CIWA Future Matt Abram Scholarship

The CIWA Future Matt Abram Scholarship honors the legacy of Matthew Abram, a dedicated professional in the insurance industry. Matt started in this industry as a “CIWA Future” and brought energy and joy into any room he was in. His passion for connecting with his colleagues and building a community is what this industry is all about.

This scholarship is designed to support individuals who are committed to advancing their careers in the insurance sector. Recipients will be awarded complimentary tickets to attend CIWA Annual Meeting, Summer Forum, and Future Fall Event, along with all travel expenses covered (flight + hotel). This scholarship aims to foster professional growth, education, and networking within the industry, reflecting Matthew Abram’s passion for the field.

This document outlines the general requirements and qualifications for applying to the CIWA Future scholarship program - please refer to the specific scholarship's guidelines below for detailed instructions and deadlines to apply.

Eligibility Requirements

1. **Industry Involvement**:
    - Applicants must currently work in the Property & Casualty insurance industry on the West Coast and / or be employed by a CIWA member company. However, your employer does not have to be a CIWA member for an individual to qualify for this scholarship.
2. **Educational/Professional Goals**:
    - Applicants must provide a brief statement outlining their professional goals and how attending CIWA events will contribute to their development.

Application Requirements

1. **Completed Application Form**:
    - Applicants must complete the application form, which will request basic information such as contact details, employment information, years in the industry, and professional goals.
2. **Short Essay (Three Paragraphs):**
    - A short essay (3 paragraphs minimum) answering the following question: "Why do you believe you deserve this scholarship, and how do you fit the qualifications?" Please include why this financial assistance would make a difference to you.
    - This essay should briefly outline why you are a strong candidate and how attending CIWA events will benefit your professional development.
3. **Professional References**:
    - Submit two letters of reference from an employer, former educator/mentor, or industry colleague who has played a pivotal role in your insurance career.
4. **Industry Involvement:**
    - List of other industry-related activities, volunteer work, or community involvement that demonstrate your professional commitment to pursuing higher education or career advancement in insurance and achieving academic goals. Please include examples of strong character, leadership skills, and community involvement.

Benefits

1. **Event Tickets**:
    - Complimentary tickets to:
        - Annual Meeting 2027, Summer Forum 2027, and Future Fall 2027 Event.
2. **Travel Expenses**:
    - Travel expenses related to attending will be fully covered, including the cost of your hotel and flight.
    - $50 per diem for food (no alcohol).

3. **CIWA Future Mentor:**
    - Access to a mentor from CIWA Future, including one monthly coaching call throughout 2027.

Award Details

1. **Scholarship Package**:
    - The scholarship covers the cost of registration for CIWA's Annual Meeting, Summer Forum, and Future Fall Event, as well as travel expenses (hotel, flight, food allowance).
2. **Disbursement**:
    - Travel expenses will be paid for directly by CIWA OR reimbursed following the event, upon submission of receipts and confirmation of attendance.
3. **Application Deadline**:
    - All applications must be submitted by **5pm PT on Friday, November 13, 2026**.
4. **Recipient Notification**:
    - The winning scholarship recipient will be notified on **Tuesday, December 1, 2026** and announced at Annual Meeting 2027.

Application Process

1. Complete the scholarship application form found on pages 5 through 7 of this document.
2. Gather all required documents, including letters of recommendation, etc., to submit with your application.
3. Write a compelling personal statement or essay that addresses the scholarship's criteria.
4. Please submit your application and all supporting documents to info@ciwa.net by **5pm PT on Friday, November 13, 2026**.

Selection Process

1. **Review Process**:
    - All applications will be reviewed by the CIWA Future committee based on the applicant's eligibility criteria, their essay, referral letters, and relevant industry experience & goals.
2. **Interviews** (as needed):
    - Finalists may be contacted for a brief interview or follow-up questions to clarify their application or in the event of a “tie”.

Terms and Conditions

1. **Award Acceptance**:
    - Recipients must accept the scholarship award within 15 days of notification and confirm attendance at the events.
2. **Non-Transferable**:
    - The scholarship is non-transferable and must be used exclusively by the selected recipient for the awarded events.
3. **Publicity / Photography**:
    - By accepting the scholarship, recipients agree to allow the use of their name and photograph for promotional purposes related to the scholarship and CIWA events.

CIWA Future Matt Abram Scholarship Application Form

Applicant Details

First Name: _____

Last Name: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Work Phone Number: _____

Work Email Address: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

LinkedIn Profile URL: _____

Employment Details

Years in the Insurance Industry: _____

Are you employed by a current or past CIWA member company?

☐ Yes: ☐ Current ☐ Past ☐ No

Current Employer: _____ _____

Job Title: _____ Dates of Employment: _____

Previous Employer: _____ _____

Job Title: _____ Dates of Employment: _____

Educational / Professional Goals

Briefly describe your professional goals and how attending CIWA events will support your career development. (Minimum 150 words)

Short Essay

Why do you believe you deserve this scholarship, and how do you fit the qualifications?
Please include why this financial assistance would make a difference to you. (Minimum 150 words)

Industry Involvement

List other industry-related activities, volunteer work, or community involvement that demonstrate your commitment to pursuing higher education or career advancement in insurance and achieving academic goals. Please include examples of strong character, leadership skills, and community involvement.

Professional References *Please attach two letters of reference from an employer, former educator/mentor, or industry colleague who has played a pivotal role in your insurance career.*	
Reference 1	**Reference 2**
Reference Name: Relationship to Applicant: Phone Number: Email Address:	Reference Name: Relationship to Applicant: Phone Number: Email Address:

Certification:

☐ By submitting this application, I certify that all information provided is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge.

Signature: _____

Date: _____