

## **CFP Consumer Scholarship Requirements**

### **The Organization**

Though Federal, State, and local governments are primarily responsible for setting food safety standards, many other organizations share a stake in carrying out enforcement of the standards. The Conference for Food Protection brings together representatives from the food industry, government, academia, and consumer organizations to identify and address emerging problems of food safety and to formulate recommendations. The Conference seeks to balance the interests of regulatory and industry people while providing an open forum for the consideration of ideas from any source. The Conference meets at least biennially to provide this forum. Though the Conference has no formal regulatory authority, it is a powerful organization that profoundly influences model laws and regulations among all government agencies and minimizes disparate interpretations and implementation.

### **The Opportunity**

The Conference for Food Protection plays an integral role in the development of the FDA Food Code. The cooperation and input of various stakeholders- including consumer, industry, and regulatory representatives- is crucial to the development of the Food Code. Consumer advocates, for example, represent customers at Food Code-regulated establishments and victims of foodborne illness, all of whom have an important stake in the decisions that are made at the CFP Biennial Conference Meeting. It is well recognized that the input of these stakeholders is crucial to the development of sound public health policy. In order to stimulate the participation of consumer groups, this scholarship will assist with funding to attend the conference for qualified consumer representatives.

### **The Scholarship Benefits**

Up to three scholarships will be available for each CFP Biennial Conference Meeting. Each scholarship will cover the cost of registration for one consumer representative for the biennial conference meeting and workshop.

### **The Criteria**

Consumer representatives must be employees of an organization meeting the following requirements. The organization:

- Must have a primary focus on food safety and public health, and a demonstrated commitment to consumer advocacy;
- Must meet the qualifications to sit on a council or committee
- Must represent the public at large; and
- Must not advocate on behalf of a single commodity.

**Scholarships will be assessed and granted at the discretion of CFP.**

## CFP Consumer Scholarship Application

The Consumer Scholarship was created to encourage participation in CFP by consumer advocacy groups. Because consumers are an important aspect of CFP's stakeholder consortium, we encourage you to apply if you meet the criteria as outlined [here](#) [hyperlink to Scholarship requirements]. Final scholarships will be granted at the discretion of CFP.

1. Name (organization):
2. Name (individual):
3. Title and primary focus (individual):
  - a. Please attach resume or professional biography here.
4. E-Mail Address:
5. Address:
6. Company Website:
7. What is the organization's primary focus?
8. What has the organization done to demonstrate commitment to consumer advocacy?
9. Does the organization accept funding from the government or industry?
  - a. If so, please explain.
10. Is the organization formally affiliated with any other organizations (including for-profit companies)?
11. Has the organization previously sent representatives to CFP?
  - a. If so, please indicate the most recent year of attendance.
  - b. Did the representative serve on the Council or as an active member on a Committee?
  - c. Would you be willing to serve on a Council or Committee?
12. What benefit do you feel you and your organization can bring to the CFP process?

This report must be submitted to your Council Chair for review so that it can be approved and submitted to the Executive Board via the Executive Director 30 days before each Executive Board Meeting (held in April and August of each year). The report must be accompanied by an updated committee roster on the Excel spreadsheet provided (Committee Members Template) located here: <http://www.foodprotect.org/work/>.

**COMMITTEE NAME:** Consumer Scholarship Committee

**COUNCIL (I, II, or III):** II

**DATE OF REPORT:**

**SUBMITTED BY:** Sarah Klein, Chair

**COMMITTEE CHARGE:**

**Issue #:** 2012 II-038

**Charge:** To provide scholarships for council members representing consumer organizations to cover registration costs for the biennial meetings and additional money, if available to cover travel costs.

**COMMITTEE'S REQUESTED ACTION FOR BOARD (If Applicable):** The Consumer Scholarship

Committee requests the following:

- 1) That the Executive Board approve the Consumer Scholarship Requirements and Application for up to three (3) consumer scholarships as developed by this Committee, and distribute the information (via CFP website, brochure, etc.) during the current Biennial Meeting application cycle;
- 2) Recognition that the scholarship is an ongoing award to be determined at the same time before every Conference and that the deadline for consumer groups to submit applications be no more than 8 weeks prior to the Conference;
- 3) For the CFP website ([www.foodprotect.org](http://www.foodprotect.org)) to include a linked button on the website on the same page as the application to become a member for "Consumer Scholarship Application";
- 4) If the funds for the scholarships have not been disseminated after the deadline, then there will be no deadline, or if more funds become available the deadline will not close until all the available funds have been distributed; and
- 5) The final short list of applicants for the scholarships will be determined by a Consumer Scholarship Committee, made up of all constituencies and chaired by the consumer member of the Executive Board, then submitted to the Executive Board for final approval.

**PROGRESS REPORT / COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES WITH ACTIVITY DATES:**

The Consumer Scholarship Committee held their first meeting on June 27, 2013 for one hour. Both the draft of requirements and the application had been previously made available for feedback.

For the first meeting on June 27, 2013 both Becky Stevens-Grobbelaar and Terry Levee were unable to call in. The remaining committee members discussed the above proposals and several portions were rephrased to be more inclusive. The scholarship amounts themselves were covered extensively and it was decided that the Executive Board would need to be involved in the decision making process. The possibility of including non-organization affiliated individuals was discussed at length but was later ruled out by the bylaws, which specify that consumer representatives must represent organizations:

“Article III Registration and Membership; Section 5; Subsection 5. Consumer = employees, agents or executives representing consumer advocacy organizations supporting food safety, food wholesomeness, allergen awareness, food policy matters and food standards and guidelines.”

On July 15, 2013 the second meeting was held via conference call. Donna and Teri were both unavailable. There was a discussion of whether the consumer representative needed to be from a non-profit organization, and it was decided to defer to the by-laws. It was later determined that the by-laws do not require the organization to be a non-profit.

Members discussed the prior suggestion for a waiver of CFP attendance requirements for scholarship applicants to sit on council. It was determined that the subject is moot for this committee, since that requirement may be waived on a case-by-case basis by the Council Formation Committee.

There was a discussion on how the scholarship recipients should be decided. The final proposal was that there would be a committee headed by the Consumer representative on the Executive Board. The short list for the three positions, as determined by that committee, would then be submitted to the Executive Board for final majority approval.

The committee also decided that three scholarships would be more beneficial than two so that each council could potentially have a consumer representative and will request that the number of scholarships be increased to three.