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2022 YMCA OF THE USA SCHOLARSHIP FUNDS ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA AND INFORMATION

YMCA of the USA (Y-USA) has available a variety of scholarship opportunities for Y staff to support undergraduate and postgraduate studies as well as job-related training. This document provides details regarding the select scholarship opportunities that are available for 2022 through Y-USA's formal scholarship application process.

A selection committee comprised of Y-USA and local YMCA staff will review scholarship applications and make award decisions. Award amounts are dependent on available funding each year and there is no guaranteed or set amount for each award. There are typically two application windows, one in the Spring (May) and another in the Fall (September/October). Before applying, please read eligibility requirements in this document to determine which scholarship best fits your needs. Only complete scholarship applications (including all attachments) will be reviewed.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

The applicant must be an employee of a chartered YMCA or a YMCA state/regional Alliance located in the United States. Applicant must also be an employee of a YMCA within the United States at the time of their application. **Applicants must be applying for fees that support undergraduate or postgraduate studies beginning after August 1, 2022 and ending prior to July 31, 2023 OR YMCA job-related training beginning after April 1, 2022 and ending prior to December 31, 2022.**

Applicants are notified of the scholarship funding decision within 8 weeks of application closing date via email. Scholarships are distributed on a reimbursement basis unless otherwise stated with paperwork due by the date indicated in the individual award letter; no extensions or exceptions will be allowed. Scholarship awards cannot be applied towards travel, meals or books unless otherwise indicated. Scholarship funds are specific to the requested coursework and/or trainings included in the SmartSimple application.

Please thoroughly review the eligibility and award criteria for the scholarships you are interested in applying for. Applicants may apply for multiple scholarships if they meet the requirements for each scholarship fund.

SCHOLARSHIP NAME	YMCA LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATION LEVEL	ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS
Earl P. Armstrong	Multi-Team Leader Certification or Organizational Leader Certification	• 3 years professional experience at the YMCA (resume required) • Career goals that demonstrate a commitment to a YMCA career as expressed in the application
Solon B. Cousins	Not required	• For students at Springfield College or George Williams College of Aurora University • Career goals that demonstrate a commitment to a YMCA career as expressed in the application • YMCA or human services experience (resume required)
Carolyn Creager	Not required	• Must be a full-time or part-time professional working in the Y for a minimum of one year • Consideration will be given to applicant's tenure, position and previous staff development training • Must be of Asian/Pacific Islander, African, African American, Hispanic/Latino or Native American ancestry as self-identified through Y-USA's staff database • Must be a Y employee who routinely receives satisfactory performance ratings
Fred Hoshiyama	Not required	• Must be of Asian/Pacific Islander ancestry as self-identified through Y-USA's staff database • Must be a full-time or part-time professional working in the Y for a minimum of one year • Must routinely receive satisfactory performance ratings • Ability to confirm that they have the full support of their supervisor with a letter of recommendation • Candidates are identified through (but not limited to) referrals from Y-USA, members of the ALN, local Y supervisors and leadership, or through self-identification
William A. Hunton	Not required	• Current full-time or part-time Staff • Hispanic/Latino, African American, Asian/Pacific Islander or Native American/Alaskan • Completion of at least one course towards YMCA Leadership Certification • YMCA job-related training • Career goals that demonstrate a commitment to a YMCA career as expressed in the application
John R. Mott	Multi-Team Leader Certification or Organizational Leader Certification	Career goals that demonstrate a commitment to a YMCA career as expressed in the application

HISTORICAL INFORMATION REGARDING SCHOLARSHIP & FELLOWSHIP FUNDS EARL P. ARMSTRONG SCHOLARSHIP

The Earl P. Armstrong Scholarship Fund is designed to provide financial assistance to YMCA Senior Directors (Multi-Team Leaders) who want to pursue advanced educational opportunities to enhance their professional performance and career mobility.

Earl P. Armstrong, retired in June, 1982, following 42 years of professional service to the YMCA. In recognition of Earl's outstanding service, a host of friends elected to pay tribute to him by establishing the Armstrong Scholarship Fund and made the initial contributions to the former South Field Office of the YMCA of the USA for that purpose.

It was his decision to use these funds for scholarship awards to deserving YMCA professionals. This was especially appropriate, as Earl was the first recipient in the YMCA of a John R. Mott Scholarship. In establishing the Earl P. Armstrong Scholarship Fund, others would benefit, as he did, in furthering their education and enhancing their contributions to the Young Men's Christian Association. The scholarship is available for qualified YMCA staff throughout the country. Gratitude is hereby expressed to those many friends whose generosity made possible the Armstrong Scholarship fund.

Contributions will be gratefully accepted and will help provide more scholarships for YMCA professionals. Checks should be made to the YMCA of the USA and mailed to the YMCA of the USA, Attention Financial Development. Contributions are tax-exempt.

OLON B. COUSINS YMCA SCHOLARSHIP

For Springfield College and George Williams College of Aurora University students planning a YMCA Career Springfield College has, throughout its history, provided education and training for YMCA professionals.

George Williams College of Aurora University also has a long history of educating YMCA career professionals. Today, Springfield and George Williams maintain a formal affiliation with the YMCA of the USA as the only Independent Association Colleges.

Capping a rich and varied career in the YMCA and United Way, Solon Cousins retired in 1990 after serving ten years as National Executive Director of the YMCA of the USA. The scholarship fund was created in his honor by the National Board of the YMCA of the USA upon his retirement.

