

THE COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC.

A0004857F

Patron: Her Excellency the Honourable Linda Dessau AC, Governor of Victoria



EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

Guidelines

V2.1, 2022

Introduction

The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc. (CWA Victoria) is the largest women's organisation in Victoria. It is a non-party political and non-sectarian organisation for country and city women.

It aims to provide direct benevolent assistance to disadvantaged and vulnerable women, children and families in need throughout metropolitan, regional, rural and remote settings in Victoria through:

- (a) volunteer community service;
- (b) the establishment and management of community support networks; and
- (c) the provision of financial aid or emergency funding.

Members work for the welfare of women, children and families through representation to all levels of government, undertaking fundraising events, providing networking opportunities and teaching life skills.

CWA Victoria was formed on 12 March 1928 and today has over 5,000 members. Each member belongs to one of about 300 Branches state-wide that maintains its own program and is empowered to support community needs.

The Educational Grants were first established in 1946 to assist students with educational expenses. Since then, the number of grants available at both State level and through individual branches of CWA Victoria has grown.

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS

CWA Victoria has three categories of Educational Grants: those open to the general public, those available to members and their families, and those open only to members.

1. Those open to the general public:
 - Open Post-Secondary and Post Graduate Awards. See Section 1.
 - Central Highlands Ruby McCullough Scholarship. See Section 1.
2. Those open to members and their families (See Section 2.)
 - Secondary grants for those attending or about to attend secondary college.
 - Post-Secondary grants for full-time study of a post-Year 12 course at Diploma level or above at university, TAFE, or equivalent institution for a period of up to three years, provided evidence is given each year of satisfactory results and re-enrolment.
 - Diamond Jubilee Residential Grant for a student commencing post-secondary education who is in their first year of full time study and needs to live away from home.
 - Open Post-Secondary and Post Graduate Awards, which are also open to the general public – see Section 1.
3. Those open only to members: see Section 3.

EDUCATIONAL GRANTS AVAILABLE

1. Educational Grants available for Application by General Public and CWA of Victoria Members:

a. Open Post-Secondary and Post Graduate Awards

Closing Date for Applications 31 March

These awards include the awards formerly known as the Sarah Amiet (nee Nicholson) Award, the Alice Stewart Award, the Environmental Science Award, the Victoria Louisa Craig Award, and the Food Technology Award.

CRITERIA

These awards are open to students:

- a. resident in Victoria (or bordering districts); and
- b. studying any post-Year 12 course at any Victorian university, TAFE, or equivalent institution, at diploma level or higher; and
- c. who comply with all requirements of the application form.

All applications received by the due date will be reviewed, and awards made to eligible applicants on merit, but with preference given to students studying:

- i. nursing or allied health professions; or
- ii. agriculture/agribusiness; or
- iii. environmental science; or
- iv. hospitality or food technology.

Students studying other disciplines are also encouraged to apply.

Up to five awards may be granted each year. Awards are granted for one year. Applicants may re-apply in subsequent years. Successful applicants must supply evidence of enrolment, and bank details, in order to receive payment of the award.

b. Central Highlands Ruby McCullough Scholarship

The Central Highlands Ruby McCullough Scholarship is awarded annually from 2022 to a woman studying in the field of leadership and/or governance. The funds come from a donation made by the Central Highlands Group of CWA Victoria, in memory of past member Mrs Ruby McCullough.

Closing Date for Applications 31 March

CRITERIA

This award is open to women:

- a. resident in Victoria (or bordering districts), and
- b. studying a course in leadership and/or governance at a recognized Australian institution, and
- c. who comply with all requirements of the application form.

All applications received by the due date will be reviewed, and the scholarship will be awarded to an eligible applicant on merit, but preference will be given to a member of The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc. if a suitable application is received.

GUIDELINES

1. Application forms for these Awards will be available on the cwaofvic.org.au website from February each year. Closing date is 31 March in any year.
2. All applications must be made on the appropriate form with additional information and references attached as required.
3. Applications must be received no later than 31 March and can be forwarded either by mail to:
The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc
Attention: State Treasurer
3 Lansell Road
TOORAK VIC 3142

or by email to statetreasurer@cwaofvic.org.au
4. Late entries will **NOT** be accepted.
5. Successful applicants will be notified in writing within eight (8) weeks of the closing date.
6. If an award is made to the applicant, the student cannot accept the award and then defer studies.

Note: Any money received from The Country Women's Association of Victoria Educational Grants Fund is non-taxable income for the recipient.

Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can I apply for more than one award?

Answer: Yes, you can apply for all awards for which you are eligible as per the guidelines.

2. Do I need to be a member of CWA of Victoria?

Answer: There are some awards that are only open to members. The Open Post-Secondary and Post Graduate Awards and the Central Highlands Ruby McCullough Scholarship in Section 1 (pages 3-4) are available to Victorian residents and CWA of Victoria members. Refer to the guidelines in each section.

3. What if I can't obtain my current results?

Answer: Only fully completed applications will be considered.

2. Educational Grants available for Application by CWA of Victoria Members for themselves or their Family Members

Applications open in August – Closing date for Applications 30 September

Note: Membership must be of at least 18 months standing to qualify for application.

These awards are open to CWA Victoria members, junior members, members' children, members' step-children, members' grandchildren, step grandchildren, and children for whom the member is the legal guardian.

