

Founders Scholarship

TEXAS ASSOCIATION FOR COURT ADMINISTRATION

Description: Three scholarships in honor of founding members Martin Allen, Bob Wessels and longtime TACA supporter Trisha Hall were established in 1996 to commemorate TACA's 20th anniversary. Founders Scholarships shall be used to attend the TACA Annual Education Conference. TACA will waive the conference registration fee. The TACA Treasurer will reimburse the scholarship recipient for travel, meals and lodging associated with the conference according to the Travel Policy up to an amount not to exceed \$750.

Eligibility:

1. Scholarships established and funded by the Texas Association for Court Administration, or a court related entity, are available to regular members of TACA in good standing. "Good standing" is defined as a member who is current in the payment of annual membership dues and an employee of the judiciary as defined in the by-laws of the association. Additional eligibility requirements may be outlined in the individual scholarships.
2. Applicant must be a regular member in good standing for minimum of one year.
3. Representation of need shall be made on an annual basis and shall not be automatic consideration of subsequent annual scholarship awards.
4. Phase completion of an approved program (i.e., ICM), may be a deciding factor in the award of a subsequent annual scholarship award, in order to complete a program.
5. Unless good cause is shown, once an applicant has fulfilled all of the required phases of an approved program, the applicant is ineligible for any further scholarships, with the exception of the Goodwill Scholarship.

Application Process

1. Applications for the Founders Scholarship should be submitted to the TACA Scholarship Liaison.
2. The deadline for applications for scholarship awards shall be May 1st of the current year.
3. All applications must be accompanied by an essay, of not less than 50 words, describing the applicant's contribution to TACA and the profession of court administration, the reason they desire the scholarship and their career goals. **Specifically include a description of how you intend to give back to TACA and the profession of court administration.**
4. All applications must be approved by the applicant's immediate supervising judge(s).
5. **All applications must be signed by the applicant affirming his/her commitment to assist TACA where needed in the professional development of court administration; and/or assist the association at the annual conference.**
6. Applicants must certify attendance at the education program for which the scholarship was awarded. Certification may be in the form of a copy of a certificate of attendance; or a letter from the program's sponsor confirming the applicant's attendance; or a letter from the applicant's immediate supervising judge(s) confirming the applicant's attendance.
7. **Applicants must sign a Commitment Contract with TACA, for a two (2) year personal commitment to serve on the Education Committee and/or any other committee as set forth in the by-laws of the association.**

Distribution of Awards

TACA will waive the conference registration fee. The TACA Treasurer will reimburse the scholarship recipient for travel, meals and lodging associated with the conference according to the Travel Policy up to an amount not to exceed \$750. Reimbursement for this scholarship must be received by the TACA Treasurer within 60 days of completion of the TACA Annual Education Conference following the award of the scholarship. Scholarships reimbursement information not received within this time will be forfeited. Upon good cause, an extension of this period may be approved by the Board of Directors. A recipient leaving their position within court administration is no longer eligible to use the scholarship.

Founders Scholarship

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION TEXAS ASSOCIATION FOR COURT ADMINISTRATION

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

COURT/COUNTY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE: _____ FAX: _____

E-MAIL: _____

TACA MEMBER SINCE: _____

OTHER PROGRAMS: _____

All applications must be accompanied by an essay, of not less than 50 words, describing the applicant's contribution to TACA and the profession of court administration, the reason they desire the scholarship and their career goals. The essay should specifically include a description of how you intend to give back to TACA and the profession of court administration. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Upon receiving a TACA scholarship, I understand a Commitment Contract will be executed between TACA and me. Part of my commitment is to assist where needed in the professional development of court administration and/or assist the association at the Annual Education Conference. The funds provided by this scholarship are necessary for me to comply with Government Code 74.106 (a), and/or to enhance my professional education by attending an approved educational program as set forth in the Scholarship Guidelines. My county will not pay these expenses or will only pay part of them. I understand that this scholarship is no longer valid if I leave court administration prior to utilizing this scholarship.

Applicant's Signature: _____

Judge's Signature of approval and **certification of unavailability of funds:** _____

Submit Applications to:
Rian Sikes, Secretariat
Texas Association for Court Administration
Correctional Management Institute of Texas
George J. Beto Criminal Justice Center
Sam Houston State University
Huntsville, TX. 77341-2296
rian@shsu.edu

**DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION:
May 15, 2024**