



Stormwater Scholar Award: 2026 Call for Applications

Purpose and Overview

The goal of CASQA's Stormwater Scholar Award is to encourage the next generation of leaders in the stormwater management field. If selected, Stormwater Scholars must **attend the CASQA Annual Conference** to engage with and learn from the top leaders and experts in the stormwater field. This year's conference will be held at the SAFE Credit Union Convention Center in Sacramento from October 26-28, 2026.

During the annual conference, Stormwater Scholars will receive mentoring and networking opportunities by meeting with the CASQA Board of Directors, CASQA staff, CASQA members and other leading stormwater professionals. Stormwater Scholars expand their knowledge through significant educational opportunities by hearing presentations from the leading experts in the stormwater community including local, state, and federal decision makers, stormwater program coordinators, contractors, consultants, engineers, lawyers, scientists, and planners.

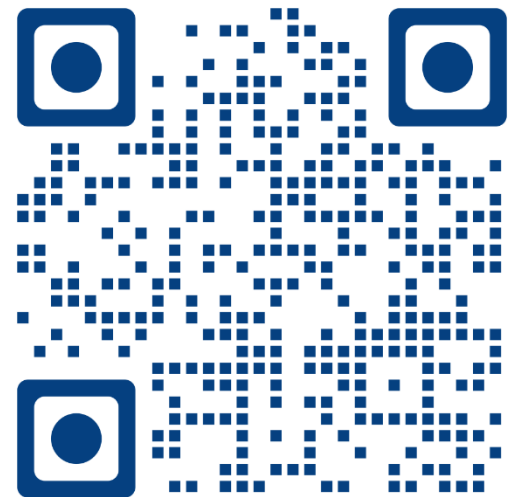
Up to three (3) awards are available in 2026. The scholarship awards are valued at \$2,500 each and include:

- Complimentary 3-Day Full Conference Pass
- Up to three-night hotel stay;
- \$500 travel and meals stipend;
- Mentoring and meetings with the CASQA Board of Directors, CASQA Program Managers, and/or Executive Director; and/or Assistant Executive Director, and other leading stormwater professionals;
- Student membership in CASQA for 1 year

Eligibility

To be eligible for this award, applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. **Enrollment Status:** Applicants must be enrolled full-time at an accredited college or university, at the undergraduate or graduate level, and be in good standing as defined by their institution, or have graduated within two (2) years prior to application.
2. **Project:** Applicants must have completed a project (or are in progress) related to water or environmental management in California (includes areas like water quality, public education, pollution reduction, science, engineering, policy, law, etc.). See CASQA's [Vision for Sustainable Management](#) and [Strategic Plan](#) for



Scan the QR Code for more information and/or to submit an application

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reference of areas applicable to stormwater management. Group projects such as senior design projects and community-based projects are eligible, but applicant must demonstrate a substantial role.

Application Requirements

To apply for the Stormwater Scholar Award, the following must be submitted by the application deadline:

- **Statement of Interest** from the applicant that describes their background and interest in the Stormwater Scholar Award (1 page max) and describes how their academic background can be applied to stormwater needs. See CASQA's [Vision for Sustainable Stormwater Management](#).
- **Letter of recommendation** from a mentor, supervisor, advisor, teacher, or professor who worked with the applicant on the project. Letter of recommendation must be from an individual not related to the nominee.
- **Video** NOT TO EXCEED 2 MINUTES in length where the applicant describes the project (include project goals, approach, results, and conclusions or discussion). We want to hear from you about your project!
- **Proof of Enrollment** in college or university or degree.

Expectations of Stormwater Scholar Awardees

If selected for an award, Stormwater Scholars must agree to attend the CASQA Annual Conference in Sacramento from October 26-28, 2026, and to participate in all award benefits, which may include mentoring opportunities and appearing on stage during the conference plenary session to receive acknowledgment and recognition. Stormwater Scholars must also agree to the use of their name and image in any conference materials or CASQA publication.

The application form requires acknowledging and agreeing to these expectations and requirements.

How to Submit an Application

Applications must be submitted via [CASQA's website](#). Upon submittal, the applicant will receive an email that confirms receipt of the application.

Questions

Send via email only to: CASQA@casqa.org:

- Subject: 2026 Stormwater Scholar Application
- Content: Include your name, your question and telephone number

Schedule and Application Deadline

- Stormwater Scholar Application Opens: March 16, 2026
- Applications Due: May 29, 2026
- Decisions Announced: Mid-July 2026
- CASQA Annual Conference: October 26-28, 2026