

ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF BUSINESS WOMEN'S CLUBS
2021 SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS – RETURNING STUDENT



The Illinois Federation of Business Women's Clubs, Inc. (IFBWC) is very committed to education, as education for all women is one of the primary goals supported by IFBWC since its existence. IFBWC views a lack of education as the primary barrier to self-sufficiency and an improved quality of life. As a result of that commitment, when you investigate our organization as a whole or one of the local organizations throughout the state of Illinois, you will find that in almost all cases, IFBWC has been very generous in our financial assistance to women interested in furthering their education. For more information about IFBWC, visit our website at www.ifbwc.org.

Established in 2018, IFBWC proudly offers a scholarship program for students returning to higher education for the 2021-2022 school year who meet the following application requirements:

1. Applicant must be female, a U.S. citizen, and a resident of the state of Illinois.
2. Applicant must possess a high school diploma or GED and be currently enrolled in an accredited trade school, college, or university with a minimum of six (6) credit hours.
3. Applicant must hold a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4-point scale as of the completion of the Fall 2020 semester.
4. While not a sole determining factor, preference may be given to qualified applicants demonstrating financial need.
5. Successful applicants **must** be willing and available to compete in the IFBWC Virtual Speak-Off public speaking competition scheduled for May 2021 (additional competition details will be available on our website or by request by Feb. 15, 2021). Competition results will not affect the scholarship award; however, failure to participate will result in forfeiture of the award.

Application must include the following:

- a cover letter requesting consideration of application;
- a completed application form with all requested information, signatures, and dates;
- a 200-300 word essay (typed) identifying her career objectives and explaining how she plans to use this scholarship to achieve those objectives. If applicant is enrolled in a Master's program, her essay should include how this additional education will assist her in the employment world;
- a high school transcript, proof of graduation or GED completion and a higher education transcript that includes all grades received through the Fall 2020 semester;
- two (2) signed letters of recommendation from professional, advisory, or educational references (*may include, but not limited to, teachers, coaches, sponsors, mentors, or advisers; avoid personal references like relatives, neighbors, or friends*).

Applications must be submitted by **March 15, 2021**. They may be sent electronically or mailed (postmarked on or before **March 15**) to:

Alishia Winkler, IFBW Education Chair
440 N. Illinois Ave.
Salem, IL 62881
education@ifbwc.org

The items described in the list above must be submitted together to constitute a complete application. Incomplete applications will not be considered. No exceptions will be made, and all decisions will be final.

*Scholarships awarded will be paid directly to the school. For prompt fund distribution, successful recipients must provide proof of graduation, proof of full-time enrollment for the Fall 2021 semester, and a letter from the school registrar with instructions for payment no later than **July 15, 2021**.*

ILLINOIS FEDERATION OF BUSINESS WOMEN'S CLUBS
2021 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION – RETURNING STUDENT



APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

Phone Number _____ Date of Birth _____

Are you a U.S. Citizen? YES NO Last four digits of SS #* _____

Marital Status: Single Married Divorced Widowed

Number of Dependents _____ Dependents' Ages _____

High School Attended _____ Year of Grad/GED _____

College/Trade School Currently Attending (*name and address*):

College/Trade School Attending in 2021-2022 (*name and address, if different*):

Major(s)/Field(s) of Study _____

Highest Level Completed: Certificate Associate Bachelor Master Doctorate

Degree Currently Pursuing: Certificate Associate Bachelor Master Doctorate

Total Credit Hours Completed (*all programs*) _____ Cumulative GPA _____

Credit Hours Taken Fall 2020 _____ Credit Hours Enrolled Fall 2021 _____

Annual Tuition \$ _____ Annual Room and Board \$ _____

Expected living arrangements: On Campus Off Campus At Home

How did you hear about this scholarship? _____

SPOUSE INFORMATION

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Employment (*Company, Title*) _____

Combined adjusted gross income for applicant – and spouse, if applicable – in 2020 (*check one*):

Under \$25,000 \$25,000-\$50,000 \$50,001-\$75,000 \$75,001-\$100,000 Over \$100,000

*Complete number will be requested from scholarship winners for identification and fund disbursement purposes only.
All information on this application will be kept confidential and will never be shared with any other parties.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

Please list any awards, honors, and recognition received (*include high school if within past five years, post-secondary school and non-school*). Use an additional piece of paper, if needed.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

Please list any sports, extra-curricular activities, organizations, and volunteer activities in which you regularly participate, as well as any leadership roles or offices held (*include high school if within past five years, post-secondary school and non-school*). Use an additional piece of paper, if needed.

FINANCIAL NEED

Applicant Employment Status: Part-time Full-time Not Employed

Name of Current Employer: _____

Funds expected for next year’s education fees:
(*total of all sources should equal total of tuition & room/board from previous page*)

Parents..... \$ _____ Scholarships..... \$ _____ Self \$ _____

Pell/MAP..... \$ _____ Work Study \$ _____ Loans..... \$ _____

Other (*list sources*) _____ \$ _____

Do you have any current outstanding educational loans? YES NO Amount \$ _____

I certify that all the information on this application is true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and I understand that any inaccuracies will result in my being disqualified for this scholarship.

Signature of Applicant _____ Date _____