



## SWANA WISCONSIN BADGER CHAPTER

*Scholarship Application Instructions Revised 4/3/2025*

Both SWANA National and the SWANA Badger Chapter have scholarship programs in place to promote the organization's strategic value of industry education. Our organizations are committed to preparing the next generation for involvement in the solid waste field. The Badger Chapter typically awards up to \$6,000 in scholarships in the following categories:

**Category I:** Graduating high school seniors or graduate equivalent certified candidates who have been accepted for enrollment in a junior college, a four-year college, or a university (any program). *To be eligible, candidates must be the children or grandchildren of a SWANA Member (sponsor) in good standing as of May 1st of the current calendar year.*

**Category II:** Currently enrolled full-time college or university students who are entering their junior or senior undergraduate year and pursuing a degree in environmental science, engineering, or other suitable majors related to the field of solid waste management. *To be eligible, candidates must be the children or grandchildren of a SWANA Member (sponsor) in good standing as of May 1st of the current calendar year or be a SWANA Student Members in good standing (note student membership is free).*

**Category III:** (Robert P. Stearns/SCS Engineers): Full-time students who are entering or are in graduate school pursuing a degree in environmental science, engineering or other suitable major related to the field of solid waste management. *Eligible candidates must be sons, daughters, grandsons or granddaughters of a SWANA Member (sponsor) in good standing as of May 1st or be a SWANA Student Members in good standing.*

**Application Instructions:** To apply for the Badger Chapter Scholarships, students must download and complete the application that is relevant to them from the SWANA National website: <https://swana.org/community/awards-scholarships/scholarships-internships>.

An application for the Badger Chapter scholarship program serves as the application for the National program. The Badger Chapter will select the scholarships that are submitted to National.

Please read the national scholarship application carefully as requirements are different for each scholarship and change from year to year. Documentation must be received by the application deadline of May 1 so allow time for institutions to process your requests.

Electronic transmittal of these documents is preferred. Send your completed applications and information to: [welch@countyofdane.com](mailto:welch@countyofdane.com) and [SWANAWI@gmail.com](mailto:SWANAWI@gmail.com).

In addition to applying for one of the Category I-III scholarships, students may apply for the Brenda Lee Quinnell Rising Leader Scholarship:

**Brenda Lee Quinnell Rising Leader Scholarship:** Category I, II, or III students who demonstrate leadership, commitment, and passion. The recipient of this award will be forwarded for National award consideration.

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## **BRENDA LEE QUINNELL RISING LEADER SCHOLARSHIP**

In August 2018 the solid waste and recycling community lost one of its most devoted members. Brenda Quinnell, director of the Adams County Solid Waste Department, served for over 10 years as the Wisconsin Badger Chapter's administrative assistant. During her years of service Brenda was much more than an "assistant", she was a leader. Brenda kept chapter presidents and monthly meetings on task, filed annual financial reports, organized in person meetings, and played a major role in WIRM conference planning. Meleesa Johnson, Director of the Marathon County Solid Waste Department, put it best when she said, "Brenda was the glue that held [the chapter] together."

Beyond her dedication to the chapter, Brenda was a welcoming presence. In a forum like SWANA, where many of the meetings and communications are held over the phone or via email, it can be difficult to get to know someone. That was not so with Brenda, whose warm voice and kind nature traveled through the phone and email waves with each communication.

Brenda guided new members through the committee structure and helped promote and organize young professional events. She was a true mentor and always willing to share her knowledge and experience.

For these reasons, and many more, the Wisconsin Badger Chapter is proud to offer the Brenda Lee Quinnell Rising Leader Scholarship. Each year, one scholarship will be awarded to an individual who demonstrates the following characteristics or actions through their application and essay(s):

- Searches for extra opportunities in school, community, work, or the solid waste and recycling industry.
- Inspires others through mentorship, integrity, creativity, and his or her ability to communicate.
- Commitment, enthusiasm, passion, and accountability towards an organization or activity.

Any applicant who submits a completed category I, II, or III application may apply for this scholarship by submitting a supplemental essay with their application.

***SUPPLEMENTAL ESSAY QUESTION:*** *In 1,000 words or less, describe how you have demonstrated leadership and what being a good leader means to you.*

*Applicants are also encouraged to provide any documentation of ways in which he or she has demonstrated leadership (photos, videos, awards, letters of references etc.)*