

WOMEN WHO SWIM AGAINST THE CURRENT

Lakselaget Foundation Opportunity Fund

The Lakselaget Opportunity Fund was established to celebrate, encourage and advance the organization's motto, "***women who swim against the current.***" Its goal is to promote international connections between Norway and the United States, and to offer recipients an opportunity to teach, learn and share knowledge that will benefit women in their complex roles in today's society. This opportunity could be used to supplement funding for an international exchange or internship or a short-term international work opportunity.

TYPE OF FUND:

The funds should augment the applicant's income during this short-term work opportunity or internship. When selecting recipients, matching funds from any of the companies involved will be taken into consideration.

AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIP: Starting at \$ 1,000

The scholarship check will be made payable jointly to the applicant and the recipient's agency or firm.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE:

1. Women of any age;
2. American or Norwegian citizens;
3. Intended for Minnesotans who have secured a short-term work or work-related opportunity in Norway or for Norwegians who have secured a short-term work or work-related opportunity in Minnesota.
4. Workers in any field, and particularly those working in biotechnology, mathematics, sciences, and other professions where women are currently underrepresented are encouraged to apply;
5. Applicants must have at least one year of professional experience and be able to demonstrate competency in their field.

HOW TO APPLY:

Download the application form at: **www.lakselaget.org** under the 'Foundation' tab. Please assemble your application in the order listed below and include all of the items in one envelope or in one e-mail (if you choose this method, send your recommendation letters separately). When submitting your application, please include:

A. A copy of an official transcript from all colleges, universities or other professional training institutions attended;

B. Two letters of recommendation. Please ask the individuals, who are writing your letters of recommendation, to sign the letter, place it in an envelope, close the envelope, and sign over the seal on the backside of the envelope. Please include the recommendation letters with all of the other application materials when you mail in your application or send them separately via U.S. Mail or the Norwegian Postal System if you submit your application via e-mail to the Foundation Director. The recommendation letters should be sent to:

Karin Holt
Foundation Director
5600 Camerata Way #410
St. Louis Park, MN
55416
USA

C. Up to a 1,000 word essay which clearly describes why working in Norway or the United States of America is important to you, how your employer will benefit from the experience, and/or how the international experience will promote opportunities for you. Include what you

expect to contribute in the future, your ideas for sharing knowledge internationally, and how your experience will uphold Lakselaget's motto, "Women who swim against the current".

D. A statement explaining how you meet the eligibility requirements described above.

APPLICATION MUST BE SENT TO:

Karin Holt
Foundation Director
5600 Camerata Way #410
St. Louis Park, MN 55416
USA

APPLICATION DEADLINE:

To be eligible, your application must be postmarked by U.S. Mail by the Norwegian Postal System or sent by e-mail and confirmed received no later than: **March 1, 2012**. If you anticipate that your application will arrive by mail after March 1, 2012, please send an e-mail to the Foundation Director, Karin Holt, at: scholarships@lakselaget.org and inform her that your application is in the mail. Similarly, if you would like to know whether your application was received, please e-mail the Foundation Director at the e-mail address listed above and she will provide a confirmation of receipt.

OBLIGATION AFTER FINISHING THE WORK STUDY:

Lakselaget asks that you give a short oral presentation to its members at one of its monthly meetings, whichever month is most convenient for you. Lakselaget meets for luncheons on the first Saturday of the month from October through May.

LAKSELAGET OPPORTUNITY APPLICATION

Name of applicant _____

Mailing address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Country _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Proposed project title: _____

Profession _____ Job Title _____

Agency or firm you will be interning with or working for: _____

Length of the opportunity _____

If applicable, what level Norwegian or English classes you plan to study:

Please list any memberships or affiliations in academic, professional, civic, community or social organizations:

For Americans, please comment on your Norwegian language competency and the Norwegian language courses you have attended. It is also recommended that you include a letter from someone who can attest to your ability. Proficiency is **not required** but an interest in learning the language is advantageous.
