**Applications for Academic Year 2025-2026 are due March 31, 2025**

**Information**

The Minerva Scholarship Fund offers scholarships for the completion of degree programs and certifications to women whose formal education has been interrupted by at least one year and who currently live or work within the boundaries of Peninsula School District 401.

The Minerva Scholarship Fund, an endowment fund, was established in 1991 by American Association of University Women (AAUW) members Colonel Sybil Mercer, Colonel Florence Casey and Ruth Taylor. In recognition of the special difficulties faced by women returning to school, the founders wanted to encourage tax-deductible contributions in support of scholarships for Gig Harbor and Key Peninsula residents.

In addition to assistance with four-year and graduate degrees, Minerva assists women seeking vocational training at an accredited vocational school or community college, or an associate degree from a community college.

**Qualifications:**

* Applicant must document that she currently lives or works within the boundaries of the Peninsula School District #401.
* Applicant must have had a minimum interruption in her education of at least one year and is intending to return to school to complete a degree or certification.

**Application Requirements:**

* Verify that you are presently attending or have applied at an accredited educational institution. Enrollment may be full or part-time.
* Submit sealed transcripts from your college(s) coursework. Submit high school transcripts if you have completed less than 15 college credits. High school transcripts more than ten years old do not have to be submitted.
* Write a one page personal statement to help the review committee better understand you or help set you apart from other applicants.
* Demonstrate your need of financial assistance to complete your education.
* Outline your plan of action and timeline for completion of your educational program.
* Request three letters of recommendation, two of the letters must be from people familiar with your academic competence or work experience.

**Notification**

Applicants will be notified by June 1, 2025, of the disposition of their application. Scholarship funds will be paid directly to the financial aid office of the educational institution. Scholarship may be used for tuition, fees, books, supplies and related education expenses as deemed appropriate by the institution’s financial aid office.

**Questions?** Contact Scholarship Chair at [MinervaGigHarbor@gmail.com](mailto:MinervaGigHarbor@gmail.com)