

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION GUIDELINES

The Mission of NWMAF is to empower women and girls to achieve personal and collective strength, safety, and well being through martial arts, healing arts, and self-defense education. One way we strive to fulfill that mission is by offering need-based scholarships to our members to assist them in attending Special training each year. Scholarship funds are donated by members and scholarship recipients are selected by the Board.

What Scholarships Cover: Scholarships are for direct event costs only. Optional expenses are not covered by scholarship funds. If you have special needs that add to your expenses make sure to explain them in your application.

Full scholarships are rarely given, and therefore an important part of your application is to provide a realistic plan to for how you will pay the balance of your expenses.

Scholarship Availability: Available scholarship funds vary from year to year. We do our best to help as many people as possible, but there is no guarantee that every applicant will receive a scholarship.

Scholarship Recipient Obligations: Scholarships carry no on-site work requirement or other obligation. All attendees of the NWMAF camp, regardless of financial support, are asked to volunteer to give to NWMAF in whatever way one is able.

Scholarship Application Guidelines

If you submit your application for a Special Training scholarship by the deadline you will be eligible for the early registration rate whether you receive an award or not. Please do not register online or send a registration form with your scholarship application – you will receive special registration information when the scholarship awards have been finalized which will allow you to register at the early registration rate even if you are not chosen to receive a scholarship award.

Deadlines

Special Training - including the Self-Defense Instructors' Conference

- Application Due: May 20th (must be received by this date)
- Notification Made: June 10th

Other Events

- Application Due: At least six weeks in advance of the event registration deadline
- Notification Made: Within 3 weeks of application

Scholarship Award Criteria: The Board will consider the following criteria when evaluating scholarship applications. The criteria are evaluated only in the positive. For example, an applicant may receive points for being a long-time member but a new member will not lose points. It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide examples of how they meet the criteria.

Requirements for application:

- Complete Application – incomplete applications will not be considered
- An individual may not receive a scholarship two years in a row. Since there was no camp in 2017, this requirement is null for 2018.
- Member in Good Standing – only current members who are in good standing are eligible for scholarships (Note: you can register to become a member alongside your Scholarship application)

Considerations:

Women and female-identified persons who meet one or more of the following categories are given higher consideration during application review:

- Financial Need – persons with greater financial need
- Length of NWMAF membership – persons who have supported the organization with more years of membership
- First-time ST Attendees – to introduce new women to ST and NWMAF
- Recent ST Attendance – members who have not attended ST in the previous 2 years
- Financial Plan – Individuals who provide realistic plans on how they will pay their balance
- Families – We know that the barriers to families coming at ST are many. Accordingly we prioritize applicants who wish to bring family members of different generations (i.e. parent and child/niece/grand-child), etc.
- Diversity –applicants whose age, ethnicity, religious affiliation, disability status, or gender identity is under-represented in the NWMAF membership or Special Training attendance.

Submission information:

Please complete and submit this application by email to: **fundraiser@nwmaf.org**. If you are unable to submit your application electronically you can mail your application to:

NWMAF Scholarship
c/o Erin Epperson
6509 N Ashland Ave, Unit 2
Chicago, IL 60626

NWMAF Scholarship Application Form

Please submit this application by email to: fundraiser@nwmaf.org. If you are unable to submit your application electronically you can mail your application to the address listed on page 2 of the Scholarship guidelines. All items are required unless otherwise indicated.

Event Application is for:

Personal Information

Name of applicant: _____

E-mail: _____

Phone Number(s): _____

Address: _____

If applying as part of a family, please additionally list the names and ages of family members applying for support:

NWMAF Membership (required – select one)

- Current Year's Dues Already Submitted
- Current Year's Dues Submitted with Scholarship Application

Expenses and Financial Plan: Consult the event registration materials to determine your expected fees, then enter this amount along with your travel and other expenses to calculate you total cost for the event. Subtract the Award Requested from the total to determine your Balance.

Item	Amount	Comments
Tuition		
Travel		
Childcare		
Other (describe)		
Total		
– Award Requested		
Balance		

What is your Financial Plan to pay your Balance (your contribution)?

Narrative: (150 words or less) Briefly explain why you wish to attend this event and if you meet any of the criteria that would offer you higher consideration make sure to include those points (refer to the list on the previous page).

These questions are optional, but your answers will assist us in awarding scholarships to support diversity in NWMAF. For each question please answer for yourself and for all family members applying for scholarship.

What is your age?

- 75 or older 65 to 74 55 to 64 45 to 54 35 to 44 25 to 34 18 to 24
 Under 18

Which category/categories best describe you?

- White/Caucasian
- Black or African American
- Asian
- American Indian or Alaska Native
- Hispanic or Latinx
- Middle Eastern or North African
- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
- Multiple ethnicity
- Prefer not to answer

Do you identify with any of the following religions?

- Christianity
- Judaism
- Islam
- Buddhism
- Hinduism
- Inter/Non-denominational
- Wicca
- Paganism
- Taoism
- Shintoism

How do you describe your gender?

- Female
- Non-binary or Genderqueer
- Male
- Transwoman
- Transman
- Intersex
- Other (Please specify): _____
- Prefer not to answer

- Baha'i Faith
- Jainism
- Sikhism
- Other (Please specify): _____
- Prefer not to answer