



Young Women in Public Affairs Award Program

PROGRAM BACKGROUND/STATISTICS (July 2021)

Purpose

The Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Award Program was established in 1990. The program goal is to encourage more young women to participate in public affairs by recognizing the candidate's commitment to the volunteer sector, evidence of volunteer leadership achievements and a dedication to empowering women worldwide through service and advocacy. Applicants of age 16-19 on 1st April each year, studying at a secondary school, college or university in a Zonta district/region, or who are studying elsewhere but are a citizens of a Zonta country, who demonstrate evidence of the following, are eligible to apply. The application process must start with a Zonta club and applicants may go to <http://zonta.org/LocateAClub> to locate the nearest Zonta club. Please contact the Zonta club for deadline information. Note that applicants from geographic areas within a Zonta district/region where no clubs are located may apply via a Zonta e-club or directly to the district to be considered and also eligible to apply for the district/region Award. Z and Golden Z club members are also eligible to apply. Classified members (club members and individuals with direct membership with Zonta International) and employees of Zonta International and Zonta Foundation for Women, and their family members (ancestors, descendants, adoptees, siblings, nieces or cousins, and those of their spouse or co-habiting partner), are not eligible to apply for the Awards. Previous International Young Women in Public Affairs Award recipients are not eligible to apply.

This program operates at the club, district and region, and international levels of Zonta International. Clubs, districts and regions are advised to appoint committees to manage these program responsibilities.

Program Statistics

Since the inception of the program in 1990, Zonta has awarded **1013 awards**, totaling **US\$1,207,250**, to **851 young women** representing **58 countries**.

The Awards

In November 2019, the Zonta Foundation Board and the Zonta International Board approved increasing the amount of the 10 international awards to US\$5,000 each.

In December 2017, the Zonta Foundation Board and the Zonta International Board approved increasing the 32 district and region awards to US\$1,500 each.

2013-2017: In February 2012, the Zonta Foundation Board and the Zonta International Board approved the expansion of the Award to 10 international recipients and approved increasing the amount of funding for the international award to US\$4,000.

2008-2012: In February 2008, the Zonta Foundation Board and the Zonta International Board approved increasing the amount of funding for the YWPA Awards to provide US\$1,000 to each district/region recipient and US\$3,000 to five international recipients.

2001-2007: In February 2000, the Zonta Foundation Board approved the expansion of the Award to include five international recipients. Zonta provided US\$500 to each district recipient and US\$1,000 to five international recipients.

1991-2000: Zonta International provided US\$500 to each district recipient and US\$1,000 to one international recipient.

How are the Young Women in Public Affairs (YWPA) Award recipients chosen?

Zonta clubs publicize the program in their communities and distribute, receive and evaluate applications. Zonta clubs select one application to send to the Zonta governor/region representative. A district/region evaluation committee selects one applicant per district/region to submit to Zonta International Headquarters. The Zonta International YWPA Award Committee recommends 10 applicants for international YWPA awards to the Zonta International Board (or the Executive Committee acting on its behalf) for approval.

Timetable

Applications received by Zonta clubs	(Contact club for deadline)
Club recipient is selected and application is received by governor/region representative.....	by 1 April
District/region recipient selected and application received by Zonta International Headquarters.....	by 1 May
Announcement of district /region, and international recipients.....	by 1 July