AAUW
Buffalo (NY) Branch

Chamberlin Loan - Funds for Education

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Program Information

Program Information and Instructions

Chamberlin Loans

The Chamberlin Loan Fund was established by Sarah A. Chamberlin to provide a college education for women of good character and promising scholarship who might not otherwise be able to procure a college education. Preference will be given to students in attendance at Cornell University as stipulated in the will, and to students whose legal residence is in the Western New York area.

Funds for Education

Funds for Education is a separate fund for loans and grants available to both male and female qualified candidates. It is funded by the AAUW Buffalo Book Sale, donations and repayment of loans. Both funds are administered by the Buffalo Branch of the American Association of University Women (AAUW). The award offered will be considered a package to be accepted or rejected in its entirety.

Eligibility

To be eligible for selection, you must:

- Be a student of good academic standing in an accredited college or university.
- Have successfully completed at least one year of college, or be enrolled in a graduate or professional school before filing an application. Post Professional Reviews and Internship Funds are available only through Funds for Education.
- Be pursuing an academic program leading toward a baccalaureate degree, if enrolled in a two-year program.
- Be enrolled in a credit-granting program recognized by your college/university, if requesting a loan for foreign study.
- Be a resident of Western New York's eight counties (Erie, Niagara, Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Orleans, Genesee, Wyoming, Allegany) and/or a student attending a college in that area.

Completing the Application

Complete the application accurately and completely. Legibility and mathematical accuracy are very important.
Obtain Registrar-certified copies of your college transcripts for each college or university you have attended.
Provide three letters of recommendation. At least one must be from a college faculty member. The other two may be from an activity director, employer, friend or second faculty member. Recommendations must not be from relatives or classmates. Repeat candidates must have current letters of recommendation.

Recommendations and Transcripts

Three letters of recommendation supporting your application should be sent directly to the Chair by the writers. At least one writer must be familiar with your college academic achievements, such as a college academic adviser, faculty member, department dean or Dean of Student Affairs, and qualified to comment on your academic potential.
The official transcript of your complete college record should be sent by the college registrar directly to the Chair or supplied electronically.
Email: chamberlinffe@gmail.com
Postal address for recommendations: Chamberlin Loans and Funds for Education, PO Box 397, 5500 N. Bailey Avenue, Amherst, NY 14226-0397.

Application Deadlines

The Loan Chair must receive the application, three recommendations and the official transcript by May 1 or December 1. Be sure to tell your recommenders the deadline.

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Selection and Personal Interview

A personal interview is required for each applicant after receipt of the completed application, three recommendations and official transcript. Interviews will be held after the application cutoff dates. A mutual time and location will be determined.
Awards are made on a competitive basis. Applicants will be notified after recommendations are made and approved by the AAUW Buffalo Executive Board.

Amount of Award

The award depends upon financial need and the committee's evaluation of your potential to repay the loan portion. The maximum available is $5,000. You may apply for a grant and/or loan once a year for up to four years.
If you are also applying for an AAUW scholarship, you may receive only one loan, grant or scholarship a year.

Special Circumstances Grants

If you are requesting a grant to cover a special circumstance, such as a conference, a special project or publishing expenses, include a paragraph specifying how the grant money will be used.

Terms of the Loan Portion

Your notarized signature and that of a co-signer are required on a promissory note for the amount of the loan.
A loan from this fund is to be repaid without interest over four years, beginning six months after graduation or upon leaving the college or university.
The note must be reduced by 25% of the principal during each of the next four years.
Loans not repaid within the prescribed period may be turned over to a collection agency.

Responsibilities of Recipients

Recipients must:

1. Notify the Loan Fund Treasurer of their current name and address, a current non-school email address, and their date of graduation (shortly after receiving their degree) or the date college attendance ended.
2. Send an annual written statement regarding their scholastic, financial and career status to the Loan Fund Treasurer by July 1 until the loan is paid.
3. Permit publicity of the award in local newspapers, unless otherwise requested.