**For Secondary awards, the application form should be completed by the member.
For Post-Secondary awards, the application form should be completed by the student.**

Secondary

For applicants attending or about to attend a Secondary College. The grant is awarded for one (1) year only. Awardees may reapply each year. Amount awarded may depend on the number of applicants and/or amount of money earned in that year from interest-bearing deposits.

Post-Secondary

Awarded for the chosen course for a period of up to 3 years, providing evidence is given each year, in writing, of satisfactory progress and re-enrolment. Consideration will be given to continuing the award for an extra Honours year, should the awardee wish to continue. The award is to be used for the purchase of books or equipment. A number of general awards are available. Amount awarded may depend on the number of applicants and/or amount of money earned in that year from interest-bearing deposits.

Awards in the name of the Late Mrs A.A. Gibbs

These grants are only available to the grandchildren of members.

- Up to four Secondary awards and four Post-Secondary awards are made each year. Their value will depend on the funds available in that year.
- Each award is for one year only. Applicants may reapply each year.

Diamond Jubilee Post-Secondary Residential Grant

Made possible through a State Project to mark the Diamond Jubilee of The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc. 1928-1988.

- Available to a student commencing Post-Secondary education who, in their first year of study, needs to live away from home.

GUIDELINES

1. Application forms for the Secondary and Post-Secondary Awards, the AA Gibbs Awards and the Diamond Jubilee Residential Grant will be available on the website from August each year. Closing date 30 September in any year.
2. All applications must be made on the appropriate form with additional information and references attached as required.
3. Applications for Educational Grants must be signed by the Applicant, Parent or Legal Guardian if under 18, Branch President, and the Group President who must be the LAST person to sign off on the application.
4. Applications must be received no later than 30 September and can be forwarded either by mail to:

The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc
Attention: State Treasurer
3 Lansell Road
TOORAK VIC 3142

or by email to statetreasurer@cwaofvic.org.au

5. Late entries will **NOT** be accepted.
6. **Secondary Grants: THREE** references must be supplied: **TWO** from responsible non-family citizens and **ONE** from Principal/Co-ordinator.
7. **Post-Secondary Grants: THREE** references must be supplied: **TWO** from responsible non-family citizens and **ONE** from Educational Institution.

8. All applications received by the due date will be reviewed, and awards made to eligible applicants on merit.
9. Successful applicants will be notified in writing within eight (8) weeks of the closing date.
10. If an award is made to the applicant, the student cannot accept the award and then defer studies.
11. Secondary Educational Grants are awarded for one year only, but applicants may reapply each year.
12. Post-Secondary Educational Grants are awarded for applicants attending or about to attend University, non-university Institution, TAFE College, etc. and may be awarded for a period of three years provided proof is given each year, in writing, of successful completion of the year, together with a copy of the re-enrolment form for the following year. The grants are for students studying full time, and undertaking courses of at least one year's duration. Note that grants for Diploma courses are for one year only.
13. Successful applicants for Secondary Educational Grants must supply bank details in order to receive payment of the award.
14. Successful applicants for Post-Secondary Educational Grants must supply evidence of enrolment and bank details, in order to receive payment of the award.

Note: Any money received from The Country Women's Association Scholarship Fund is non-taxable income for the recipient.

3. Educational Grants available to CWA of Victoria Members only

State Government Funded Grants for First Aid and Food Handling Training

The Association is offering sponsorship provided by a grant from the State Government of Victoria for the successful attainment of First Aid and Food Handling training. Awards will be made twice annually, with closing dates 31 March and 30 September. Please use the separate application forms for First Aid and for Food Handling.

Elsa Mary Grice Education Grants

Elsa Mary Grice Education Grants are available to members of CWA Victoria "for the education of members for their work in CWA". Miss Grice was State President of CWA Victoria 1935-36, and left a substantial bequest to the Association in her will.

GUIDELINES

1. Application forms for Elsa Mary Grice Education Grants will be available on the website throughout the year. Awards will be made twice annually, with closing dates 31 March and 30 September. There are separate application forms to be used for First Aid and for Food Handling.
2. Funding is available to assist members to study a range of short courses at recognised institutions, provided that the member can link the course with their CWA volunteer work. Examples include governance, financial training, leadership training, computer skills.
3. Members will be asked to agree to put the training to use to benefit CWA, e.g. by standing for election to an office-bearer position.
4. Grants provide full or partial reimbursement of fees for courses; members receiving grants must pay for the course themselves, and submit evidence of satisfactory completion and payment of course fees to obtain the grant. Reimbursement will not be provided if the member has undertaken the course before applying for and being awarded the grant.
5. Members receiving grants will need to supply bank details for EFT transfer.
6. All applications must be made on the appropriate form with additional information attached as required.
7. Applications must be received no later than 31 March or 30 September and can be forwarded either by mail to:

The Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc
Attention: State Treasurer
3 Lansell Road
TOORAK VIC 3142

or by email to statetreasurer@cwaofvic.org.au

8. Late entries will **NOT** be accepted.
9. Successful applicants will be notified in writing within eight (8) weeks of the closing date.
10. If an award is made to the applicant, but the student does not supply the evidence of satisfactory completion and payment of course fees within six months, the award may be withdrawn.

Note: Any money received from The Country Women's Association of Victoria Educational Grants Fund is non-taxable income for the recipient.