



2023 Grant H. Flint International Scholarship Awards Program

The Harvey W. Gershman Scholarship





Dear Northeastern University Junior or Senior:

The Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) is pleased to introduce the Harvey W. Gershman Scholarship for students interested in a career in solid waste or resource management

Mr. Gershman is co-founder and owner [of Gershman, Brickner & Bratton, Inc. \(GBB\)](#), which is a solid waste management consulting firm based in Northern Virginia. He is a proud graduate of Northeastern University and a SWANA life member—a recognition awarded for the many contributions Mr. Gershman made to the industry through his career. SWANA manages the Gershman Scholarship as part of its annual Grant H. Flint International Scholarship program.

SWANA is a professional association of more than 10,500 members who work in solid waste management. That industry is far advanced from the old stereotypes of “garbage men.” Our membership is diverse, and we encourage you to consider how your selected area of study might lead you into our professional ranks.

To be eligible to apply for the Gershman Scholarship, worth \$5,000 US, you must be:

- Enrolled full-time in college or university for the period of time the scholarship will be used. Priority is given to students currently enrolled at Northeastern University in Boston, MA, but students from any school are eligible.
- Entering your junior or senior year of undergraduate studies—year determined by credits earned.
- Pursuing a degree in studies applicable to the field of solid waste or resource management and intending to seek employment in the field.

To support your future career goals and to introduce you to SWANA, we encourage you to join as student member (free to all full-time, enrolled students) by visiting [SWANA.org/community/membership/student-membership](https://www.swana.org/community/membership/student-membership).

Gershman Scholarship applications from Northeastern University students must be received by SWANA's Staff Scholarship Administrator at sbixby@swana.org no later than May 1, 2023. Awards will be announced during summer 2023.

We look forward to receiving your application. Best of luck as you continue your education.

Sincerely,

Mike Stringer
Chair, SWANA Scholarship Committee

Sara Bixby
Deputy Executive Director, SWANA



Application Information

I. AWARDS:

SWANA intends to award one Gershman Scholarship of \$5,000 US to a qualifying college/university junior or senior each year. SWANA reserves the right to make fewer awards in this category if no acceptable applications are received.

II. ELIGIBILITY:

To be eligible to apply for the Gershman Scholarship, you must satisfy all the following requirements:

- Enrolled full-time in college or university for the period of time the scholarship will be used. Priority is given to students currently enrolled at Northeastern University in Boston, MA, but students from any school are eligible
- Entering your junior or senior year of undergraduate studies—year determined by credits earned
- Pursuing a degree in studies applicable to the field of solid waste or resource management and intending to seek employment in the field.
- Be enrolled full-time in college or university for the period of time the scholarship will be used

SWANA employees and their family members are not eligible to apply. Beyond those exceptions, SWANA commits that all eligible persons shall have equal access to this program.

Deadlines:

- **May 1**—All completed application forms and back-up documentation must be received by SWANA's Staff Scholarship Administrator.
- **June**—Staff Scholarship Administrator forwards all qualifying Gershman applications from Northeastern University students to the International Scholarship Committee as part of forwarding all other Chapter scholarship nominations.
- **August**—International Scholarship winners are announced.

III. CRITERIA:

The Scholarship Committee will evaluate the Gershman Scholarship applications as follows:

A. Currently enrolled Northeastern University junior or senior = 30%

Students from Northeastern will receive 30 points; applicants from other schools considered for this award through SWANA's Grant H. Flint Scholarship program for undergraduate juniors and seniors will not.

B. Academics = 30%

SWANA's Scholarship Committee considers past academic performance an important selection criterion. Your application must provide enough information to allow the Scholarship Committee to evaluate your academic performance.

- **REQUIRED:** Provide a transcript of your college/university transcripts up to the conclusion of the most recent period (quarter, trimester, semester).
 - An official, unofficial or PDF copy of your transcript is required to be attached to your application. The transcript must provide marks for all courses and a measure of your academic performance when measured on the school's standardized scoring system
 - Identify the scale used (e.g., 4.0 on a 4.0 scale). An example of one possible measure satisfying this request for US based students is grade point average (GPA). SWANA acknowledges that not all schools use this measure and will accept other measures documented by the transcript.
- **OPTIONAL:** Attach documentation of any other college/university-level **academic performance, awards, or recognition** and/or letters of recommendation related to academic performance you believe the Scholarship Committee should consider.

Application Information

C. Relationship of Studies to Solid Waste Management = 50%

The Committee will consider your current and completed courses, advisor/professor input, and your completed essay in its evaluations.

- **REQUIRED:** Complete the form that asks for additional information about coursework related to solid waste management and/or a potential career in the industry.
- **REQUIRED:** Please have your faculty advisory or a key professor in your studies related to solid waste management provide a one-page letter that discusses your academic performance.
- **REQUIRED:** Write a one-page, original essay about the topic identified in Question 4. SWANA considers each essay for its potential as a blog post on social media, regardless of selection for a Scholarship.

Describe what you did and how often you participated. Attach documentation and/or letters of recommendation to help the Scholarship Committee appropriately score this part of your application.

