

# WESTERN FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS

## Scholarship Application

Western Field Ornithologists is an organization of amateur and professional field ornithologists that promotes the study of birds throughout western North America. The organization strives to increase knowledge, appreciation, and protection of birds and their habitats through annual meetings, field trips, and publications (primarily *Western Birds*).



**Scholarship Name:** WFO annual conference, Copper Mountain Resort, Colorado, July 19-23, 2023

**Description:** The annual WFO conference is a four day event that includes scientific presentations, workshops, field trips, experts' sounds and visual identification panels, and social activities. The conference offers the opportunity for motivated students to meet those who earn their living and/or volunteer in field ornithology, bird conservation, biology and other related fields.

**Included:** Most expenses and fees associated with the annual conference, including: registration fees; a full-day field trip for both Thursday and Sunday (as space allows); box lunches for the full day field trips; a morning field trip and/or workshop for both Friday and Saturday morning; two tickets to the banquet for the recipient and a family member; and up to four nights hotel accommodations at the conference center, including breakfast for one person [please note that a double room will be reserved for those attending with family member(s)].

**Not Included:** Conference merchandise or registration fees for family members are not included (registration not required for family members solely attending as chaperones). Any and all travel expenses, including any form of transportation to or from the WFO event location, travel planning, flight or rental booking, etc., that may be incurred by the applicant are not included under this scholarship.

**Submittal Deadline:** March 31, 2023

**Notification of Award:** April 21, 2023

**Limitations:** Up to ten scholarships are being offered to students between the ages of 12 to 22, with eight scholarships for students in Grades 6 through 12, and two scholarships for college students working towards a Bachelor's degree. Although all applications will be reviewed, preference is given to applicants who are not prior WFO student scholarship recipients within the aforementioned age categories. Prior student scholarship recipients must have maintained their WFO membership to be eligible for a scholarship. Applicants must be residents of western North America (from the Rocky Mountain states and provinces to the Pacific, including Alaska, Hawaii, western Texas and northwestern Mexico).

**Membership:** Membership with WFO is required for the application to be considered. If not a member, the applicant **MUST apply before or at the same time the application is submitted**. Student membership is available for \$10/annually: <https://www.westernfieldornithologists.org/join>

**Expectations of Scholarship Recipients:** If selected for a scholarship, applicants:

- must confirm their ability to attend the conference.
- will be expected to maintain a current WFO membership throughout the year.
- are expected to provide a follow-up one page report to the WFO Scholarship Committee sharing their experiences and what they learned.

**Questions:** Questions regarding the application process may be emailed to: Wendy Beers, Student Programs Committee chair at [docwlb@gmail.com](mailto:docwlb@gmail.com)

**Application Submittal:**

- I. Complete the Scholarship Application form.
- II. Provide one (1) letter of recommendation with signature (scanned as PDF's is preferred).
- III. Prepare a personal essay using the form provided.
- IV. Submit the application by email to John Harris at [jhh.birder@gmail.com](mailto:jhh.birder@gmail.com) no later than the above stated deadline. You will receive an email response no later than three (3) days after receipt of your application.

**Conference:** Information regarding the conference is available here:  
<http://www.westernfieldornithologists.org/conference>

**Questions:** Questions regarding the application process may be emailed to Wendy Beers, Student Programs Committee chair:  
[docwlb@gmail.com](mailto:docwlb@gmail.com)

**Contributions:** The WFO Scholarship is made possible by the generous contributions from individual WFO members and by donations from the Pasadena Audubon Society honoring the memory of Mike San Miguel, the Sierra Foothills Audubon Society, and the Buena Vista Audubon Society.