



WTS Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship

WTS fosters the development of women in the transportation field by encouraging bright new professionals to undertake careers in the area of transportation. One way it does this is by awarding the WTS Sharon D. Banks Memorial Scholarship to women pursuing undergraduate studies in transportation or a related field.

The scholarship honors Sharon D. Banks, chief executive officer of AC Transit in Alameda-Contra Costa County, California. As its CEO throughout most of the 1990's, Banks led the agency in a pioneering effort to introduce cultural and organizational changes aimed at motivating the public transit workforce. She was a member of the WTS Advisory Board and received the WTS San Francisco Chapter Woman of the Year and Employer of the Year awards.

The WTS Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship is **\$5,000**.

The minimum criteria for selection are:

- a. GPA of 3.0 or higher.
- b. Currently enrolled in an undergraduate degree program in a transportation-related field, such as transportation engineering, planning, finance, or logistics.
- c. Plans to pursue a career in a transportation-related field.

Applications must be submitted through local WTS chapters as typed documents. Scholarships are competitive and based on the applicant's specific transportation goals, academic record, and transportation-related activities or job skills. National awards will be presented during the upcoming WTS Annual Conference in May, and attendance during the awards ceremony is strongly recommended. Conference registration for scholarship winners is complimentary. Local chapters will assist with arrangements upon selection and may have additional requirements, such as personal interviews or higher GPA. Please contact your local WTS chapter for specifics.

WTS Sharon D. Banks Memorial Undergraduate Scholarship Application

Date 11/10/2025

I. Personal Information

Name <u>Randall</u>	<u>Autumn</u>	<u>McKenzie</u>
Last	First	Middle
E-mail Address <u>randalla1106@gmail.com</u>		
Primary Phone <u>(937) 475-1232</u>		
Current Address (Street, City, State, Zip): <u>137 Heckathorn Rd</u>		
Brookville, OH		
<u>45309</u>		
Permanent Address (Street, City, State, Zip): <u>137 Heckathorn Rd</u>		
Brookville, OH		
<u>45309</u>		

II. Educational Background

Current College/University University of Dayton City, State Dayton, OH
Expected Date of Graduation December 2028
Degree to be Received Bachelors
Area of Concentration Mechanical Engineering with Concentration in Aerospace
Grade Point Average N/A (First Semester)
(Minimum GPA of 3.0 required. Attach official copy of transcript to application.)

Previous Colleges/Universities Attended, Date Degree Earned and GPA:
Sinclair Community College (Degree Earned May 2025) 3.7 GPA

Associate's Degree in Aviation Maintenance Technology

Wright State University (CCP Classes) 4.0 GPA

Professional or School Affiliations (List any school, professional or community activities you have participated in. Include offices held and awards received.
Attach additional sheets, if necessary, as typed word documents.)

I attended Miami Valley Career Technology Center for Aviation Maintenance Technology. I received an Associate's Degree in Aviation Maintenance and FAA Airframe & Powerplant License. I have received many scholarships through my career tech school and high school regarding my aviation skills, outstanding academics, and leadership skills. I am involved in Women in Aviation, Ohio Aviation Association, AWAM, and Women in Defense. I participated in the 2025 Girls in Aviation Day and go to Chapter Meetings. I continue to go back to my career tech to help future aircraft mechanics and encourage the girls to joining Women in Aviation International. At the University of Dayton, I am a part of SWE and the Women in Engineering Program. I was a part of my high schools color guard and winter guard. I received multiple solos and was color guard captain. I was most improved member and most valuable preformer. Now I am a volunteer instructor at my high school color guard. I am valedictorian of my graduating class and was the top of my class in aviation maintenance.

III. Employment History

Work Experience (List full-time, part-time, co-op and summer employment. Briefly describe duties and responsibilities. Attach additional sheets, if necessary, as typed word documents.)

JD Custards (Englewood, OH) 2023 – Present

I work as an ice cream scooper, closer, and opener. Through my displayed leadership and efficiency of working, I have become a trustworthy individual to managers and lead closing if a manager is not present.

Arby's (Brookville, OH) 2025 – Present

I work frontline and drive through and complete extra tasks asked of my by managers. When in need, managers ask me to step in to take extra shifts as I am a responsible and reliable employee.

IV. Recommendation: Letter of recommendation by a professor or job supervisor must accompany your application.

V. Personal Statement: A statement about your career goals and/or continuing education after graduation and why you think that you should receive the scholarship award. Applicants must address the issue of leadership, its importance in a transportation career, and the applicant's leadership achievements. Statement should not exceed 500 words. Please attach to application form as a typed word document.

