**WIFLE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**BACKGROUND**

WIFLE Foundation, Inc. and Women in Federal Law Enforcement, Inc. (both known as WIFLE) are organizations with a goal to achieve gender equity within federal law enforcement through the recruitment, retention and promotion of qualified women.

In June 2010, the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS) announced that as of 2008, women represented 15.2% of federal officers among reporting agencies. That percentage is lower than the 16.1% reported by the BJS in July 2006. The 2019 report indicates that the percentage of women has further decreased to 13.9%. There remains much to be done to achieve gender balance within the federal agencies. It is in the spirit of achieving this goal that WIFLE offers Scholarships.

**THE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**Purpose:**

WIFLE offers several scholarships to talented individuals to meet demands in the field of law enforcement and to foster the professional development of those engaged in Law Enforcement. The dollar amount of each scholarship will be $2,500 but can vary based on numerous factors. WIFLE awarded $7,500 in scholarships in 2019. Awards may be renewable on subsequent applications.

**Eligibility**

WIFLE scholarships are awarded based on a student’s academic potential, achievement, and commitment to serving communities in the field of law enforcement. The scholarship is open to all eligible persons. To be eligible for the scholarship, the applicant must:

* Attend and be a full-time student at an accredited four-year college or university; or be currently enrolled in a full-time fully accredited community college with the intention of transferring to a four-year degree;
* Have completed at least one full academic year of college work at an accredited college or university or community college;
* Major in Criminal Justice or related discipline such as social sciences, public administration, computer science, finance, linguistic arts, chemistry, physics, etc., leading to a four-year degree (Students in graduate and postgraduate programs are also eligible; students pursuing Associate degrees are not eligible, unless as stated above, fully articulate in the application their intention to transfer to a four-year program.);
* Have a minimum 3.0 overall grade point (GPA) average;
* Demonstrate a commitment to the community through a 500-word essay describing their involvement in a community project, and the results or impact of that involvement to the community; OR, if the applicant if currently serving or has served an internship with a law enforcement agency, preferably a federal law enforcement agency, the applicant must provide details including the name if the agency, the dates served and describe the value of the experience and the accomplishment through the internship in a 500-word essay;
* Have at least one community leader or member of a community or police official sponsor their application with a written statement of support;
* Submit a completed application with the required information, 500-word essay, transcripts, and a recommendation letter from a community leader or police official;
* Be a citizen of the United States.

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION PROCESS**

Information and applications are available through the WIFLE website at [www.WIFLE.org](http://www.WIFLE.org) and must be received by the Scholarship Coordinator no later than May 1, 2020. Extensions will not be granted. Applications that are incomplete or received after the deadline will not be considered.

Letters of recommendation should be mailed with the application, if possible, but must be received by the deadline, along with the required application, 500 word essay, and college transcripts. Recipients will be notified by May 15, 2020, and awards will be mailed directly to the educational institutions. For answers to specific questions, contact WIFLE by email at WIFLE@comcast.net. Mail all applications to the attention of the Scholarship Coordinator at:

WIFLE

Attention: Scholarship Coordinator

1600 Wilson Boulevard

Suite 801

Arlington, VA 22209

Sincerely,



Catherine W. Sanz

President

Enclosures