

THE CHRIS ANDERSEN WOMENLEAD SCHOLARSHIP

The Chris Andersen WomenLead Scholarship recognizes the need for diverse leadership in ministry, nonprofits, and civic organizations and seeks to accelerate the extraordinary leadership of diverse women of faith to lead change by using their talents to *educate, advocate, and activate*.

The WomenLead Scholarship was established to provide two educational scholarship awards annually to eligible women candidates of diverse backgrounds (race/ethnicity, age, faith) eager to lead through bold action, innovative vision, and faith-inspired passion are encouraged to apply. In 2019, the InFaith Community Foundation board of directors renamed its WomenLead Scholarship *The Chris Andersen WomenLead Scholarship* in recognition of President Emeritus, Chris Andersen,

Program Benefits

The scholarship provides:

- Financial support.
- Recognition of outstanding potential as a leader in the faith community for the public good.
- Affirmation of faith, values and ideals.
- Access to a network of women leaders of change.

Through the scholarship women will increase their leadership capacity through their career and/or educational pursuits that will enhance their knowledge and skills and build their networks better equipping them to effectively lead change. Through this learning experience, women are inspired by possibility and pushed to achieve change with and for their communities. The WomenLead scholarship is made possible through an *InFaith Field of Interest Fund*, a collaborative fund made possible by InFaith donors and contributions made through the WomenGive Together giving circle.

About InFaith & the WomenGive inFaith Campaign

The scholarship program is administered by InFaith Community Foundation, a national charity with a mission to serve donors, spread joy and change lives. Through InFaith, giving is customized to each donor's charitable interests and financial circumstances. InFaith is a proven steward of these gifts, earning consistently high ratings from Charity Navigator and GuideStar for sound fiscal management, transparency and commitment to excellence. Together with donors, InFaith now grants more than \$35 million annually to charities serving local, national and global communities. To learn more, visit inFaithFound.org.

WomenGive inFaith unites women nationwide in using their talents to *educate, advocate and activate* change for women and girls. Together women empower one another in their generosity and passion to achieve long-term change. We collaborate with individuals, churches, community organizations, foundations and Thrivent Financial to deliver charitable giving workshops, award the WomenLead scholarship and raise women's voices around domestic violence. To learn more, visit at inFaithFound.org/womengive.

Eligibility

The scholarship is an award for women seeking degrees that will prepare them to serve in Christian ministry, public service, and/or non-profit leadership. Eligible candidates for the scholarship should meet the following criteria:

- Enroll or be enrolled in an accredited theological seminary/ post-graduate institution or community college/technical school;
- Be in good academic standing with a minimum 3.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale;
- Demonstrate active Christian faith and practice, and/or a personal call to ministry;
- Exhibit potential in and commitment to being a leader for change
- Be involved in civic engagement, social change, and service and demonstrate a history of involvement.
- Commit to a career in Christian ministry, government agencies, public and private educational institutions, nonprofit, philanthropic, public health, and/or advocacy organizations.

Scholarship Awards

Applicants of the scholarship award will be notified by InFaith by July 2020. Scholarship awards are sent directly by InFaith to the educational institution where the recipient will attend.

It is intended that this scholarship award provide financial assistance that is not otherwise covered by available resources or other financial aid to the applicant. Funds may be used to defray expenses for tuition, room and board, books, laboratory expenses and/or other related educational expenditures.

Selection of Recipients

Scholarship recipients will be determined by a Scholarship Committee established by InFaith. We recognize and value the need for diverse leadership in the above sectors and encourage a diverse applicant pool. Women from underrepresented backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Application Overview & Deadline

Students who wish to apply to the scholarship program must complete an online application available at inFaithFound.org/scholarships. Paper applications are available only by request. Application and required attachments are due **April 30, 2020**.

Questions?

Additional questions about this scholarship program may be directed to Nikki Johnson, Donor Services Associate, at scholarships@inFaithFound.org or calling (800) 365-4172.

Application Instructions & Questions

Please read the instructions carefully and ensure that all of the required information is received by the deadline. Applicants should complete an online application, providing answers to the questions below. Applicants will also need to submit additional materials to InFaith outlined in the section below.

Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Applicant Information

- Contact information: Name, address, date of birth, phone, email;
- Demographic information: gender, ethnicity;
- School/degree information: school name, GPA, major, graduation date; and
- Financial aid information.

Short Answer &Text Questions

- How did you hear about the scholarship?
- Have you received a scholarship from InFaith? When? Name of scholarship?
- Tell us about why you are uniquely qualified for this award. (300 words)

- What are your educational goals? What type of program/studies do you intend to pursue or are pursuing? What do you hope to do upon completion of your studies? What are your career objectives? (300 words)

Additional Submitted Materials – to be received by or before the deadline of April 30, 2020.

- **Transcript** - Please ensure that InFaith receives a copy of your most recent transcript (unofficial transcript is acceptable) showing a cumulative grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale.
- **Community Service Resume** - A resume including school, church related and community service, honors, awards, leadership and work history in which you have engaged during your high school years. Include number of hours, years and level of leadership and awards for each activity.
- **Online Recommendation Form** – Please forward the online recommendation form to two individuals, including one from your school (administrator, teacher/professor, guidance counselor) and one from your pastor for their online completion. Link to online recommendation form: inFaithFound.org/recommendation.

Essay Questions

1. As a woman of faith how have you used your talents to educate, advocate, and activate? What change are you trying to make in your community? What is your vision for a better world? Please give an example of how you implement/live out that vision to achieve sustainable long-term change. (Essay length max 500 words)
2. Faith shapes how one sees the world. It inspires bold action, innovative vision, and faith-inspired passion. How has your faith awakened your passion for justice and inspired your vision of what is possible? (Essay length max 500 words)

Submitted essays will be judged on spirit, clarity of thought, grammar and spelling, and will be the property of InFaith.

The ideal candidate(s) will:

- Demonstrate the drive to be an extraordinary leader and the capacity to make a difference.
- Articulate how their faith has influenced, shaped and/or inspired them to educate, advocate and activate their passion for justice and change.
- Express a vision and spirit of possibility.
- Give clear, concrete examples of how they have led and/or implemented a course of action to create change in their community.

Note: InFaith may use submitted essays in InFaith communications to promote its missions and this scholarship in the future.