

## American Public Works Association Washington State Chapter

# 2026 Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Scholarship Application

The Washington State Chapter of the American Public Works Association is offering two $3,000 CDL scholarships to current public works employees or people seeking a job in public works. Maintenance & Operations is a crucial component of public works departments. M&O workers are the frontline employees and first responders that ensure our infrastructure systems are safe and functional.

Many M&O positions require a commercial driver's license, but the cost of the CDL classes can be prohibitive for employees. The APWA Washington Chapter wants to support the continued growth of M&O departments and employees through this annual CDL scholarship. The scholarship will reimburse individuals up to $3,000 to cover the cost of the CDL training.

**Applications are due by December 4, 2026.**

### Eligibility Criteria

1 The application process is open to current public works employees who need a CDL to advance in their career or people seeking a position in public works and need a CDL as a condition of their employment.

2 The applicant shall be currently enrolled in a CDL class, have completed a CDL class in the last 6 months, or are intending to enroll in the next 6 months from the date of the application.

3 The applicant must be a WA state resident who is working or seeking work in WA state.

### Instructions for Reimbursement

1 Applicants must submit proof of registration and a receipt for payment to APWA in order to be reimbursed. Please send required documentation to Treasurer.APWA.WA@gmail.com.

2 APWA shall not be responsible for any cost of the training program that exceeds $3,000. If the cost of the chosen training program exceeds $3,000, awardee shall be responsible for any additional costs and expenses.

### Application Instructions

Please fill-in the following application completely.

**Applications must be submitted in electronic format (PDF).**

**No hard copies will be accepted.**

**Applications are due by December 4, 2026.**

**Applications with essays shall be emailed to both:**

Liam Olsen, APWA Scholarship Committee Co-Chair
liam.olsen@jacobs.com

Alex Johnson, APWA Scholarship Committee Co-Chair
amjohnson@desmoineswa.gov

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## General Information

Name (Last, First, Middle Initial) _____ Telephone _____

Mailing Address (Street, City, State, Zip) _____

Email Address _____

## Work History

Current Employer _____ Dates of Employment _____

Address

Supervisor Telephone

Duties/Responsibilities

May we contact this employer? Yes ☐ No ☐

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Former Employer

Dates of Employment

Address

Supervisor

Telephone

Duties/Responsibilities

May we contact this employer? Yes ☐ No ☐

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Former Employer

Dates of Employment

Address

Supervisor

Telephone

Duties/Responsibilities

May we contact this employer? Yes ☐ No ☐

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## Essay Questions

Please respond to each essay question in a separate document - PDF or Word Documents are acceptable. 300 words max per essay.

1 Are you currently a public works employee? If so, what do you like or appreciate about your career in public works? If not, why do you want a career in public works?

2 How does a CDL improve your ability to do your job or advance in your career? How will your CDL help your employer?

3 What special circumstances affect your need for financial assistance?

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____