ACE Scholarship

PURPOSE of AWARD
The WAVE Committee will award a scholarship to attend AWWA's Annual Conference and Exposition (ACE). The scholarship includes conference registration and up to $1,000 in travel expense reimbursement (including hotel, transportation, and meals).

WAVE (Welcome and Value Everyone) committee's **ACE Scholarship** is funded through the Virginia Section AWWA and VWEA.

ELIGIBILITY/GUIDELINES

- Full-time employee at a company that works directly in the water industry.
- A member of either AWWA or Virginia Section (individually or through your organization) or willingness to become a member.
- Career goal of serving/working in the water industry in any area.

Note: Previous recipients and current DEI Committee leadership (including Chairs, Vice Chairs, Operations Manager, and Workstream Leads) are not eligible to receive this scholarship.

CONFERENCE REQUIREMENTS/ATTENDANCE
By applying for this scholarship, you agree to attend various conference sessions and activities as outlined by the WAVE Committee. A list of required activities will be provided prior to the conference and will be based on the technical program for that year. Attendance at other conference activities is highly recommended, but is at your discretion.

Accepting the scholarship constitutes permission to use your name and scholarship story for the purpose of promotion. It also certifies that you will attend the conference. If you are, for any reason, unable to attend at the last minute, you will give at least two weeks' notice, so the scholarship can be redistributed to another applicant

APPLICATION PROCESS -DEADLINE/SELECTION
The scholarship is awarded based on a combination of need, opportunity, and merit.

To apply for the ACE Scholarship, complete the application online at https://vaawwa.typeform.com/acescholarship. The following page will prepare you for the questions/essay you must complete. Questions must be completed within the word count, and a passion for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion in the water industry must be demonstrated.

All applications for the ACE scholarship must be submitted online by **Friday, April 24, 2026**

QUESTIONS
Please contact Geneva Hudgins at geneva.hudgins@vaawwa.org with any questions.

ACE Scholarship Application

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name:

Organization:

Address:

Phone: Email:

Member of AWWA/Virginia Section ☐ Yes ☐ No

EMPLOYMENT (check those that apply)

☐ Customer Service	☐ Human Resources
☐ Financial Operations	☐ Education and Communications
☐ Engineering	☐ Operations
☐ Consultant	☐ Sales
☐ Administrative	☐ Other _____

SHORT ESSAY QUESTIONS: (Required two (2) questions and the rest optional) (500 words)

- Programs or initiatives you've contributed to at your place employment that highlighted the intersectionality of the technical side of water and the area of water you work in. If you haven't done any initiative or programs, describe one you would like to start or assist with and why.
- If you were to win the scholarship and attend **ACE 2026,** what skills/experience do you hope to take away and contribute to the broader inclusive space of the water industry?
- What challenges do you see in the water industry as it relates to DEI, and how do you think this conference can help you address them?
- What sessions, topics, or speakers are you most interested in, and why?
- Tell us a water story that has had a major impact on your journey and career.

CERTIFICATION

I certify that the information in this application is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge. I grant permission for the WAVE Committee to release my name and a brief video for promotional use.

Signature:_____Date: _____