VI. Proof of Enrollment: Attach a copy of your tuition receipt or current registration card.

VII. Demographic Information: WTS is committed to recognizing the achievements of students pursuing transportation related degrees. To track our progress in reaching diverse applicants, we ask that you complete this confidential demographic information. **This is not required for scholarship awards and will not be used in the selection process.**

1 Race/Ethnicity (select all that apply)

- Asian
- Black
- East Indian
- Hispanic/Latino
- Indigenous
- Middle Eastern
- Multiracial
- Pacific Islander
- White
- Other (please write in)
- Choose not to disclose

2 Age

- 15-18
- 19-23
- 24-30
- 31-50
- 50+

3 Anticipated or Current Mode of Transportation Career Focus (select all that apply)

- Aviation
- Freight
- Highway/Auto
- Maritime/Port
- Multi-modal
- Non-Motorized
- Passenger
- Transit
- Other (please write in) _____

4 How did you hear about this scholarship?

- Friend
- School/Teacher
- Social Media:
 - Facebook
 - Instagram
 - LinkedIn
 - Snapchat
 - TikTok
 - Twitter
 - YouTube
 - Other (please write in) _____
- WTS Chapter
- WTS International Website
- Other (please write in) _____

Applicant Signature Autumn Randall Date 11/10/2025



Aviation Technology Department, Clayton, OH 45315

August 20, 2025

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to express my support for Autumn Randall, in her application for the Women in Aviation International Scholarship. I had the pleasure of instructing Autumn, in the Aviation Maintenance program at Miami Valley Career Technology Center.

During her 2 years with us, Autumn exceeded all expectations and has earned several notable achievements. This includes volunteering at local aviation events, maintaining a 4.0 grade point average, being an honored member of the National Technical Honor Society, earning her FAA Airframe and Powerplant License, and an Associate of Applied Science in Airframe and Powerplant Maintenance.

Since graduation in May of 2025, Autumn has become a member of our local chapter of Women in Aviation. She has also enrolled in the University of Dayton. Autumn also has a potentially internship with the Sierra Nevada Corporation in the near future.

I have no doubt in her future success and would like to offer my highest recommendation. I believe that she will impact this industry and humbly ask for your support in her continued journey. If you have any questions or would like additional information, please feel free to contact me.

Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. Bruss".

Ryan Bruss
Instructor – Aviation Maintenance
Miami Valley Career Technology Center

My short term educational goal is to earn a Bachelor's in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering and a Master's in Engineering Management while engaging in meaningful, impactful research. As a long term goal, I hope to deepen my understanding of aviation and use that knowledge to make aviation transportation safer and more efficient. With my background as an aircraft mechanic I hope to apply all that I have learned to my work as an engineer, allowing me to contribute to innovative and logical solutions and advances in the aviation and transportation industry. Aviation is my passion, and I am committed to being part of its ongoing transformation. A major personal goal is to encourage more women to join aviation and transportation, industries that are still very male-dominated. As someone who is among the 2.6% of women aircraft mechanics and striving to join the 13.5% of women aerospace engineers, I want to be an example that women belong and can thrive in these fields. By succeeding academically and professionally, I hope to inspire and support others who may not see themselves represented.

Receiving this scholarship would have a profound impact on my journey. It would allow me to concentrate on my studies and research without the worry and stress of financial burdens. With this support, I could spend more time participating in organizations, such as WTS, which not only benefit my own growth but also allow me to help inspire other young women to pursue leadership roles in STEM and transportation. Financial relief would help me stay focused on what matters—my education, involvement, and leadership—while working toward my goal of advancing both the aviation industry and female representation within it.

Leadership is essential in transportation careers, contributing to efficiency, safety, and innovation. The constantly evolving transportation industry demands strong leaders who can adapt and motivate others. Throughout high school and college, I have embraced leadership roles in academic settings, extracurricular activities, and community groups. In my aviation maintenance classes, teachers entrusted me with supervisory positions, knowing I would guide my team and ensure the job was done well. My role as a color guard leader in high school, and now as a volunteer instructor and mentor, further demonstrates my commitment to fostering teamwork and supporting others.

These experiences have shaped me into a proactive, compassionate leader—skills I plan to further develop and apply in my future career. This scholarship would enable me to achieve my educational, career, and leadership goals, helping me to create a positive impact in the aviation and transportation industries and encourage the next generation of women in STEM.

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Statements

1098-T Tax Statements

Search:

nt Date ↴

Due Date

Amount ↗

Action

-\$859.42

-\$859.42

9/22/25

\$4,531.17

8/22/25

\$1,171.75

7/22/25

\$2,933.00

-\$400.00

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