

## **GPC Scholarship Program Policy Statement**

The Grant Professionals Certification Institute (GPCI) envisions excellence and accountability in grantsmanship. It seeks to support a philanthropic community assured of grant professionals who can successfully guide and shape the outcomes of their funding endeavors. As a key element of its services to professionals in the grants industry and its promotion of education, GPCI works with individuals and organizations in order to make scholarships available to individuals eligible for the Grant Professional Certified (GPC) exam.

It is the intention of GPCI to continue the yearly scholarship opportunity that began in 2010. Each year, individuals, the GPCI Board, the Grant Professionals Foundation (GPF), chapters of the Grant Professionals Association, and other organizations have the ability to donate funding for the scholarship program. The individual or organization making the donation has the ability to place stipulations on the specific scholarship. Examples of stipulations include requirements that funding must be awarded to a member of the Grant Professionals Association, restricted to a member of the donating chapter, or used by a certain time frame.

Funding dedicated to the GPC Scholarship Program will adhere to the general parameters outlined within this policy.

1. GPCI will partner with GPF in order to make the scholarship application available to interested individuals. Both organizations will advertise the application process, deadline, and resulting scholarship awards.
2. As long as funding is available, the scholarship application will be made available one time each calendar year (January-December).
3. During each application process, information will be provided detailing the specific requirements for that year's funding. Specifically, important dates will be provided, such as the deadline for submitting the application and the deadline for using awarded scholarships.
4. The offering of scholarships, their purpose, quantity, and eligibility requirements and the procedure for selection shall be determined by the GPCI Board each year, and values will be determined based upon available funds.
5. The GPCI Board will conduct a fair and impartial selection process by committee using a balanced rubric and formal application process. All selections made through this process are final and there is no appeal process.
6. The current rubric includes 105 available points for an award. An individual must score a minimum of 70 points to be eligible for a scholarship award.

7. GPCI reserves the right to not fund any of the available scholarships should minimum scoring requirements not be met.
8. An organization (such as a Chapter of GPA) or an individual may request the GPCI offer in its scholarship process a scholarship donated by that organization or individual. GPCI will conduct the appropriate selection and award processes on behalf of that organization and/or individual, effecting public acknowledgement of the donation, provided all funds designated for the scholarship have been deposited with GPCI prior to the publication or promotion of the scholarship application process. Deadlines and criteria will be determined and published by the GPCI Board in advance of the application process. Any exception to this proviso must be approved by the GPCI Board in advance of offering the scholarship or publishing the criteria for consideration.
9. No unfunded scholarship will be offered or included in the application and selection process.
10. The naming of a specific scholarship (such as a memorial gift) and the criteria for scholarship selection will be at the sole discretion of the GPCI Board upon discussion with the benefactors of that scholarship.
11. Scholarships will not be awarded retroactively.
12. Recipients of scholarships are responsible for any other expenses not specified in the scholarship offering.
13. Scholarships are non-transferable and have no cash value.
14. In the event a recipient cannot sit for the GPC exam for which a scholarship is offered due to personal or other unforeseen emergency, the particular scholarship can be awarded to an alternate finalist selected and ranked through the same process. In the event time will not allow for an alternate to participate in the GPC exam, funds from this award will be held in reserve for the next scholarship application process. If this award is one managed by GPCI on behalf of a chapter of the GPA, the chapter will be consulted with regard to said scholarship and may opt to either commit the funds for future scholarship use or retract the offering, in which case GPCI will return all unused funds to the chapter.
15. Completing the scholarship application does not qualify an individual to sit for the GPC exam. Each scholarship award winner must participate in the eligibility process for the exam. Failure to receive approval to sit for the exam will result in the revoke of the scholarship. If time allows, that particular scholarship can be awarded to an alternate finalist selected and ranked through the same process. If timing does not allow for an alternative to accept the award, the process outlined in item 14 above will be used to determine the future use of that scholarship.