D. Other Activities = 20%

Other Activities are activities and programs that can be connected with your studies (research, internships, assistantships), associated with school (participation student organizations), or entirely unrelated (volunteer activities, military service, employment).

- **REQUIRED:** Complete the forms that ask for information about your Other Activities.
- **OPTIONAL:** Attach a current copy of your resume.

Describe what you did and how often you participated. Attach documentation and/or letters of recommendation to help the Scholarship Committee appropriately score this part of your application

E. Financial Need – not weighted

- **OPTIONAL:** Although it is not a weighted factor, the Scholarship Committee can take financial need into consideration. Members may also consider financial need in their review of applications. Please **do not attach forms that contain confidential personal information.**

F. Disqualification

Applying is not a guarantee of funding. The Scholarship Committee may disqualify an application for any of the following reasons:

- Applicant fails to meet the May 1 deadline for submitting the application
- Applicant will not be enrolled in classes in the coming semester
- Applicant does not provide all REQUIRED supporting documentation
- Application contains an essay or substantial parts of an essay written by another person
- Application is not legible
- Application is not signed by the applicant where indicated

Questions? We realize there may be questions that aren't answered by this overview.
Please direct your questions to SWANA's Staff
Scholarship Administrator, Sara Bixby, at sbixby@swana.org.



Application Information

1. Applicant Information

First Name	Last Name
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Mailing Address	City	State/Province	Zip/Postal Code
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Phone	Email Address
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SWANA Member # (If applicable)	Chapter Affiliation (If applicable)
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2. College/University Information

Name of School

Mailing Address	City	State/Province	Zip/Postal Code
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Faulty Advisor Name	Phone	Email
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Major

How does your major relate to a carrer in the solid waste industry?

3. Academics = 30%

Required:

Attach a copy of your college/university transcripts through the conclusion of the most recent period (quarter, trimester, semester). To aid the Committee’s review, indicate your cumulative mark or grade point average here and identify the scale used (e.g., 4.0 on a 4.0 scale), if applicable.

Applicant’s GPA or cumulative score	Maximum in the scoring/scale used
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Optional:

Attach documentation of any other **academic performance, awards, or recognition** and/or letters of recommendation related to academic performance you believe the Scholarship Committee should consider.

Application Information

4. Relationship of Studies to Solid Waste Management = 50%

Required: All three items must be included with your application.

Complete and sign or verify the forms that ask for additional information about coursework and internships related to solid waste management and/or a potential career in the industry.

Attach a letter about your academic performance from your faculty advisor or key professor in your studies related to solid waste management.

Attach a one-page, original essay about how you want your future work and career to contribute to improving the management of waste as a resource or to addressing an environmental issue related to solid waste that is currently in the news.

5. Other Activities = 20%

Required:

Complete and sign or verify the form that asks for information about your Other Activities. Attach documentation and/or letters of support that will help the Scholarship Committee appropriately score your application. If you do not participate in Other Activities, sign the bottom of the blank page.

Optional:

Attach a current copy of your resume.

6. Financial Need

You may attach a short statement of your financial need, describing how this scholarship will help offset tuition and related expenses and listing any other scholarships or educational funding received to-date. Please do not attach forms or other documented containing confidential personal information.

7. Signatures

Signature of Applicant

Date



Completed Course(s) List

Please provide the course title, credit hours, grade earned, and up to a 25-word description of your course work that relates to solid waste management and/or a career in the industry. Copy the page if you need more space..

Course Title	Credit Hours	Grade
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Description

Course Title	Credit Hours	Grade
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Description

Course Title	Credit Hours	Grade
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Description

Course Title	Credit Hours	Grade
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Description

I verify that the information above is true to the best of my knowledge.

Internships/Assistantships



Provide enough information to allow the Committee to what you did and its relevance to solid waste management. Please limit your description to no more than 250 words. Copy the page as needed to address additional internships and assistantships.

Internship/Assistantship

Supervisor's Name	Title
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Phone	Email
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Description

Internship/Assistantship

Supervisor's Name	Title
-------------------	-------

Phone	Email
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Description

I verify that the information above is true to the best of my knowledge.



Other Activities

Other activities are activities and programs that can be connected with your studies, school participation, or entirely unrelated (volunteer activities, military service, employment). Provide enough information that Committee members can understand your participation. Keep it brief and copy the page if you need more space.

Activity

Duration & Frequency

How did you participate

Activity

Duration & Frequency

How did you participate

Activity

Duration & Frequency

How did you participate

I verify that the information above is true to the best of my knowledge.

Checklist



Have you filled out and attached the following documents to complete your scholarship application?

Required

- College/university transcript
- Letter from your faculty advisor or key professor
- One-page essay on the topic identified in Question 4
- All forms

Applicant Specific

- Documentation of academic achievement, awards, and honors

Optional/If Available

- Resume
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No later than May 1, return your complete application to SWANA's Staff Scholarship Administrator, sbixby@swana.org.

Visit SWANA.org/Scholarships for more information.