

The Association for Learning Environments (A4LE)
SOUTHWEST REGION
2023 Scholarship Application Package

LearningSCAPES
October 12-15, 2023
CHICAGO, IL

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SUBMISSION:

Deadline for entries is 5:00 PM (Pacific), September 1, 2023.

NOTE:

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered. The application and all associated attachments must be submitted *electronically*.

Hard copies of transcripts, essays, and recommendations must be scanned and sent electronically. Hard copy applications and attachments will not be considered.

QUESTIONS/CONTACT:

For all questions contact **Stephanie Stewart** at stephanie@a4le.org.

Overview:

The A4LE Southwest Region is a non-profit organization established to foster research and scholarly study regarding the impact of school facilities on student achievement. The Region acts as a proactive catalyst for promoting the development of quality learning environments in the A4LE Southwest Region by funding scholarships and grants through the organization.

Using a scholarship process, the Region intends to fund efforts in the Southwest Region that address the following:

1. Awareness of A4LE and the importance of quality educational facility planning
2. Advance the understanding of benefits gained from quality educational facilities
3. Extend the body of knowledge related to educational facility planning

Scholarship

This scholarship provides financial assistance for one or more school district members residing in the Southwest Region states to attend the A4LE LearningSCAPES. This important event brings together school planners, educators, and design and construction professionals from around the globe to collaborate on ideas and issues relating to the planning and design of contemporary schools.

Preference will be given to those who have not attended a A4LE international conference in the recent past. The maximum amount of this scholarship is \$1,500 and may be applied to registration, travel and/or hotel costs. Incidental expenses such as meals not covered by the conference fee, taxes, fees, tips, and ground transportation are not included in this scholarship.

Eligibility Requirements

Eligibility to receive a scholarship is open to any A4LE school district voting member in good standing in the Southwest Region interested in furthering their knowledge and expertise in educational facility planning and the advancement of the A4LE mission. School district employees living and working within the Southwest region states who are not currently members of A4LE are also eligible provided a A4LE member in good standing in the Southwest Region nominates and agrees to sponsor this potential new member.

Characteristics Sought in Candidates

The Region seeks applicants who are active members of the educational facilities planning community who demonstrate a desire to further their education.

Ideal candidates should demonstrate a balance of the following characteristics:

1. Demonstrated financial need.
2. Active involvement in creating quality student learning environments as part of your day-to-day job activities.
3. Actively engaged in A4LE and the advancement of the mission (or desire to do so)
4. Desire to improve the way educational facilities are planned, designed, built, and utilized.

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Selection Process

The Region will take up and consider all received applications and make a final award. Award recipient(s) will be notified on or before September 15, 2023.

About the Scholarship

The A4LE Southwest Region intends to award a scholarship to one or more eligible applicants to help defray the costs of participating in the A4LE LearningSCAPES October 12-15, 2023 in Chicago, IL. The amount of each award is going to be determined on a case-by-case basis and will primarily be established based on financial need. Expenses that are eligible for consideration include registration for the conference; travel to and from the host hotel and the applicant's home location, and up to four night's accommodations at the host hotel during the event.

Submission Requirements

Candidates must complete and submit the required informational packet to the scholarship coordinator.

All scholarship submissions will be accepted by emailing an electronic copy (PDF file) to Stephanie Stewart at stephanie@a4le.org.

Submission Materials

Application Form "A"

Nominating letter (if not currently an A4LE member)

Submittal Deadline

Application packets will be accepted by the scholarship coordinator as described above until **5:00 PM (Pacific) on September 1, 2023**.

Selection Process and Timeline

The process of awarding scholarships to recipients will be as follows:

September 1, 2023	Applications due
September 15, 2023	Notification of Award

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Evaluation Criteria

Affiliation – Is the applicant currently employed and if so, by a public educational institution?

Clarity of Information - Is the application complete? Was the information carefully proofread for spelling and grammar?

Participation and Leadership – Is the applicant actively engaged in A4LE? Has the applicant held any leadership positions at the local, region, or international level?

Ability - Does the applicant demonstrate their willingness and ability to devote the time and attention to gaining full benefit from the LearningSCAPES event?

Intention – Does the applicant demonstrate how they propose to utilize the knowledge gained by attending this conference to further the mission of A4LE?

Financial Need – Does the applicant have a financial need for assistance to attend the program? If so, have they demonstrated need in the areas of cost of registration, travel, and accommodations?

Scholarship Conditions

If awarded, the scholarship recipient agrees to attend the LearningSCAPES event and fully participate in the many learning activities available.

Scholarship recipients are encouraged to participate in both their local chapter meeting and the A4LE Southwest Region Conference in 2024 in order to be recognized as well as report on their experience in attending the conference. At a minimum, recipients will be required to write a short essay about their experience and submit a photo for the Southwest Region newsletter and Region advertisements.

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APPLICATION FORM

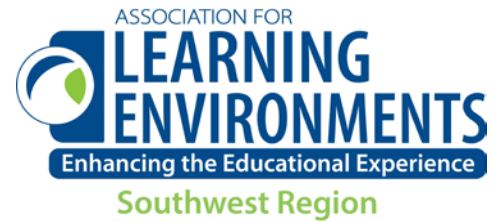
First Name	
Last Name	
Personal	
Street Address	
City	
State	
Zip Code	
Phone Number	
Home	
Cell	
Email Address	
Current Employer	
Mailing Address	
City	
State	
Zip Code	
Phone Number	
Extension	
Previous Employer (if less than one year at current)	
A4LE Member?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> If no, name of nominating member:
Chapter Affiliation?	
Leadership Positions?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Current Position(s): Previous Position(s):
ALEP?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Currently Pursuing ALEP?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

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Qualifications

Briefly describe your role relative to educational facilities planning, design, and construction. (In addition, attaching your resume is desirable.)

Describe steps you have taken to increase your knowledge and understanding of contemporary educational facility planning and design issues.

Describe your current educational facilities planning and/or construction related work (types of projects and your role).

Have you attended the A4LE LearningSCAPES Conference before (if yes, when)? _____

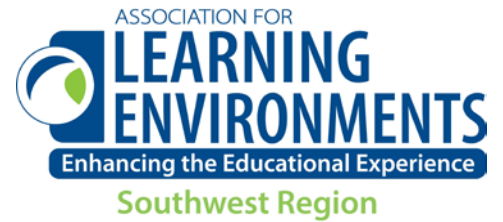
Please describe why you are interested in attending this conference.

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If selected for this scholarship, how do you propose to share the knowledge you gain to improve facility planning in your district or workplace?

Financial Need

Explain your financial situation and the need for assistance in each of the following categories:

Conference Registration:

Hotel Accommodations:

Travel:

How much are you (or your district) willing or capable of contributing toward your participation in the conference? \$ _____

Applicant Signature

By submitting this application for a A4LE Southwest Region Scholarship, I certify that the information contained herein is accurate and factual to the best of my knowledge.

I agree that the application and all attachments may be used for the purposes of evaluation and selection by the A4LE Southwest Region Board. Also, I acknowledge that all scholarship decisions of the Board are final and I agree to the terms and conditions described in the application package.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Submit this form along with any attachments to **Stephanie Stewart** at stephanie@a4le.org.