



Conference of Women Legislators  
P.O. Box 10161 · Springfield, IL 62791

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for contacting the Conference of Women Legislators (COWL) regarding your interest in a COWL Scholarship. Please note that the COWL Scholarships are for students pursuing an undergraduate degree.

The COWL Scholarship seeks to maximize educational opportunities for all income levels by offering tuition assistance to mature (age 25 or older), deserving women who show evidence of furthering their education in order to make a contribution to their government, children, families, and community. The one-year undergraduate scholarship will cover tuition, books and fees up to \$2500 for the 2017-2018 academic year (Fall of 2017 through Summer of 2018).

COWL endeavors to support women who, for various reasons, have not had the opportunity to begin or complete their education at an earlier stage due to life changes and/or financial difficulties. Further, COWL encourages women of all races, religions, creeds, and ethnic backgrounds to apply for the scholarship.

Applicants for the scholarship must meet certain requirements to be eligible. In addition to being a woman 25 years of age or older, she must be an Illinois resident and plan to attend an accredited on-campus school in Illinois for at least six semester hours. (Online colleges and courses are not eligible.)

Your application materials, postmarked no later than **April 1st, 2017** must include the following items in order to be considered:

- Application form
- Two reference letters
- Personal background and goals essay
- Official transcripts from the last two academic years attended.
- List of all institutions of higher education you've attended
- Signed waiver form with notary public signature and seal

The Awards Committee will consider service work or volunteer activities that promote the welfare of women, families, and community as well as demonstrated leadership in creating a new approach, program, or strategy that benefits them. You should provide some evidence of continuity in the work you have performed. Your reference letters should address this aspect of your background.

Your application form and all supporting documents and materials should be unbound, unstapled and returned to:

COWL Scholarship Committee  
P. O. Box 10161  
Springfield, IL 62791

COWL will send notification to the scholarship applicants by April 15, 2017.

If you need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us at [cowl.ilga@yahoo.com](mailto:cowl.ilga@yahoo.com).

Very truly yours,

COWL Co-Chairs

*Kimberly A. Lightford*  
State Senator

*Barbara Wheeler*  
State Representative