

Katherine E Kloss
Memorial Aviation Advancement Scholarship

The Ninety-Nines, Inc. — New England Section

Scholarship Award: \$15,000
Three milestone-based installments of \$5,000

Purpose and Legacy:

The Katherine E. Kloss Memorial Aviation Scholarship honors Katherine's enduring legacy of empowering and mentoring women pursuing careers in traditionally male dominated fields. Established in her memory, the scholarship carries forward her belief in women's potential to lead, excel and break barriers while supporting and inspiring the next generation of women.

The scholarship is intended to honor her memory by creating meaningful opportunities for women to make measurable and sustained progress along her aviation journey towards a commercial aviation career.

The scholarship will be administered through the New England Section of The Ninety-Nines, Inc., International Organization of Women Pilots.

One scholarship of up to \$15,000 is anticipated to be awarded annually, subject to the continued availability of donor funding.

Scholarship Amount and Milestone Structure:

The scholarship provides a maximum award of \$15,000 per recipient, distributed in three installments of \$5,000 each.

The scholarship is intentionally structured around achievement. Installments will be released as the recipient demonstrates meaningful progress toward her approved aviation goal.

Installment 1 – Up to \$5000

Awarded upon selection and satisfaction of all initial documentation requirements. The first installment supports the recipient's current approved stage of aviation training.

Installment 2 – Up to \$5000

Released after successful completion of the first approved milestone and verification that the recipient is actively progressing toward the next stage of training.

Installment 3 – Up to \$5000

Released after successful completion of the second approved milestone and approval of the recipient's final training or advancement objective.

The recipient's three milestones will be established at the time of the award based upon her qualifications, experience, training history, and aviation goals.

Flexible Entry Point:

The donor recognizes that women may enter aviation and/or encounter financial barriers at many different stages. Therefore, an applicant does not need to be at a particular certificate or rating level to qualify. An applicant may enter the scholarship program at any appropriate point beginning with pre-solo flight training and continuing through advanced flight-instructor qualifications.

- Pre-solo training leading to first solo
- Completion of a Private Pilot Certificate
- Instrument Rating
- Commercial Pilot Certificate
- Multi-Engine Rating
- Certified Flight Instructor (CFI)
- Certified Flight Instructor–Instrument (CFII)
- Multi-Engine Instructor (MEI)
- Other closely related advanced pilot certificates, ratings, or qualifications approved by the Scholarship Committee and consistent with the purpose of the scholarship

Below are examples illustrating how the three \$5,000 installments might work.

Example Pathways

Example 1: Pre-Solo Applicant – An applicant who has logged at least 5 hours of flight training but has not yet soloed might have the following milestones:

First \$5,000: Continue primary flight training for the first solo milestone.

Second \$5,000: Continue training toward the Private Pilot Certificate for the PPL issuance.

Third \$5,000: Begin next approved stage of training, such as an Instrument Rating or other appropriate aviation advancement goal.

Example 2: Post-Solo Student Pilot

First \$5,000: Private Pilot Certificate training

Second \$5,000: Instrument Rating training

Third \$5,000: Commercial Pilot training or another approved next-stage qualification

Example 3: Private Pilot Applicant

First \$5,000: Instrument Rating

Second \$5,000: Commercial Pilot Certificate

Third \$5,000: Multi-Engine Rating or CFI

Example 4: Commercial Pilot or Instrument Rated Applicant

First \$5,000: Instrument Rating or Commercial Pilot Certificate

Second \$5,000: CFI

Third \$5,000: CFII or Multi-Engine Rating

These pathways are illustrative. The Scholarship Committee may approve a different logical progression when it better supports the recipient's aviation goals.

Eligibility:

At the application deadline, an applicant should meet all the following requirements:

1. Be a woman pursuing advancement in aviation through flight training with the intention of pursuing some form of commercial engagement in aviation (CFI, corporate pilot, airline pilot, etc.)
2. Have maintained continuous Ninety-Nines membership at one of the Chapters of the New England Section and in good standing for at least six months immediately preceding the application deadline (this requirement may be waived by the committee).
3. If applying as a pre-solo student pilot, have a minimum of 5 documented flight hours recorded in her pilot logbook by the application deadline.
4. Hold all FAA certificates, endorsements, medical qualifications, or other documentation required for the training and privileges applicable to her stage of advancement.
5. Provide a proposed training plan and estimated budget.
6. Demonstrate commitment to completing the proposed training and achieving the milestones.
7. Meet the family professional-pilot restriction described below.

In accordance with the donor's intent that the scholarship expand opportunity for women who do not have immediate-family access to the professional pilot community, an applicant is not eligible if a parent is a current or retired major airline pilot (this restriction may be waived at the discretion of the committee).

