

John A. Sasso Memorial Scholarship



Summary

The John Sasso Memorial Scholarship was established in 2017 to enhance the educational and professional development of National Community Development Association (NCDA) members who work in housing, community and economic development in communities throughout the country.

NCDA has established this scholarship fund in memory of John Sasso, NCDA's founder and first Chief Executive Officer, who passed away on August 2, 2016. John was a driving force in the community development field. He began his career in Pawtucket, Rhode Island as the Deputy Director of the Redevelopment Agency in the early 1960s and became the Director of the Model Cities Program in

Pawtucket in 1968. He then became the first Executive Secretary of the Model Cities Directors Association in Washington DC, which changed its name to the National Model Cities and Community Development Directors Association. In 1979, John created the National Community Development Association (NCDA) and became its Director until retiring in 2002. He was a tireless advocate for communities and for the empowerment of low-income citizens and this scholarship fund will be used to assist NCDA professionals who serve to improve the lives of communities and those in need.

The John Sasso Memorial Scholarship Program will offer scholarships for conference attendees and courses administered by NCDA. This scholarship embraces the memory of John Sasso and the principles he established as a community development leader. NCDA embraces the principle that housing and community development professionals require training and education at the highest level to enhance professional development. The John Sasso scholarship is designed to assist members in reaching that goal.

Who is Eligible?

- Applicant must be an employee of and sponsored by an organizational member of NCDA.
- Organizations are limited to two scholarships in total.
- Applicant must plan to attend a training offered by NCDA on a tuition reimbursement basis or attend a national or regional NCDA Conference.
- Applicants must have five years are less work experience in housing/community development.

Two opportunities for assistance:

1) Professional Development Training

Interested applicants may apply for a scholarship to attend an NCDA training held throughout the year. NCDA's training schedule is available at http://ncdaonline.org/training/.

Each scholarship will be reimbursed to the payee upon completion of the course/training and submission of required documents. Applicants may choose one NCDA training. NCDA Professional Development provides professionals with opportunities to advance their careers by learning firsthand from recognized industry experts. Eligible applicants must have five years or less experience in housing/community development. The maximum award available for a training scholarship is \$500.00. A total of two professional development training scholarships will be awarded annually. Interested recipients will be required to complete the Scholarship Application and complete all the required elements within the application.

2) NCDA Conference

Interested applicants may apply for a scholarship to attend an NCDA conference. Each scholarship will be reimbursed to the payee upon completion of the conference and submission of required documents. Eligible applicants must have five years or less experience in housing/community development. A total of two professional development training scholarships will be awarded annually.

NCDA holds two conferences annually:

- Annual Meeting Held in June of each year.
- Winter legislative Meeting Held in January of each year in Washington DC

The maximum award available for a conference scholarship is \$500.00. A total of two conference scholarships will be awarded annually. Interested recipients will be required to complete the Scholarship Application and complete all the required elements within the application. Your agency must be a member of the National Community Development Association (NCDA). NCDA's conference and training schedule is available at http://ncdaonline.org/

Please feel free to contact Vicki Watson, Executive Director, NCDA, at www.vwatson@ncdaonline.org or at 540-656-9552 with any questions.

