

Scholarships for Moms Returning to College

By: *Trudie Longren*

The Bureau of Labor Statistics' Winter 2004 Quarterly Outlook reported that one significant factor hindering Americans from re-entering the workforce following an absence of five or more years was the lack of current marketable skills. Returning to college to finish a bachelor's or even a graduate degree is a sure path to improved employment options following an absence from the job market; however, the rising cost of an education can be prohibitive for mothers returning to college. Some organizations provide scholarships to assist mothers in pursuing a college education.

The American Association of University Women



The American Association of University Women awards \$ 2,000 to \$12,000 to women who are planning to reenter the workforce, hold a bachelor's degree and need to earn a master's degree. Funds are available for women studying in two or four-year colleges in the U.S. or in technical schools accredited by the U.S. Department of Education. Priority is given to women of color, women pursuing their first graduate degree and to women who plan to study in a non-traditional field. The deadline for the submission of an application falls in

Mid-December.

AAUW

1111 Sixteenth St. NW

Washington, DC 20036

202-785-7700

www.aauw.org/learn/fellowships_grants/career_development.cfm

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The Jeannette Rankin Scholarship Fund provides \$1,500 to female citizens of the U.S. over the age of 35 who wish to return to college to complete an undergraduate degree. Applicants must be enrolled in an accredited institution and must meet income guidelines based on the size of their households. Applications must be postmarked by March 1st.

Jeannette Rankin Foundation

1 Huntington Road, Suite 701

Athens, GA 30606
706-208-1211
rankinfoundation.org/

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The Educational Foundation for Women in Accounting



The Educational Foundation for Women in Accounting has two scholarships for women returning to school to study accounting. A woman can be granted up to \$16,000 if she is entering as a freshman in an undergraduate accounting program. A second \$2,000 scholarship is renewable for two consecutive years and is for incoming, current or junior students. In both cases, applicants must show financial need and provide evidence of academic progress each semester. Applications must be postmarked by the end of April.

The Educational Foundation for Women in Accounting
136 South Keowee St.
Dayton, OH 45402
937-424-3391
efwa.org/scholarships.php

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Talbots



Women who are U.S. or Canadian citizens holding a G.E.D. or a high school diploma issued prior to 2001, who are enrolled or who plan to enroll in an accredited U.S. or Canadian two, three or four-year institution and whose program of study will be completed in or before 2012 are eligible for a Talbots Women's Scholarship of 15,000 or 30,000 U.S. dollars. Applications are due in January for the 2011 school year. Only the first 5,000 eligible applicants are processed.

talbotswomen@scholarshipamerica.org
507-931-1682
scholarshipamerica.org/talbotswomen/instructions.php

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The AARP Foundation

Women who have been absent from the workforce for five or more years, women who are raising children of another family, or women with low income, limited job potential and no retirement benefits or health care are invited to apply for the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Foundation Women's Scholarship. Funds can be applied to tuition, fees and books at accredited colleges and four-year institutions as well as vocational schools. More information about the program is made available in the late fall on the website of the AARP.

AARP
601 E Street, NW
Washington DC 20049
888-687-2277
aarp.org/aarp-foundation/info-2010/scholarship-opportunities.html

Scholarships for Older Women Going to College

By: Lauren Miller
Updated July 27, 2017

Older women heading to college can have many concerns, but paying for their education shouldn't be one of them. There are a variety of scholarships geared toward women who are beyond the traditional age of college students. You can apply for these scholarships to help finance your academic pursuits.

AARP Women's Scholarship Program

The American Association of Retired Persons, a nonprofit organization dedicated to improving the lives of people 50 or older, offers several scholarships. With the financial support of retailer Walmart, the AARP awards funds annually to women older than 40 seeking educational training to improve job skills. You must be a U.S. citizen, demonstrate financial need and be enrolled or planning to enroll in an accredited two-year college, four-year university or training program to apply. Greater priority is given to women who are taking care of the children of another family member, have no health or retirement benefits or who have been out of work for more than five years. In 2010, more than 100 scholarships worth \$100 to \$5,000 were awarded.

Charlotte W. Newcombe Foundation Scholarship for Mature Women

Named after the late philanthropist, the foundation funds scholarships for women older than 25 at 29 colleges and universities in the United States. You apply for the scholarships through the financial aid office of your school. The foundation allocated \$679,500 for scholarships during the 2010-2011 academic year. You must have at least 60 credits toward a bachelor's degree to be eligible. Your school handles the selection process and disbursement of the money.

Linda Lael Miller Scholarships for Women

Best-selling author Linda Lael started a scholarship program in 2003 for women older than 25 from the money she receives from speaking engagements. The scholarship is not only for tuition but can be used for transportation, child care and other expenses not traditionally covered by academic awards. To apply, you must be a citizen of the U.S. or Canada. You also must submit an essay explaining why you need the scholarship and your educational goals. Ten scholarships worth \$1,000 were awarded in 2009. The award amount for 2010 was \$15,000.

Jeannette Rankin Women's Scholarship Fund

Named in honor of the first woman elected to Congress, the Jeanette Rankin Women's Scholarship Fund aids low-income women older than 35. You can be enrolled in a vocational program or two-year or four-year university. You must be a U.S. citizen and meet the income thresholds as set forth by the Department of Labor's Lower Living Standard to be eligible. Your goals, challenges and financial situation are considered during the selection process. In 2010, the foundation awarded 80 scholarships worth \$2,000 each.