



2015 GACCE Scholarships Guidelines & Judging Criteria

Scholarship Guidelines

- Any chief paid officer or staff member of a Chamber of Commerce in the State of Georgia that has paid their 2014-2015 membership dues with the Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (GACCE) is eligible to apply for a GACCE Scholarship. **Only one person from each chamber is eligible to win a scholarship for each specific event** (i.e.: if you have more than one staff member apply for the Staff Development Conference, only one will be eligible to win). More than one application from each chamber can be submitted; however, they will be judged on merit and only one will be eligible to win per event.
- Four (4) GACCE Scholarships shall be awarded for national programs:
 - ✓ **Two (2) for attendance at the Institute for Organizational Management at UGA (June 2016)**
 - ✓ **Two (2) for registration fee for the ACCE Convention (August 2015)**

The maximum funds for these scholarships will be \$1,295 per scholarship, and they will be reimbursed to the Chamber of Commerce after tuition to Institute or registration for the ACCE Convention have been paid by the Chamber.

- Twenty (20) full GACCE Scholarships shall be awarded to members to attend GACCE conferences:
 - ✓ **Ten (10) for the Executive Leadership Conference in July 2015 – these will be awarded to current Chamber Executives only** (four scholarships are being provided by Purchasing Alliance Solutions, one scholarship is being provided by Georgia Transmission Corporation, and one scholarship is being provided by DelPhi Communications.)
 - ✓ **Three (3) for the Volunteer Leader Conference in November 2015** (one scholarship is being provided by Purchasing Alliance Solutions)
 - ✓ **Seven (7) for the Staff Development Conference in March 2016** (one scholarship is being provided by Purchasing Alliance Solutions)

The funds for these scholarships, which will cover registration and hotel fees (except incidentals), will be credited to the Chamber.

In addition, **eleven (11) registration-only scholarships for the 2015 Executive Leadership Conference** are being made available from the funds received from the 2014 Executive Leadership Conference Silent Auction. *These scholarships are only available to current Chamber Executives.* The funds for these scholarships (\$250 each) will be credited to the Chamber for the winner's registration.

- Funds provided through the GACCE Scholarship program must be used in the fiscal year in which they are provided.
- GACCE Scholarships cannot be provided to the same individual in the same category for two (2) consecutive years. One individual may not receive two (2) scholarships within the same fiscal year. Since you can only receive one (1) scholarship per fiscal year, it is important for applicants to apply for the top scholarship(s) desired.
- If a recipient leaves the Chamber profession in the State of Georgia prior to Institute or the ACCE Convention, or if a GACCE event scholarship recipient cannot attend the conference, the scholarship shall become void. Scholarships are not transferrable.
- GACCE Scholarships will be awarded during the Staff Development Conference held March 3-5, 2015 at the James H. Rainwater Conference Center in Valdosta, GA.

Criteria for Judging Applications

- The Scholarship Committee (chamber professionals from a different state) shall base their decisions on all the information contained in the scholarship applications received; however, they may contact references provided by the applicant and/or further research information provided in any application.
- The Scholarship Committee shall score the applications based on a point system that shall be indicated on the scholarship application.
- In the event of a tie, based on the aforementioned point system, the Scholarship Committee shall contact the respective applicants to conduct an interview, either in person, by telephone, or via written correspondence. The interviews shall be judged on a numerical point scale, 1 through 10, and the highest scoring candidate shall receive the scholarship.