Selection Considerations by the Scholarship Committee:

Among applicants who meet the eligibility requirements, the Scholarship Committee should consider the applicant's:

- Ability to describe how the scholarship will materially advance her aviation objectives
- Commitment to aviation and clearly stated aviation goals
- Aviation activities, service, leadership, mentoring, or community involvement
- Instructor recommendations and demonstrated commitment to training
- Overall likelihood of successfully completing the proposed milestones
- Financial need will be considered.

Required Application Materials:

1. Completed scholarship application
2. Current aviation résumé or summary of aviation experience
3. Copy or electronic record of relevant pilot certificates and ratings
4. Copy of relevant logbook pages documenting total flight experience and recent training
5. For pre-solo applicants, documentation of at least 5 logged flight hours
6. Statement describing the applicant's aviation goals and proposed use of the scholarship
7. Proposed three-stage advancement plan (*less than 100 words*)
8. Estimated training costs
9. Verification of current Ninety-Nines membership and length of membership
10. Recommendation from a current or recent flight instructor or other qualified aviation professional
11. Documentation of the appropriate medical qualification when required for the proposed training
12. Signed applicant statement regarding immediate-family professional-pilot restriction

The Scholarship Committee may request additional documentation when necessary to verify eligibility or proposed training.

All requirements are under the discretion of the committee and all decisions are final.

Milestone Approval:

A significant feature of this scholarship is its individualized three-stage advancement plan.

Current Level → Milestone 1 → Milestone 2 → Milestone 3

Each milestone should represent a meaningful, objectively verifiable advancement in the recipient's aviation training to trigger the release of the funds for the achievement of the next milestone. Examples of acceptable documentation may include:

- Logbook entries and instructor endorsements
- First-solo endorsement/documentation
- FAA temporary or permanent airman certificate
- Rating or certificate issuance
- Training records from an approved instructor or flight school
- Other documentation accepted by the Scholarship Committee

The next installment will not normally be released until the preceding milestone has been satisfactorily documented.

Permitted Use of Scholarship Funds:

Scholarship funds may be used for reasonable and necessary expenses directly related to the recipient's approved aviation advancement plan, including, as applicable:

- Aircraft rental
- Flight instruction
- Simulator or approved aviation training-device instruction
- Ground instruction
- Required knowledge examinations
- Practical-test/checkride and examiner fees
- Training materials directly required for the approved certificate or rating

Funds should be used only for the approved aviation training purpose.

Remaining Funds and Hour Building:

If the recipient successfully completes the final approved certificate, rating, or training milestone before exhausting the full \$15,000 award, remaining scholarship funds may, with prior Scholarship Committee approval, be used for purposeful flight-time building that supports the recipient's continued advancement in aviation.

Time for Completion:

The recipient is expected to maintain active and reasonable progress throughout the scholarship period.

A proposed completion period of 12 months from the date of the initial award is recommended for utilization of the full scholarship.

The Scholarship Committee may grant an extension for circumstances such as aircraft availability, weather, examiner availability, medical issues, military obligations, family emergencies, or other circumstances reasonably beyond the recipient's control.

Failure to maintain reasonable progress, abandonment of training, loss of eligibility, or use of funds for an unauthorized purpose may result in suspension or termination of the remaining award.

Recipient Responsibilities:

- Maintain membership in good standing with The Ninety-Nines throughout the scholarship period.
- Maintain all certificates, medical qualifications, and other requirements applicable to her training.
- Remain actively engaged in the approved training program.
- Provide reasonable progress reports before subsequent installments are released.
- Provide documentation about achieved milestone for the release of the subsequent installment.
- Promptly notify the Scholarship Committee of any material change in training status or plans.
- Use scholarship funds exclusively for approved purposes.
- Maintain contact with 99s mentor(s) throughout training and Submit progress updates two weeks before each Fall (Semi-Annual) and Spring (Annual) meeting of the Ninety Nines New England Section.
- Upon completion of all three phases of the Scholarship continue to remain an active member of the Ninety Nines organization and consider providing mentorship for other members.

Scholarship Administration:

The scholarship will be administered by the New England Section of The Ninety-Nines, Inc., through a Scholarship Committee.

The Committee will be responsible for:

- Publicizing the scholarship
- Receiving and reviewing applications
- Verifying eligibility
- Selecting or recommending the recipient
- Establishing and monitoring the recipient's approved milestones
- Reviewing milestone documentation
- Approving subsequent payment(s) and communicated with the Treasurer for the release
- Maintaining appropriate scholarship records