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**Education and Libraries**

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If you were able to attend Fall Board, you heard about this Administration’s desire to organize and present scholarships to persons with special needs. (In clinical diagnostic and functional development, the term “special needs” describes individuals who require assistance for disabilities that may be medical, mental, or psychological.)

Applicants must

* have special needs and
* be a Florida resident and
* attend an accredited Florida public college, university, or technical school
* be a full-time or part-time student.

We hope to have this scholarship listed on next year’s Remittance Form. We know several clubs have a scholarship program already and it would be fantastic to see those programs expanded to include “special needs” in your criteria. Or, work with your local schools to provide funding for a “special needs” individual.

This will be in addition to the Scholarship for Women Returning to Work established in Pat Zazzarino’s administration. The applicant must be furthering their education in order to return to work and become self-sufficient. They must be a full-time student at a Florida college or university. This scholarship is listed on the Remittance Form this year. In the past we have been able to give $3000 scholarships to 2 or 3 applicants each year. This fund must be replenished in order to continue.

If you would like to establish a scholarship for a local student:

* Determine the purpose of the scholarship (reason for awarding it and the target audience, for example—the scholarship could be in honor or memory of a club or community leader, or it might help a student with a special need).
* Set a timeline (including development, fundraising, advertising, application evaluation, award presentation).
* Create the application (incorporating components that fit the purpose of the scholarship, such as essay, resume, transcripts, financial need information, letters of recommendation).
* Determine the duration of the award (one or multiple years).
* Determine the funding source.
* Select the recipient and plan the award presentation.