



CONNECTIONS NETWORKING

WHAT'S THE WEF YP UTILITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM?

WEF awards five scholarships to young professionals (YP) working for a utility in North America. The purpose of this scholarship program is to help YPs learn about what being part of the WEF Utility Management Community (UMC) entails and to increase YP involvement within this community. The scholarship allows YPs to expand their network to include technical experts and water industry leaders, and develop peer and mentor relationships, while also providing valuable contributions to the UMC. The WEF scholarship selection committee includes members of the UMC Planning Committee and UMC Leadership.

CAREER COMMUNITY



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- A member of WEF
- A YP: water professional with five or fewer years of work experience in the industry and/or under the age of 35
- Currently employed by any department in a utility
- Ability and commitment to participate in and attend the 2025 YP Summit and UMC Conference

“As someone who has recently entered the water workforce, I was nervous about what I would be able to contribute with my peers. I was blown away by the sense of community and willingness to share experiences/perspectives. I also found the mix of consultants and utilities to be helpful in my understanding [of] the bigger picture.”



WEF Contact
AMA RICHARDSON
arichardson@wef.org



WEF PROVIDES

- Travel expense assistance
- Hotel expense assistance
- Meal assistance
- Full registration for the 2025 YP Summit and UMC Conference events



I liked having the opportunity to connect with not only the group of scholarship recipients, but also the greater group of YPs from around North America. It was refreshing to see that so many young folks are also passionate about water, and that our industry has a bright future as there are plenty of dedicated YPs that are ready to solve the challenges that our industry is facing. It helps to know that my utility is not alone in the issues that we are facing, and that I now have a larger network of people to reach out to regarding the best way to address water issues.



The program was invaluable. To be immersed in the industry and surrounded by knowledgeable, hardworking, and innovative people who want to do right by their communities and water as a whole.



I feel like I have a new fire to go the extra mile with volunteering whether at the local level or international. Professionally, I feel like I have made some amazing networking relationships, and learned valuable lessons that will help me excel in my career."



My great takeaway was that water agencies/ utilities just want to serve their communities [by providing] safe, affordable and sustainable water. Of course there are challenges but there are also great successes that need to be shared and the UMC was the ideal platform to do just that.



The program was an unforgettable experience that will forever impact the way I see myself, my future self, and my place in the water industry.

