



2021 Young Professionals Membership Scholarship

The Pennsylvania Economic Development Association (PEDA) is the statewide association of local, state, corporate and non-profit economic development professionals. Its mission is to promote sound economic development policies, to provide leading-edge economic development education and to nurture an effective statewide economic development network to foster the economic growth of the Commonwealth.

PEDA's membership is broad and varied and includes, among others, representatives of county and regional economic development entities, state government economic development employees, utility and transportation executives, industrial development authority directors, operators of industrial and technology incubators, chamber of commerce executives, municipal directors of community and economic development, engineering and construction executives, economic development finance professionals, workforce development professionals, commercial and industrial developers, and local, county and state elected officials.

As economic development organizations and like-minded partners doing work within the industry seek to consistently create meaningful economic impacts despite decreases in many traditional funding sources, PEDA recognizes the dues associated with membership may create a financial barrier to some young professionals seeking to advance their careers. Through its "Young Professionals Membership Scholarship", PEDA seeks to make membership more accessible to professionals aged 40 or under who, in the absence of assistance, would be unable to enjoy the benefits associated with membership in 2021. This one-time scholarship is a one-year commitment to cover the cost of one calendar year 2021 PEDA membership for one individual aged 40 or under. Up to 10 scholarships may be awarded.

Eligibility Criteria

- Applicants must be aged 40 or under at the time of application.
- Scholarship recipients must join at least one committee of PEDA (e.g., Advocacy, EDC, Conference, etc.) and agree to participate in occasional meetings of young professionals convened by PEDA.
- Scholarship recipients are encouraged to communicate the importance of PEDA membership to their employers in hopes that the latter may consider supporting the former's membership dues following the expiration of the one-year membership scholarship.
- Scholarship recipients must provide a professional headshot and bio authorized to be used for marketing purposes and to be shared with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED).

Additional Information

An individual aged 40 or under who represents both a new member to PEDA *and* a net new membership to PEDA from his/her particular organization (in cases where one or more employees of an applicant's organization are PEDA members) is eligible to apply for this one-year scholarship.

If an individual who is selected to receive a one-year scholarship for 2021 is employed by an entity that holds one or more memberships in PEDA in 2020, the employing entity must agree to renew the same number and types of full price PEDA memberships in 2021 as it had in 2020, not counting the scholarship (i.e., net new membership).

A membership scholarship only covers the cost of one calendar year 2021 membership for one individual (and does not provide any funds to selected recipients under any circumstances). At the end of 2021, dues renewal rates for 2022 will be at the regular rates for the specific membership type. Net new members may not be existing members. PEDA's Board of Directors makes all formal decisions regarding approval of membership-related applications. PEDA reserves the right to suspend or end this offer at any time. Some restrictions apply. Private Sector (for profit) employees are not eligible for this offer.



2021 Young Professionals Membership Scholarship Application

Deadline for Submission: November 30, 2020

Name:

Title:

Organization:

Address:

Phone:

Email:

Date of Birth:

Counties Served by Organization:

Population of Organization's Service Area:

Number of FT / PT Organization Employees:

The following items will constitute a complete submission. Please combine all materials in a single PDF, with this application page on top, and email to jskopp@peda.org, using the subject line "YP Membership Scholarship".

- Completed application (this page)
- List of job responsibilities / functions
- Resume
- Letter of recommendation from your immediate supervisor, which also confirms the organization agrees to renew the same number and types of full price PEDA memberships in 2021 as it has in 2020, not counting the scholarship, if a scholarship is awarded.
- Please submit a response that addresses the following items in no more than three pages.
 - Describe your short term and long term career goals.
 - Explain how membership in PEDA will help further your career goals.
 - Confirm your willingness to join at least one committee of PEDA and to join other young professionals in occasional meetings convened by PEDA.
 - Confirm your willingness to provide a professional headshot and bio (and, eventually, a brief testimonial addressing the benefits of membership most important to you) for use in marketing and to be shared with DCED.
 - Confirm you are aged 40 or under at the time of application.
 - Confirm you would be unable to pursue PEDA membership in 2021 without a scholarship.
 - Confirm your understanding that the benefit received by a recipient of this scholarship would be limited to one membership in PEDA for calendar year 2021.



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Notice: Please be advised that funds received under this scholarship program are taxable to the recipient for Federal Income tax purposes. Funds received under this program are not taxable for PA Income Tax purposes provided they are used for tuition or books. Funds used for room and board are taxable for PA Income Tax purposes.