

2026



ZONTA WOMEN IN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD

ZONTA
INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 22 LTD

Encouraging women to drive innovation and impact in the business world



1 APPLICATION, 2 OPPORTUNITIES

Club award
\$500

1 District award
\$2000 AUD

Applications must be received by the applicant's local Zonta club's deadline. To locate a club near you and download an application, please visit: <https://www.zontadistrict22.org/>

CLUB DEADLINE:

Club deadline June 14 2026

District Deadline: August 1 2026

SUBMIT APPLICATION TO:

zonta.eclubqld@gmail.com

The Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award is a Zonta International program. There is no International cycle in 2026 but the District funded award will be offered. Zonta International is a leading global organization of individuals working to build a better world for women and girls.



ZONTA WOMEN IN BUSINESS LEADERSHIP AWARD 2026

DESCRIPTION

The Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award celebrates excellence and recognizes outstanding achievements by women between 18-35 years of age who are driving innovation and creating an impact in the business world. This prestigious award honors exceptional leadership, entrepreneurial spirit, ethical conduct and significant contributions while addressing global or local issues affecting women and girls or climate justice.



In 2026 the program will be offered at Zonta club and District level only .
Zonta International District 22 offers a \$2000 AUD award.

Timetable

Clubs determine their own timelines for receipt of applications -June 14 2026 for E-club of Queensland

Club recipient is selected and application is sent to governor..... 1 August 2026

District applicant selected and winner announced 15 September 2026

Who is Eligible?

Women, aged 18-35 at the time of application, who demonstrate evidence of the following, are eligible to apply.

- Exceptional leadership in a business-related field of study or industry.
- Entrepreneurial spirit.
- Ethical conduct.
- Significant contributions to addressing global or local issues affecting women and girls or climate justice.

Note that applicants from geographic areas within a Zonta district where no clubs are located may apply via a Zonta e-Club .

Club members and individuals with direct membership with Zonta International and employees of Zonta International and Zonta Foundation for Women are not eligible to apply for the Awards. Committee or jury members or any member involved in the selection process should follow the [Zonta International Conflict of Interest Policy](#) in the selection of awardees.

Z club and Golden Z club members are eligible to apply. Previous scholarship recipients are not eligible to apply. Applicants for the 2026 Zonta Women in STEM Award may not also apply for the 2026 Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award.

How Do I Apply?

Applicants must locate a Zonta club near them by using the Club Locator at <https://www.zontadistrict22.org/> to receive the deadline and an address to submit application to, or for assistance, email your name and contact information to zontad22governor@gmail.com . Note that applications must be submitted to a Zonta club or district in the language(s) accepted by the club or district by the deadline printed on the application. Only typed applications will be accepted and considered.

Application Requirements

- Completion of the official application, including essay, <https://www.zontadistrict22.org/>
- Verification of current enrollment by school/institute official (if applicable), **or**
- Letter from employer confirming employment (if applicable). The letter from employer must be on letterhead with signature from the employer stating the applicants date of hire and job title.
- Two recommendations from adults, not related to the applicant, such as teachers, school officials, employee supervisors or business leaders, which must be sent directly to the Zonta club **or** district and not through the applicant.

Supporting documentation not requested as part of the application will not be considered. All applications and supporting information become the property of Zonta International District 22 . Zonta International has final authority over any aspect of the awards.

Application Process

The application process must start with a Zonta club. All application materials must be received at a Zonta club by the deadline given by the individual club. The club evaluating committee will consider applications and select the club awardee. Zonta clubs each select one application to send to the Zonta governor.

A district evaluating committee reviews the applications and selects the winner . All applicants will be notified of outcome.

Academic background:

Applicants are required to send transcripts of grades or equivalent records from all universities, colleges or institutes attended. An explanation of the grading system must be included for each transcript. Please add your degree obtained or current degree sought, if applicable, and expected graduation date (month/year). Do not upload unofficial transcripts as they will not be accepted.

In the tables below, please list the institutions you have attended:

University/college/institute/online	(Year) to (Year)	Major Field	Date Degree Received/ Anticipated

Employment history (if applicable):

(If you started your own company, please include that information here.)

