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Call for Nominations

Attention AAUW of Tennessee Branches and AAUW College/University Partners in Tennessee!

AAUW of Tennessee **invites your nominations** of undergraduate students currently attending a 2 or 4-year college or university in the State of Tennessee for scholarships to attend the **2026 National Conference for College Women Student Leaders (NCCWSL)** held the last week in May 2026 at the University of Maryland, College Park.

NCCWSL is a two-and-a-half day conference designed to enhance the leadership skills of college women students and to promote effectiveness in their work on campus and in the community. To learn more about NCCWSL visit www.nccwsl.org

Scholarship Selection Criteria

AAUW of Tennessee has been awarding scholarships to send students to NCCWSL since 2005. Nominees for the scholarship should have some leadership experience, exhibit strong potential for growth in leadership, and exhibit good written communication skills. Nominees will be asked to submit an application in which they (1) list their extra-curricular activities (including any involvement with AAUW), (2) list their leadership positions held, and (3) write an essay in which they discuss (a) the most valuable lessons they have taken from their extra-curricular and leadership experiences (b) one issue of concern to AAUW that interests them, what they can do to make a difference and (c) how they expect to profit from attending NCCWSL. Note: If selected, the student will be asked to be a speaker to a group which includes AAUW members relaying the NCCWSL experiences. This is in addition to submitting a written summary of the NCCWSL experience with pictures.

Scholarship Award

The scholarship awards, funded by AAUW-Tn, cover conference registration (which includes lodging and meals). The student must be able to pay for some of their travel expenses to and from the conference. AAUW of Tennessee branches and colleges and universities who nominate a student are expected to contribute to the majority of travel expenses (i.e. air fare) if their nominee receives the AAUW-TN scholarship.

To Nominate

1. Each College/University member representative or AAUW-TN Branch is limited to nominating only 2 students for scholarship consideration. (Note: for any student the University/Branch nominates, you must agree to pay for their travel to and from the conference if they are selected to receive the scholarship.
2. **Nominations of potential applicants must be submitted by the College/University (C/U) Partner representative or AAUW-TN Branch President.** What this means is that if you as a university representative or branch president solicit nominations from your colleagues, they need to send their nomination letter to you. Then you will need to determine which one or two to nominate from your College/University or branch. Also, you don't have to be the person to write the letter of nomination, as sometimes others in the University/College may know the student better than you.

Before the student is nominated, be sure that the student, if selected, will be able to attend the conference and that your institution or AAUW branch can provide the majority of travel funds.

The letter of nomination must contain the following:

- Student's full name, mailing address, phone number, and email address
- Student's major and expected graduation date
- Student's permission to nominate with agreement to attend NCCWSL if selected
- Your reasons for nominating the student and your opinion of how the student will benefit from the NCCWSL experience.

Nomination letters must come through the University representative or AAUW-TN Branch President and be sent to Sue Byrd, AAUW of Tennessee NCCWSL Scholarship Chair, at sbyrd6@utm.edu

The deadline for nominations is November 3, 2025.

Nominated students will be asked to complete an online application by November 17, 2025.

