

# 2024-25 WTS Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship

The WTS Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship was established in 1981 by WTS International to encourage women to pursue career paths in transportation. The scholarship is awarded to women pursuing graduate studies in transportation or a related field.

In memory of Helene M. Overly, the first Executive Secretary of WTS, the Board of Directors voted to name the annual WTS graduate scholarship the Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship to honor Helene for her dedicated service to WTS. Helene became a WTS member in 1981. She brought with her 15 years of experience in public service, tremendous organizational abilities, and a spirit of determination that helped WTS nearly double its membership in two years.

The WTS San Francisco Bay Chapter’s Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship is **$5,000**. The recipient will be submitted to WTS International to compete for an additional **$10,000**. The minimum criteria for selection are:

1. Must be female and/or identify as female.
2. GPA of 3.0 or higher.
3. Currently enrolled in a graduate degree program in a transportation-related field, such as transportation engineering, planning, finance, or logistics.
4. Plans to pursue a career in a transportation-related field.
5. Must come from, live, or go to school either the nine-county San Francisco Bay Area[[1]](#footnote-1), three-county Monterey Bay Area[[2]](#footnote-2) or San Luis Obispo County.

Scholarships are competitive and based on the applicant's specific transportation goals, academic record, and transportation-related activities or job skills. Applications must be submitted to Marcella Rensi at [marcella.rensi@vta.org](mailto:marcella.rensi@vta.org)as typed documents by **January 6, 2025**.

The San Francisco Chapter awards will be presented during the Chapter’s annual event in June 2025. International awards will be presented at the WTS Annual Conference in Toronto in May 2025. Conference registration for scholarship winners is complimentary and the chapter will cover travel and hotel costs.

# 2024-25 WTS Helene M. Overly Memorial Scholarship Application

* 1. **Personal Information**

Name Last First Middle

E-mail Address

Primary Phone Current Address (Street, City, State, Zip):

Permanent Address (Street, City, State, Zip):

# Educational Background

Current College/University

City, State Expected Date of Graduation

Degree to be Received

Area of Concentration Grade Point Average

(Minimum GPA of 3.0 required. Official transcript required, may send separately)

Previous Colleges/Universities Attended, Date Degree Earned and GPA:

Professional or School Affiliations (List any school, professional or community activities you have participated in. Include offices held and awards received. Attach additional sheets, if necessary, as typed word documents.)

# Employment History

Work Experience (List full-time, part-time, co-op and summer employment.

Briefly describe duties and responsibilities. Attach additional sheets, if necessary, as typed word documents.)

* 1. **Recommendation**: Two letters of recommendation by a professor or job supervisor are required. Letters may be sent directly to marcella.rensi@vta.org
  2. **Personal Statement**: A statement about your career goals after graduation and why you think that you should receive the scholarship award. Statement should not exceed 500 words. Please attach to application form as a typed word document.
  3. **Proof of Enrollment**: Attach a copy of your tuition receipt or current registration card.
  4. **Demographic Information:** WTS is committed to recognizing the achievements of students pursuing transportation related degrees. To track our progress in reaching diverse applicants, we ask that you complete this confidential demographic information. **This is not required for scholarship awards and will not be used in the selection process.**

# Race/Ethnicity (select all that apply)

# Asian

# Black

# East Indian

# Hispanic/Latino

# Indigenous

# Middle Eastern

# Multiracial

# Pacific Islander

# White

# Other (please write in)

# Choose not to disclose

# Age

# 15-18

# 19-23

# 24-30

# 31-50

# 50+

# Anticipated or Current Mode of Transportation Career Focus (select all that apply)

# Aviation

# Freight

# Highway/Auto

# Maritime/Port

# Multi-modal

# Non-Motorized

# Passenger

# Transit

Other (please write in)

# 

# How did you hear about this scholarship

# Friend

# School/Teacher

# Social Media:

# Facebook

# Instagram

# LinkedIn

# Snapchat

# TikTok

# Twitter

# YouTube

# Other (please write in)

# WTS Chapter

# WTS International Website

Other (please write in)

Applicant Signature Date

1. Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, Sonoma [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. Monterey, San Benito, Santa Cruz [↑](#footnote-ref-2)