**Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania - Joanne Shafer Certification Scholarship**

The Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania (PROP) promotes education within professional standards for recycling, organics, and solid waste managers in both the public and private sectors, as well as providing a career track for new professionals entering the field. Through financial assistance and the program support of a Certification Coordinator, the Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania Certification Scholarship provides a recycling or waste professional opportunity to become fully certified through the Pennsylvania state regulated program and opens access to additional education and networking opportunities.

The Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania Certification Scholarship is designed to assist a deserving individual with financial needs, by providing them with a Pennsylvania state recognized education for recycling and waste professionals. This certification is recognized by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and holds accreditation from Penn State University - Fayette. This generous scholarship will also provide work related experience and networking with experienced professionals in the recycling and waste industry. Individuals can apply for the scholarship program during the designated time. To learn more about PROP as an organization, visit PROP’s website at [www.proprecycles.org.](http://www.proprecycles.org/)

**Full Scholarship**

The recipient of this scholarship is expected to complete the program and obtain their certificate within three years. Recipient is required to follow all the requirements of and guidelines for the certification program. Upon completion of the program, the scholarship winner will be required to take and pass the final exam. After meeting all the certification program requirements, the individual will become certified as a recycling professional and receive recognition of their achievement at the annual PROP Conference. If there is any reason why the recipient is not able to complete the program in three years, he or she must contact PROP’s Certification Coordinator at the address below immediately. Inability of the recipient to complete the program according to the rules and requirements will lead to disqualification and the recipient will be required to refund PROP in full for all funds and assistance received during the period of acceptance.

This scholarship will cover tuition for certification courses needed for Professional Certification. An allowance of $500.00 (total for all three years) is available to use toward hotel accommodation for overnight stays needed for attending classes. Accommodation will be prepared with the assistance of the PROP Certification Coordinator. The scholarship will also cover the cost of the Professional Certification Exam and one (1) Full PROP Conference Registration (Wednesday through Friday) for the 1st year of the Scholarship.

Requirements upon accepting the scholarship:

* Scholarship recipient must maintain membership (Tier 3 / Individual) ($160 per year) in PROP while their scholarship is active.
* The recipient must complete the program in a three-year time frame.
* It is “recommended” that the scholarship awardee participate on a committee of their choice, for a year after receiving certification.

All applications will receive a thorough review and consideration from the PROP Certification Committee. Remember that acceptance to our certification program is competitive, selective, and dependent upon available funds in the scholarship account. We consider all applicants’ information on related work, written statements, essay of personal statement and letters of recommendation. The Certification Committee will also consider an applicant’s desire for sustained involvement in the organization (PROP), leadership, community involvement, research or any special information or knowledge that could benefit the PROP organization.

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Complete the Scholarship Application, print and sign it. ([MS Word Version](https://prop.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/Certification/ScholarshipProgram/PROP%20Certification%20Scholarship%20Application%201%202025.docx)) / ([Adobe .PDF Version](https://prop.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/Certification/ScholarshipProgram/PROP%20Certification%20Scholarship%20Application%201%202025.pdf))

2. In addition to application, please submit:

• Letter of recommendation from a current PROP member.

• Two Letters of additional reference or recommendations

• Resume (if available)

• An essay of less than 300 words. “Your goals and needs for this scholarship award?”

3. Mail / Email the Scholarship Application and all forms to Marcy Robey - [marcy@proprecycles.org](mailto:marcy@proprecycles.org)**.**

**ELIGIBILITY**

* Being a PROP member in good standing, both at the time of application and throughout the period of receiving scholarship.
* Must be employed, a resident or a student in Pennsylvania.
* Must be pursuing a Professional Recyclers Certification. Individuals pursuing PROP Specializations, Senior Certified Recycling Professional (SCRP), or another program are not eligible.

**APPLICATION MATERIALS**

Your PROP Certification Scholarship application should include all the following:

* Scholarship Application Form
* Personal Statement
* Transcript from secondary education if available, but not required
* A letter of recommendation from a PROP member
* Two Letters of reference or recommendations

**DEADLINE: Ongoing, dependent upon available scholarship funds.**

Application materials must be submitted as a single, complete package.

Send completed form and attachments to:

Professional Recyclers of Pennsylvania

Attn: Marcy Robey

PROP Certification Program

908 N. 2nd Street

Harrisburg, PA 17102

[mrobey@proprecycles.org](mailto:mrobey@proprecycles.org)

Our office is available to help you through the process. Please contact Marcy Robey at 717-441-6049 or [mrobey@proprecycles.org](mailto:mrobey@proprecycles.org) if you have questions.

**Single Set of Core Classes Scholarship**

The recipient of this scholarship is expected to attend the set of core classes they receive the scholarship for. The scholarship recipient is required to follow all the requirements of and guidelines for the certification program. Upon completion of the class/classes the CEU’s will be recorded in their record.

This scholarship will cover tuition for certification class/classes only. Overnight accommodation is **not** included in this scholarship.

Requirements upon accepting the scholarship:

* The Scholarship recipient must be a current PROP member in good standing.

All applications will receive a thorough review and consideration from the Certification Committee. Remember that acceptance of a Scholarship is competitive, selective, and dependent upon available funds in the scholarship account. We consider all applicants’ information on related work, written statements, essay of personal statement and letters of recommendation. The Certification Committee will also consider an applicant’s desire for sustained involvement in the organization (PROP), leadership, community involvement, research or any special information or knowledge that could benefit the PROP organization.

**APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Complete the Scholarship Application. ([MS Word Version](https://prop.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/Certification/ScholarshipProgram/PROP%20Certification%20Scholarship%20Application%201%202025.docx)) / ([Adobe .PDF Version](https://prop.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/Certification/ScholarshipProgram/PROP%20Certification%20Scholarship%20Application%201%202025.pdf))

2. Print the full application and sign it, then scan and send it to [mrobey@proprecycles.org](mailto:mrobey@proprecycles.org) along with the following

• Letter of recommendation from another PROP member.

• Resume (if available)

• An essay of less than 300 words. “Why are you applying for this scholarship award?”

If you are unable to scan and send the application, please contact either Marcy [mrobey@proprecycles.org](mailto:mrobey@proprecycles.org) or Doug [dorner@proprecycles.org](mailto:dorner@proprecycles.org) or call 717-441-6049

*Revised 2/20/2025.*