



UAH Application for AAUW / UAH Women's Studies Sponsorship to Attend the AAUW National Conference for College Women Student Leaders, June 5-June 7, 2014

About NCCWSL

The American Association of University Women (AAUW) and other women's organizations have sponsored the National Conference for College Women Student Leaders since 1985, and AAUW took over as chief sponsor in 2007. Participants refer to the conference with the acronym NCCWSL, pronounced "nick-whistle." Each year, the Huntsville Branch of AAUW sponsors students from area universities to attend the three-day conference, held at the University of Maryland, College Park, near Washington, DC. The Huntsville AAUW branch usually (depending on fundraising success) covers registration and travel expenses up to about \$900 per student and tries to sponsor at least one student from UAH each year. The UAH Women's Studies Program assists in identifying students to apply for the AAUW-Huntsville Branch sponsorship. The Women's Studies Program also works to help raise funds to try to send a second UAH student to the conference. **By filling out this application, you can apply to be one of the one to two students that UAH Women's Studies and its AAUW campus representatives will select for AAUW-Huntsville sponsorship and UAH Women's Studies fundraising assistance.** Please note: even if you are not chosen for sponsorship, you can still apply to attend NCCWSL and to be considered for a NCCWSL national scholarship.

AAUW Mission: To advance equity for women and girls through education, research, advocacy, and philanthropy.

Online Details of the Conference: <http://www.nccwsl.org>

Testimonials from Past Participants:

In 2013, NCCWSL attracted nearly 700 young women participants from 47 states, as well as the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and Jamaica. Represented at NCCWSL were 239 colleges and universities! NCCWSL is the only conference that brings college women together to address important and contemporary leadership issues. It provides a transformative experience for attendees, who return home ready to improve their campuses and their communities. UAH students who attended NCCWSL in past years have majored in a range of disciplines, including psychology, history, sociology, chemical engineering, aeronautical engineering, English, art history, and civil and environmental engineering. Students have commented on the diversity of participants at the conference and on everyone's ability to share ideas across political and cultural differences. "Amazing," "inspiring," and "fantastic" are some of the adjectives students use to describe the speakers and workshops. One UAH student who attended in 2013 writes that, "I left NCCWSL with enthusiasm, readiness to work, a network of like-minded female peers, and a renewed sense of pride in being a woman." Many students who have attended NCCWSL mention the Women of Distinction Awards Ceremony as one of the most inspiring events. The 2013 Women of Distinction included Donna Shalala, President of the University of Miami (and President Bill Clinton's Secretary of Health and Human Services for both of his terms); Katie Miller, OutServe-SLDN Board of Directors; Deborah Owens, CEO of Owens Media Group; and Reshma Saujani, Former Deputy Public Advocate of New York City and Founder of Girls Who Code. Another feature of NCCWSL 2013 was the third annual Graduate School Fair, where students could speak with representatives from 60 schools.

Applicant Information

Name: _____
Campus Mailing Address: _____
Permanent Mailing Address: _____
Email: _____ Phone: _____
Class Year: _____ Major/Minor: _____
GPA: _____

Application Instructions

- 1) **Essay:** Write a short essay (250-300 words) explaining why you would like to attend this leadership conference.
- 2) **Agreement:** Sign the enclosed Agreement.
- 3) **Submission:** Submit application materials to Erin Reid, Women's Studies Program Assistant, in Morton Hall 344, by 5pm, **Monday, February 3, 2014.**



UAH Student Agreement

If you are chosen to be sponsored for the leadership conference, you will agree to the following:

- Prioritize your schedule so that you can attend the full conference, **June 5-June 7, 2014**. You may also want to attend the pre-conference, or stay over Saturday night, but this is not required.
- Apply for NCCWSL Scholarships when filling out the online conference registration. You should do this as soon as possible to maximize your chances.
- Attend the AAUW-Huntsville Branch's "Breaking Through Barriers" luncheon on Friday, March 7, 2014, at Valley Hill Country Club. This event is a fundraiser for NCCWSL. An AAUW member will sponsor your lunch.
- Become a member of the Alabama AAUW Student Advisory Council (SAC) as a UAH delegate. The President of UAH appoints these members based on recommendations from the Women's Studies Program.
- Attend the AAUW State Convention as a delegate to the Student Advisory Council. This year's Convention is at the Marriott in Huntsville from April 4-April 6, 2014. The UAH president's office will cover your registration expenses.
- Attend the Alabama Women Student Leaders Conference (Ala-WSL), which is modeled on NCCWSL and which will take place simultaneously with the State Convention on Friday, April 4, 2014, on the UAH campus.
- Become a student affiliate of the Huntsville AAUW branch. (National AAUW e-membership is free because UAH is a corporate member of AAUW.)
- Write a short (250-300 words) reflection on your experience, and report your conference experiences orally at the September 2014 AAUW branch meeting. If possible, you should also plan to attend the 2015 "Breaking through Barriers" luncheon and speak about your NCCWSL experiences in order to help raise money for new women to attend.
- Reimburse the AAUW-Huntsville Branch and / or UAH Women's Studies for any funds issued to you or to NCCWSL on your behalf, should you not fulfill your commitment to attend NCCWSL.

Signature

Date