



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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For More Information Contact:
WPC Contact: Mykaela Chaffin
chaffin@wipaper.org | 608.733.0188

“Women in Forest Products Scholarship” Accepting Applications for 2025 High School and Leadership Awards

February 13, 2025 – Madison, WI: The Women in Forest Products Scholarship is accepting applications beginning February 13th through March 31st. The Women in Forest Products Scholarship Fund provides financial support to female graduating seniors in Wisconsin who are pursuing a career in the forest products industry or a related field, as well as develops women currently in the forest products field as future leaders.

“The forest products industry has long been a cornerstone of Wisconsin’s economic story,” said Angie Sheehan, President and CEO of Little Rapids Corporation. “Our next generation of dynamic and innovative leaders, especially women, will have the opportunity to write the next chapter.”

The Wisconsin Paper Council (WPC) founded the scholarship in coordination with Ahlstrom, a fiber-based specialty materials company with mills in Wisconsin. Ahlstrom provided \$20,000 seed money to the fund.

“A unique feature of the scholarship fund is that women of any age and educational background who currently work in the forest products industry can apply for the Leadership Scholarship to further their education,” said Mykaela Chaffin, Communications & Development Analyst at the WPC. “We wanted to create an opportunity for the current workforce to benefit from the scholarship as well.”

High School Scholarship: \$1,000

Criteria: Graduating female student residing in Wisconsin planning to attend an accredited 2- or 4-year college, university or technical college, or vocational school as a full-time or part-time (minimum 6 credit hours) student in Wisconsin and planning to pursue a career in the forest products or paper industry.

Leadership Scholarship: \$1,000

Criteria: Female working full-time in the paper industry or related field in Wisconsin who plans to further their education at an accredited educational institution in either leadership, certificate programs, or their MBA.

Candidates must submit their applications before March 31st via [The Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region](#) website. Applicants do not have to live in the Fox Valley Region to qualify. Recipients of the scholarship(s) will be invited to an award ceremony to honor their accomplishment and network with industry professionals.

The fund awarded its first scholarship recipient in August of 2024. The recipient, Carissa Ashman, is attending the University of Green Bay and pursuing a major in environmental engineering. Carissa was also recognized with a Certificate of Achievement from the Office of Governor Tony Evers for being the first recipient of this scholarship award. The forest products industry is a key economic driver of Wisconsin and the industry employs over 57,000 people in the state.

This fund relies on advocates of the forest products industry to increase the longevity of the scholarship program. Contributions are essential to the scholarship fund so that Wisconsin women will receive the support they need to succeed in the industry for generations.

The scholarship fund is housed with the Women's Fund for the Fox Valley Region, Inc. which continues to be a valued partner to ensure the success of this first-of-its-kind scholarship collaboration.

Companies and individuals can make tax-deductible donations on the Women's Fund website, <http://www.womensfundfvr.org/grants-scholarships/scholarships/>.

About The Wisconsin Paper Council

The Wisconsin Paper Council (WPC) is the premier trade association which advocates for Wisconsin's paper, pulp and forestry industries before state and federal elected officials and regulators. The WPC also works to educate the general public and the media about the importance of paper, pulp and forestry production in Wisconsin and throughout the Midwest. Learn more at www.wipaper.org.

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