CAROLYN CREAGER MULTICULTURAL LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT FUND

The Carolyn Creager Multicultural Leadership Development Fund will be used to support the cause of strengthening the YMCA movement by advancing leadership equity through the Multicultural Leadership Development Department. The fund will serve any Y staff of color (those of diverse racial and ethnic backgrounds including people of Asian/Pacific Islander, African, African American, Hispanic/Latino or Native American ancestry) in need of financial assistance to advance their careers and create greater leadership equity in the Y. The fund will also directly support the initiation or expansion of initiatives that advance leadership equity in the Y Movement.

FRED HOSHIYAMA ASIAN LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

The Fred Hoshiyama Asian Leadership Scholarship encourages and empowers professional growth and development for Y staff of Asian/Pacific Islander ancestry through supporting learning and training opportunities. Scholarship funds may be used to attend Y professional development opportunities such as Regional Training Events, Principles & Practices, Executive Preparatory Institute, New Branch Executive Institute, Organizational Leadership Forum as well as those working towards completing their bachelor's degree and master's degree/continuing education. Please note

that scholarship amounts for continuing education will be awarded at the discretion of the ALN Scholarship Committee. Applicants may also apply for an Association or YMCA branch match for travel and lodging expenses to YMCA conferences and trainings. The Fred Hoshiyama Scholarship Fund is a collaborative effort between the Asian Leadership Network (ALN) and the YMCA of the USA's Diversity & Inclusion department.

Please note: If selected for the Fred Hoshiyama Scholarship, recipients must be willing to:

- Remain employed within the Y Movement for at least 12 months after the completion of their activity
- Enroll in the Y-USA Multicultural Mentoring Program (MMP)
- Submit a written reflection of their training experience to the ALN Scholarship Committee
- In the future, assist ALN in its mission and scope of work

WILLIAM A. HUNTON FELLOWSHIP FUND

The purpose of the scholarship is to assist minority staff members to advance in the YMCA through training experiences that help them grow as YMCA professionals, and to assist them in completing their college education so they can embark on a professional YMCA career. The scholarship can be awarded for training towards the YMCA Leadership Certification or for use towards the completion of college credit.

William A. Hunton became the first full-time African-American director of a YMCA in 1888, when he joined the Colored Y of Norfolk, VA., as general secretary. He later joined the national YMCA staff as head of the Colored Works Department.

JOHN R. MOTT SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship is designed to assist YMCA Senior Directors in continuing their education through graduate study. It was established in honor of John R. Mott, a major YMCA leader for more than 60 years and winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1946.

HOW TO APPLY

Applications must be submitted online via the **YMCA of the USA Scholarship Application** found on Y-USA's online application system, SmartSimple. First-time applicants must register online using the instructions provided on the log-in page. It is important to complete the profile section; be prepared to enter your Association or Branch number. Returning users can find their password by clicking on "Forgot Your Password?" Your password will be sent to the email as established in the profile section. Be sure to check spam or junk mailboxes. If you are having trouble, email grants@ymca.net.

- Navigate to Y-USA's SmartSimple system at <https://yusa.smartsimple.com/>
- On your homepage, select your YMCA in the "Applying on behalf of" box
- Select **"YMCA of the USA Scholarship Application"**
- Click "Apply"
 - Answer questions
 - Check Eligibility
- If eligible, click "Proceed to Application" then "Begin Application". If not eligible, you may email grants@ymca.net for clarification
- Complete the application; save and submit each section. Read all instructions in the application.
- **Submit** (at the bottom of the page)
 - You will receive an email confirming that your application has been submitted. Your YMCA CEO will also be notified via email upon submission. You must submit prior to the listed deadline.

SELECTION & NOTIFICATION PROCESS

- Applications will be reviewed by the Y-USA, MLD and ALN Scholarship Committees, as appropriate
- Notification will be sent via email to all applicants
- Preference will be given to those not previously awarded this scholarship
- Consideration will also be given based upon tenure, past staff development training, and those working on completing their Y Leadership Certification

REIMBURSEMENT PROCESS

If awarded a scholarship, please refer to the following information. Scholarships are distributed on a reimbursement basis only with paperwork due by the date indicated in the individual award letter; no extensions or exceptions will be allowed. Scholarship awards cannot be applied towards travel, meals or books unless otherwise indicated.

When requesting reimbursement of funds, please submit the following paperwork:

- Proof of payment or invoice
- Only course/registration fees will be reimbursed
- Proof of enrollment by transcript with grade and academic session or copy of YMCA transcript
- Provide name and address to whom and to where the reimbursement should be sent
- Allow 6 weeks for reimbursements to be processed

For reimbursement, please submit paperwork to:

financial_assistance@ymca.net

Y-USA NATIONAL TRAINING

For Principles and Practices, the applicant must register for the course via the online registration site. Completion of the scholarship application does not guarantee you a seat in the course. When registering, you may select the box to indicate that you have applied or are planning to apply for financial assistance. After the award or decline decision has been made, the applicant will receive a "payment due" notice of the registration balance or will receive a refund. All cancellation policies remain in effect per the event registration site. If an applicant does not attend the event, the award is not transferable to another similar event or to another staff member attending the event. The award will become invalid. If you wish to attend another instance of the event, you must re-apply for a financial assistance award.

QUESTIONS & GENERAL INFORMATION

For the Carolyn Creager Scholarship, questions may be directed to:

Shanna Smiley
Senior Manager, Multicultural Leadership Development
shanna.smiley@ymca.net

For the Fred Hoshiyama Scholarship, questions may be directed to:

Dara Meinerth
Asian Leadership Network Scholarship Committee
dmeinerth@ymcasf.org

Any general scholarship-related questions may be directed to:

Sarah Shaughnessy
Operations Coordinator, YMCA of the USA
sarah.shaughnessy@ymca.net