



ZONTA YOUNG WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP AWARD

PROGRAM BACKGROUND/STATISTICS

Purpose

The Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award (formerly the Young Women in Public Affairs Award) was established in 1990. The program goal is to encourage more young women to participate in public affairs by recognizing the candidate’s commitment to the volunteer sector, evidence of volunteer leadership achievements and a dedication to building a better world for women and girls.

Program Statistics

Since the inception of the program in 1990, Zonta has awarded **1,128 awards**, totaling **US\$1,673,750**, to **956 young women** from **61 countries**.

The Awards

In June 2024, the proposal to rename the Young Women in Public Affairs Award to the Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award was approved at the 2024 Convention in Brisbane, Australia. The number and value of the awards did not change.

In February 2022, the Zonta International Board approved elevating the district and region awards to 32 international Young Women in Public Affairs Awards of US\$5,000 each with one award recipient from each Zonta district/region, plus an additional five awards for the five largest Zonta districts, for a total of 37 awards each year.

In November 2019, the Zonta Foundation Board and the Zonta International Board approved increasing the amount of the 10 international awards to US\$5,000 each.

In December 2017, the Zonta Foundation Board and the Zonta International Board approved increasing the 32 district and region awards to US\$1,500 each.

2013-2017: In February 2012, the Zonta Foundation Board and the Zonta International Board approved the expansion of the Award to 10 international recipients and approved increasing the amount of funding for the international award to US\$4,000.

2008-2012: In February 2008, the Zonta Foundation Board and the Zonta International Board approved increasing the amount of funding for the YWPA Awards to provide US\$1,000 to each district/region recipient and US\$3,000 to five international recipients.

2001-2007: In February 2000, the Zonta Foundation Board approved the expansion of the Award to include five international recipients. Zonta provided US\$500 to each district recipient and US\$1,000 to five international recipients.

1991-2000: Zonta International provided US\$500 to each district recipient and US\$1,000 to one international recipient.

How are the Zonta Young Women in Leadership Award recipients chosen?

Zonta clubs publicize the program in their communities and distribute, receive and evaluate applications. Zonta clubs select one application to send to the Zonta governor. A district evaluation committee selects one applicant per district to submit to Zonta International Headquarters. The five largest Zonta districts in terms of membership numbers may submit two applications to Zonta International. The Zonta International Headquarters team confirms the eligibility of the applicants put forth by the district and submits a recommendation to the Zonta International Board for final approval.

Timetable

Applications received by Zonta clubs.....	(Contact club for deadline)
Club recipient is selected and application is received by governor.....	by 1 April
District applicant selected and application received by Zonta International Headquarters	by 1 May
Official announcement of international recipients.....	by 1 July