

The Margaret P. Benson Memorial Scholarship

The Margaret P. Benson Memorial Scholarship recognizes qualified female applicants who demonstrate financial need and are committed to women's issues, diversity, and social activism. Two awards are available each year. Awards generally range from \$1000 to \$2000 per academic year to be applied toward tuition, fees, living expenses, or books. The scholarship is for the 2020-21 academic year.

The Margaret P. Benson Memorial Scholarship is administered and selected by individuals affiliated with the Women's Resource and Action Center at the University of Iowa. The Center's mission is to create greater equity for individuals and communities of all identities, with a particular focus on women.

Eligibility

1. Women who have completed one year (or more) of undergraduate or graduate/professional study at the University of Iowa or at an accredited degree granting institution or program and have been accepted into a degree-granting program at the University of Iowa for the upcoming academic year.
2. Women who demonstrate financial need.
3. Women who are committed to women's issues, diversity, and social activism.

Policies

1. Scholarships are awarded for one academic year only. Re-application is required for each academic year for which financial assistance is sought. No preference will be given to those individuals seeking a second or third year of support.
2. If a scholarship recipient does not attend school or drops out while the award is in effect, funds must be returned commensurate with the amount of the academic year remaining.

Application Process

1. Complete and submit the application form. Please limit application to 5 PAGES total.
2. Submit college transcript(s). (official or unofficial)
3. Submit 2 letters of reference.
4. Demonstrate financial need on the FAFSA for the current academic year by submitting a copy of the financial aid award letter OR a copy of your most recent financial aid status AND/OR provide a ONE-page description of any personal or financial circumstances warranting consideration by the selection committee
5. NOTE: **Applicants are responsible for ensuring that all materials** (including transcripts and letters of reference) **are received at WRAC by the application deadline.**

Application Deadline: February 14, 2020

Submit Application to:

Margaret P. Benson Memorial Scholarship Committee
Women's Resource and Action Center
100 BH
Iowa City, IA 52242

Application Form

The Margaret P. Benson Memorial Scholarship

Please limit your application to 5 pages total (including: this page, a 1-2 page answer to the essay questions, your financial aid award letter AND/OR a one-page description of personal or financial circumstances that warrant consideration by the selection committee).

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name:
UI Student ID Number:
Address:
Permanent Address (if different from above):
Phone: E-mail address:
Number of Dependents:

EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

List the names and dates of all colleges, universities or training programs you have attended:

Institution	City,State	Dates(Mo/Year to Mo/Year)	Degrees/Credits Earned

I am currently a/an (circle one) Undergraduate student Graduate/Professional student

When do expect to graduate?

What is your major or primary area of study?

FINANCIAL INFORMATION / PERSONAL CIRCUMSTANCES

Do you have a FAFSA on file with the Office of Financial Aid at the University of Iowa or your current insitution for the upcoming academic year? YES NO **If YES, attach a copy of your award letter to this application.**

How do you currently finance your education?

How much college loan debt do you currently have?

Is there any information about your personal circumstances and/or financial status which you would like the scholarship committee to consider when reviewing your application? If so, please provide a ONE page description on a separate sheet of paper to be attached to your application.

ESSAY/SHORT ANSWER

Please address the following questions using a separate sheet(s) of paper. Please limit answers to 1-2 pages

1. Why is the Margaret P. Benson Memorial Scholarship important to you?
2. During your college or graduate career how have you spent your time out of the classroom?
3. The scholarship is intended to recognize a woman who demonstrates financial need and is committed to women's issues, diversity, and social activism. Please comment on the role of the above in your own life to this point, and/or your future plans.