommendation

Please attach one letter of recommendation from your previous employer as part of public works-related summer internship. Include the letter writer's contact information below.

Name: _____

Title: _____

Organization: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Section 9: Certification and Signature

I certify that the information provided in this application is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I understand that any false information may result in disqualification from scholarship consideration.

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Submittal

Please submit your completed application, resume or curriculum vitae, "Why Public Works" essay, and one letter of recommendation to Joe Spradling (joseph.spradling@hdrinc.com) by October 31.