

## **WTS Orange County High School Scholarships**

The Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) is an international organization of transportation professionals with more than 8,000 members, who are committed to excellence in the transportation industry. WTS seeks to break down historic barriers to entry and obstacles to success within the transportation industry by providing a neutral forum for the exchange of information, ideas, experiences, and professional development opportunities. WTS supports the professional advancement of its members and promotes industry recognition of women in the field of transportation. Part of WTS' goal of fostering the development of women in transportation can be realized by encouraging bright new professionals to take careers in the field.

In 2022, the WTS Orange County (WTS-OC) Chapter awarded 11 scholarships to students – for a total of \$50,000. The number of scholarships and the amounts for the 2023 academic year will be determined following a review of the applications received.

The minimum criteria for selection are as follows:

- ✧ Open to High School students graduating class of 2024.
- ✧ Open to women only.
- ✧ GPA of 3.0 or higher (unweighted).
- ✧ Planning to enroll in an undergraduate degree program in a transportation-related field, such as civil engineering, transportation engineering or planning, aviation, transit, rail, business management, finance, or logistics with a focus on public policy.
- ✧ Currently enrolled in a school within Orange County, a current resident of Orange County or currently/have previous work experience in Orange County.

The scholarships are competitive and based on the applicant's specific transportation involvement and goals, job skills, and academic record. Applications will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

- ✧ Academic performance
- ✧ Intent to pursue a career in transportation in Orange County
- ✧ Personal statement (writing and communication skills)

Applications must be completed and submitted online [WTS-OC High School Scholarship Online Application](#), or downloaded and scanned as **a single PDF**, and e-mailed to the Scholarship Committee at [wtsocscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:wtsocscholarship@gmail.com) no later than **5:00 p.m. PST on Friday, August 4, 2023**.

## **Frequently Asked Questions:**

### **Q: Can I apply for more than one WTS-OC Scholarship Level per year?**

**A:** No. You may only apply for your respective level of study per year. For example, if you are an Undergraduate Student, you would apply for the WTS-OC Undergraduate Scholarship only. If you are a High School Student, you would apply for the WTS-OC High School Scholarship only.

### **Q: The person I asked to write my Letter of Recommendation would like to send to you directly. Is that allowed?**

**A:** Yes. Though we prefer to have a complete package submitted, if your Recommender would prefer to send us your Letter of Recommendation directly, please have them include your name, the scholarship you are applying for, and “Letter of Recommendation” in an e-mail subject line, and e-mail us at [wtsocscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:wtsocscholarship@gmail.com). Please remember, Letter of Recommendations must be signed and completed on Official Letterhead.

### **Q: Am I eligible to apply if I’m currently attending a school outside of Orange County, but am a resident from Orange County? Am I eligible to apply if I’m not a resident of Orange County, but I’m currently attending a school in Orange County?**

**A:** Yes, and yes. You must address your connection to Orange County’s transportation industry within your Personal Statement.

### **Q: What qualifies as “Proof of Current Enrollment?”**

**A:** You may submit an official “Proof of Enrollment,” statement or letter from your school. A screenshot or print out of your current class schedule with valid dates of the current year, semester, and/or quarter would also be accepted. If your current Student ID shows valid dates of your current year, semester, and/or quarter, a scan of the front and back of your Student ID would work as well.

**Note:** Your application will not be considered if you do not submit a copy of your transcript and letter(s) of recommendation on official letterhead, along with all other application materials in one PDF by the date and time listed above.

Should you have any other questions, please contact [wtsocscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:wtsocscholarship@gmail.com).

**The top winner of the WTS Orange County Scholarship may go on to compete nationally for the following scholarship:**

### **WTS Transportation YOU High School Scholarship**

WTS fosters the development of women and girls in the transportation field by encouraging bright new professionals and students to undertake careers in the area of transportation. One way it does this is by awarding the WTS Transportation YOU High School Scholarship to girls pursuing high school studies in science, technology, engineering, and math.

Transportation YOU is a hands-on, interactive, mentoring program that offers young girls ages 13-18 an introduction to a wide variety of transportation careers. Through the Transportation YOU program and this scholarship, WTS chapters work to make a difference in the lives of young girls by offering opportunities and activities that will spark their interest in all modes of transportation and encourage them to take courses in math, science, and technology, which are the stepping stones to exciting careers that can change the face of the transportation industry.

The WTS Transportation YOU High School Scholarship amount is to be determined at a later date.

# WTS Orange County High School Scholarship Application

---

## I. Personal Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
  *Last*  *First*  *Middle*

Birthdate (MM/DD/YYYY): \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_

Primary Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Current Address (*Street, City, State, Zip*): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Permanent Address (*Street, City, State, Zip*): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## II. Educational Background

Current High School \_\_\_\_\_ City, State \_\_\_\_\_

Student ID Number \_\_\_\_\_

Expected Date of Graduation \_\_\_\_\_

Grade Point Average \_\_\_\_\_

*(Minimum Unweighted GPA of 3.0 required.)*

Professional or School Affiliations (*List any school, professional or community activities you have participated in. Include offices held and awards received. Attach additional sheets, if necessary, as typed word documents.*)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**III. Recommendation:** One signed letter of recommendation by a teacher, school counselor, or principal must accompany your application. Letter must be on official letterhead.

**IV. Personal Statement:** A statement about your career goals in a transportation related field (civil engineering, planning, architecture, environmental, business administration, public policy, and/or marketing) after graduation and why you think that you should receive the scholarship award. Statement should not exceed 500 words. Please attach to the application form.

**V. Proof of Enrollment:** Attach a copy of your latest course schedule or current registration card (Student ID card).

**VI. Transcript:** Obtain a copy of your transcript from your school's Registrar and have it emailed to yourself. Print and scan the copy of your transcript, and include it with your

# WTS Orange County High School Scholarship Application

---

application packet. Please note that if you are selected as a winner, you will be required to submit an **official transcript**.

**VII. Provide a Short Biography:** A brief (75-100 words) biographical summary written in 3rd person perspective to be included in the event program if you are selected as a winner. Please attach to the application form as a typed word document. Here's an example:

*Jane Doe is a Civil Engineering major at the University of California, Irvine. In the future, she aspires to own a civil engineering consulting company. Her goal is to help build safe infrastructure and improve the current transportation system in the US. She is an active member of WTS-OC Student Chapter and has worked as an intern at the City.*

**VIII. Other Information:**

Are you applying for a scholarship from another WTS Chapter? If yes, *please provide the Chapter.*

---

How did you hear about this scholarship opportunity?

---

---

---

Applicant  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian  
Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_