From (month/year)	To (month/year)	Employer	Address	Type of work or position held

Scholarships, fellowships, honors received:

	Month/year

Volunteer and/or other activities

(Please describe your volunteer, non-scholastic activities, memberships and cultural interests):

Recommendations

Please use the following fields to name and send a recommendation letter request to a faculty member in the major field of study (if applicable) and/or to a supervisor, employer, volunteer supervisor, or academic advisor. These recommendations are confidential, and you will not be able to view the completed responses. It is the responsibility of the applicant to make sure these recommendations have been turned in by the Zonta club’s deadline.

Please list below those who will submit recommendations:

Name	Position	Title	College/university/institute/emp loyer
1.			
2.			

Professional information and goals

(Please type in English.)

In 500 words or less, please describe how you have demonstrated exceptional leadership, entrepreneurial spirit, and ethical conduct in a business-related field of study or industry, any significant contributions you have made to addressing global or local issues affecting women and girls or climate justice, and how the Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award will assist you in reaching your goals. (Essays cannot exceed 500 words to be considered.) Please provide the word count at the end of your answer.

Declaration by applicant

I certify that all the information contained in my application form is accurate to the best of my knowledge and that I did not receive assistance in completing the essay portions of this application other than for translation into English for advancing to district and international levels. I understand that, at the option of the Zonta club sponsoring my application or the Zonta district I may be interviewed as a candidate for the Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award. I consent to the electronic or hard copy publication of material in my application by Zonta District 22.

- I confirm that I have not applied to more than one Zonta district.
- I confirm that I am not a club member or individual with direct membership with Zonta International or employee of Zonta International and Zonta Foundation for Women.
- I confirm that I have not applied for the 2026 Zonta Women in STEM Award.
- I confirm I am not a previous international scholarship recipient.

Signature (required) _____ Date _____
 (Insert image of your signature or print, sign and scan this page.)

Data protection

Zonta International and Zonta Foundation for Women take the security of your data seriously. We will never sell, trade or rent your personal information provided in this application to third parties. By submitting this application, you agree to the use of your data in accordance with the *Privacy Policy and Publicity Authorization Form* contained in the application documents (see page 8 of the application).

(Please check the appropriate items.)

How did you learn of the Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award?

Social media:	
▪ LinkedIn	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Facebook	<input type="checkbox"/>
▪ Instagram	<input type="checkbox"/>
Department/teacher	<input type="checkbox"/>
Directory of grants at university financial aid office	<input type="checkbox"/>
Directory of grants not at university (e.g., public libraries)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Website (name):	
Previous recipient (name):	
Zonta club name:	

Checklist to be completed by applicant:

Official detailed transcripts (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Translated transcripts in English from all universities/colleges/institutions attended (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Recommendations (2)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Essay (not exceeding 500 words)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Verification of Current Enrollment Form (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Letter from employer verifying employment (if applicable)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Signatures	<input type="checkbox"/>



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**Verification of Current School Enrollment for
Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award**

I certify that _____ is currently enrolled in
(name of student)

_____ in _____
(year of degree program) (name of course/degree being studied)

at _____
(name of college/university/institute)

(address college/university/institute)

(signature is required of college/university/institute official)

(date)

(Expected graduation date)

(official stamp of the college/university/institute)



Privacy Policy and Publicity Authorization
Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award

Zonta International District 22 is committed to honoring the privacy and wishes of all our Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award recipients at all times. In order to do this, please read the following information carefully and indicate your agreement as appropriate.

1. Most data collected by Zonta International District 22 is used only to help Zonta better serve its award recipients. It is our general policy to collect and store only personal information that our recipients knowingly provide. Zonta does not sell, trade, or rent your personally identifying information to third parties. Except as described in paragraph two, we take reasonable measures not to disclose personally identifying information about you.

I have read the above paragraph and agree to the Terms and Conditions therein.

2. From time to time, Zonta International District 22 conducts various marketing activities to promote the Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award. In addition, to ensure Zonta's ability to fund the Awards, may from time to time provide information to donors about recipients of their donations. Zonta retains the right to use your name, photograph and biographical information to promote the Zonta Women in Business Leadership Award in various promotional materials, including the website.

I have read the above paragraph and agree to the Terms and Conditions therein.

Please print your name

Signature is required (Insert image of your signature or print, sign and scan this page.)

Date