



Women & Hi Tech
133 W. Market Street #220
Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

2024 Women & Hi Tech Leading Light Awards and Scholarship Gala Professional Development Grant Information

Women & Hi Tech exists to change the landscape of women represented in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) and related Hi Tech fields to be equally inclusive to all. In support of this mission, at the 2024 Leading Light Awards and Scholarship Gala (LLA) Women & Hi Tech will award at least \$50,000 in scholarships and grants to women in STEM in Indiana.

Women & Hi Tech defines its professional development grants as awards to female professionals working in Indiana who wish to pursue professional memberships or certifications related to STEM careers. In addition, Women & Hi Tech Sponsors may fund specific professional development opportunities.

We invite all passionate women, including diverse women, in STEM careers interested in pursuing professional development opportunities in STEM fields – and who intend to stay in Indiana upon completing the opportunity – to apply at womenandhitech.org.

**Grant applications must be submitted no later than
5 pm EST on Monday, July 1, 2024.**

Please mark your calendars now! The 2024 Leading Light Awards and Scholarship Gala will be held Thursday, October 3rd, 2024, at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in downtown Indianapolis. This signature, biennial event by Women & Hi Tech focuses on celebrating Indiana women in STEM – women who are risk-takers, leaders, educators, mentors, and those who are changing our local STEM landscape. We look forward to an amazing evening of celebrating local women in STEM!



GRANT WINNERS WILL RECEIVE:

- A grant consisting of funding for one (1) professional membership or certification opportunity of the applicant's choice. Grant funds are typically distributed directly to the winner. Due to the timing of the event, winners can expect the funds to be disbursed in winter 2025.
 - Grant amounts will be determined by Women & Hi Tech at the time of award and will depend on the final amount donated by Women & Hi Tech Sponsors, but typically are awarded in increments ranging from \$500-\$2500.
- Tickets for the grant winner and one (1) guest to the 2024 Leading Light Awards and Scholarship Gala (a value of \$300).
- Recognition for winning the grant at the 2024 Leading Light Awards and Scholarship Gala.
- Complimentary one-year membership in Women & Hi Tech for 2025 (a value of \$100).
- Opportunities to create lifelong connections with Indiana, STEM, business, and community leaders.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

- Applicants must be living and working in the state of Indiana.
- Eligible professional development grants include membership to The Startup Ladies, funds for membership in STEM-related professional organizations, or funds to pursue professional certifications related to STEM careers. Examples include Microsoft certifications, CISCO certifications, Information Security certifications, Project Management Professional (PMP) certification, ASCP Board of Certification for laboratory sciences, data science certifications, etc.
- To verify that a professional membership or certification is approved for a professional development grant before applying, please email collegiate@womenandhitech.org and provide the program and institution names.
- Applicants must be committed to living and working in Indiana for at least a year after completing the opportunity. An affirmation of intent is required during the application process.
- Non-U.S. citizens are eligible if they fit into one of these categories, which allows them to live and work in Indiana:
 - They have a non-immigrant VISA also known as a "temporary worker" classification;
 - They have a permanent resident card also known as a "Green Card";
 - They have an Employment Authorization Document also known as a "work permit"; or
 - They have the Optional Practical Training "OPT" designation.
- Applicants should identify as female or with the pronouns: She/Her/Hers.
- Winners must be able to attend the Women & Hi Tech Leading Light Awards and Scholarship Gala on Thursday, October 3rd, 2024, at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in downtown Indianapolis.
- Grant applicants are NOT required to be a member of Women & Hi Tech, nor is their employer required to be a sponsor.
- Members of the Women & Hi Tech Board of Directors, the grant committee, and/or the selection committee, and relatives of these persons, are disqualified from receiving grants.
- If the grant(s) is funded by one major contributor, that contributor, and relatives of that contributor, are disqualified from receiving grants.

