American Welding Society Idaho-Montana Section
Welding Scholarship Opportunities

Each year many welding scholarship opportunities are offered by American Welding Society (AWS) national, AWS District 20 (covering the states of ID, MT, WY, CO, UT, and NM), and the AWS Idaho-Montana section.

- **National scholarships** are offered as the result of $50,000 and $100,000 donations to the AWS Foundation and these donations result in sustaining $2,500 scholarships. Each benefactor of these national scholarships has directed that their endowed scholarships be awarded to students pursuing a minimum four-year degree in areas such as welding engineering (WE), welding engineering technology (WET), WE or WET with an emphasis on brazing and soldering, civil engineering, a business degree with emphasis on welding, and even a Masters degree in engineering management. The deadline for these applications is **February 15, 2009**. Students need to visit http://aws.org/w/s/foundation/national_scholarships.html for information on each of the 21 national scholarship opportunities, to establish the minimum applicant qualifications, and to download the required forms.
- **District and Section* scholarships** are offered to students who are either residents of Idaho or Montana and/or are attending post-secondary welding programs in either state. Traditionally we offer 4 to 7 of these scholarships annually to qualified applicants in 1, 2, and 4-year welding programs. The scholarship awards normally range from $400 to $600 based on the applicant's qualifications and cost of education. What we are looking for in a district or section scholarship recipient is academic, leadership, work history, and welding excellence; an application packet with **ALL** forms completed per the directions; legibly written applications; a minimum GPA of 2.5; and reference letters that support the applicant's academic, leadership, work history, and welding excellence. The deadline for these applications is **March 1, 2009**. Students need to visit http://www.aws.org/w/a/foundation/district_scholarships.html for information on the minimum applicant qualifications and to download the required forms.
- **Paul O'Leary Memorial Idaho-Montana Section Named Scholarship** is offered to students with a residency or college tie to Montana as well as a strong work background, hands-on welding experience, and solid academics. This $500 scholarship is awarded annually **(application deadline-March 1, 2009)**. For additional information on this scholarship go the AWS website - http://www.aws.org/w/a/foundation/national_scholarships.html. Contact Nancy Carlson at 208-523-9128 or nancymcarlson@msn.com for application forms.

The pool of district scholarship applicants is used for the section scholarship selection process. There is **NO separate section scholarship application process - just apply for a district* The American Welding Society (AWS) Idaho-Montana Section officers thank you for all the hours you devote to educate our future welding professionals.

I am Nancy Carlson, AWS Idaho-Montana section scholarship chairman and secretary. The purpose of this email is to share with you the 2009-2010 academic year, welding-related scholarship opportunities available for high school seniors and post-secondary welding students.

Applicants must have a tie to Idaho or Montana by residency or college and, for the Paul O'Leary Memorial scholarship, the tie must be explicitly to Montana.

Would you share the following AWS national, district, and section welding scholarship information with your students, other faculty members, and high school welding instructors? Please post and/or forward this email and the attached files to all who could benefit from these scholarships!

AWS welding scholarships are designed to assist welding and metallurgy students with the ever increasing challenge of paying for the cost of their college education. Historically, the AWS Idaho-Montana Section has awarded 4 to 7 district or section scholarships a year with an average award amount of $500 per year. The 21 AWS national scholarships focus on four-year welding-related programs with award amounts ranging from $2500 to $3000 per year.

- **One or two-year welding program scholarships:** Students attending or planning to attend a one or two-year welding programs during the 2009-2010 academic year are eligible for district and section scholarships **(application deadline-March 1, 2009)**. Applicants MUST have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA. For additional information and district scholarship application forms go to the AWS website - http://www.aws.org/w/a/foundation/district_scholarships.html . All applicants meeting district scholarship requirements will automatically be considered for section scholarships.

- **Four-year welding or joining science-related scholarships:** Students currently enrolled in or transferring to a four-year program for the 2009-2010 academic year are eligible to apply for national **(application deadline February 15, 2009)**, district, and section welding scholarships **(application deadline-March 1, 2009)**. Applicants MUST have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA. For additional information and national scholarship application forms go to the AWS website - http://www.aws.org/w/a/foundation/national_scholarships.html

- **Montana two or four-year welding scholarship:** Students with a residency or college tie to Montana as well as a strong work background, hands-on welding experience, and solid academics are encouraged to also apply for the Paul O'Leary Memorial Idaho/Montana Section Named Scholarship. Applicants MUST have a minimum of a 2.5 GPA. This $500 scholarship is awarded each year **(application deadline-March 1, 2009)**. For additional information on this scholarship go the AWS website - http://www.aws.org/w/a/foundation/national_scholarships.html.

Contact Nancy Carlson by phone at 208-523-9128 or by email at nancymcarlson@msn.com for the Paul O'Leary Memorial Idaho/Montana Section Named Scholarship application forms. *Please note the Paul O'Leary Memorial Idaho/Montana Section Named Scholarship application packet is included as an attachment to this email.*

Attached to this email you will find additional general information about the scholarships listed above. Also you will find explicit guidance about how to prepare a good scholarship application. Remember you must submit a complete scholarship packet by the stated deadlines – no exceptions!!!!!!

Nancy Carlson
AWS Idaho-Montana Scholarship Chairman and Secretary
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scholarship and you have also applied for a section scholarship.

AWS National, District, and Section Scholarship Tips

1. Complete all required forms, fill in all requested information, and indicate NA, when appropriate, rather than leave information blank. If you don't send a complete packet, your application will not be reviewed!
2. Obtain a Statement of Unmet Financial Need signed by your financial aid office EVEN if you received no financial aid.
3. Obtain recommendation letters from people like employers, high school and college welding instructors, and professors teaching welding-related classes.
4. Write a biographical sketch that includes explicit, but concise, details on your academic, leadership, work history, and welding experiences.
5. If you don't meet the minimum GPA requirement, work with your instructors to improve your GPA and apply when you do meet the GPA minimum.
6. Apply in advance of the deadline. Late applications are not considered.
7. Use the Christmas break to start preparing your scholarship application.
8. Take required forms (Verification of Enrollment and Statement of Unmet Financial Need) to college offices for signature prior to the Christmas holiday.

Contact Nancy M. Carlson, AWS Idaho-Montana Section Scholarship Chairman and Secretary, if you have scholarship questions.
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208-523-9128