Progress Software Mary Székely Scholarship for Women in STEM[1]
Scholarship Guidelines

ABOUT

Dedicated to propelling business forward in a technology-driven world, Progress (Nasdaq: PRGS) helps businesses drive faster cycles of innovation, fuel momentum and accelerate their path to success faster through industry leading infrastructure software products. We strive to be a diverse, equitable and inclusive company, where every person–no matter their experience, perspective, identity, or belief–has a sense of belonging.

We created the Progress Software Mary Székely Scholarship for Women in STEM to commemorate Mary Székely (pronounced: "See-kay"), who served as the company's co-founder and lead technologist for more than 30 years. Mary was instrumental in Progress becoming known as the trusted provider of infrastructure software products—a mission that Progress continues to this day. She had a deep love for math and science and was influential in our industry at a time when women pursuing careers in STEM were rare. Mary passed away in June 2019 but left an indelible mark on those who had the opportunity to work with her.

The scholarship is awarded to a single recipient annually.

AWARD
- $10,000 four-year, renewable scholarship to cover tuition, fees and educational expenses while pursuing an undergraduate degree.

ELIGIBILITY
Requirements
The Progress Software Mary Székely Scholarship for Women in STEM scholarship recipient must meet the following eligibility requirements. The candidate must:
- Identify as a woman
- Be a resident of Massachusetts and a U.S. citizen or permanent resident eligible for federal financial aid
- Plan to major in computer science, software engineering, IT and/or computer information systems
- Be a high school senior or high school graduate who plans to enroll OR is currently enrolled in an accredited university, college, community college or trade school
- Have a cumulative high school unweighted GPA above 3.2 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent)
- Desire to make meaningful contributions in the fields of computer science, software engineering, IT and/or computer information systems

Exclusions
- Progress Software employees, board members, and their family members are not eligible.
- Students in graduate school are not eligible.

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[1] For the purpose of this scholarship, STEM is defined as computer science, software engineering, IT and/or computer information systems

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SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS

The Philanthropic Initiative (TPI), a division of The Boston Foundation, oversees the management of the scholarship and ensures it complies with IRS rules for awarding scholarships.

Scholarship recipients will be chosen on the basis of academic achievement; interest and experience in computer science, software engineering, IT and/or computer information systems ; and personal attributes that exemplify Mary Székely's qualities, including, but not limited to, dedication, generosity and loyalty; strong work ethic; highest personal integrity; passion for learning; a leader, innovator, teacher, mentor and trailblazer.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Complete applications are due **Friday, March 11, 2022 by 5pm ET**. Please follow instructions carefully.

To access the application, click here: https://www.grantinterface.com/Home/Logon?urlkey=tpischolarship

1. Create an account and log in. Please keep a record of your username and password.

2. Once this is done, there should be an opportunity to enter an Access Code at the top of the page. Please enter: **Mary**

3. Review the **eligibility requirements** to make sure you are eligible to submit.

4. Review the **sample application** to be sure you have all the information you will need to complete the application process. A sample application can be found here: SAMPLE-APPLICATION-Progress-Software-Mary-Székely-Scholarship-for-Women-in-STEM-2022-23.pdf (tpi.org)

5. Instructions on how to submit required attachments are included in the online application and include uploading electronic files, scanning and uploading, or using a fax-to-file feature.

6. Make sure you give the person you are asking to submit a letter of **recommendation** ample time to complete their recommendation prior to the application deadline. Instructions are included in the application.

7. If you have **questions**, please email progress@tpi.org.

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REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

The following materials are required. Only fully completed applications will be considered.

1. **Complete** application submission online.
2. Two **essays** are required (250 words each).
   Essay One. Please select one to write about:

   a. *Share your passion for STEM and what you hope to achieve in the field.*
   b. *Describe an achievement or series of achievements related to computer science, software engineering, IT and/or computer information systems that you are most proud of.*

   Essay Two. Please select one to write about:

   a. *Provide insight about how you have impacted others or provided opportunities for others that may not have previously existed. Examples may include mentorship, community engagement and/or philanthropic efforts.*
   b. *Progress has a keen focus on Inclusion & Diversity (I&D). Talk about how you've supported inclusion and diversity in your community, school or elsewhere.*

3. **High School Transcript** (must have a cumulative unweighted GPA above 3.2 on a 4.0 scale or equivalent).
4. **Letter of Recommendation** from a teacher attesting to the student's passion and commitment to achieving their goals.
5. **Resume**
6. **Student Aid Report (SAR) from Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)**

TIMELINE

- Complete applications are due **Friday, March 11, 2022 by 5pm ET.**
- Selected applicants will be invited for interviews in April.
- Scholarship recipient will be announced in late April/early May.
- Scholarship applicants not selected will be notified of decisions via email in May.
- Scholarship recipient will be publicly announced by Progress in June.

RENEWING THE SCHOLARSHIP

Scholarship recipients are eligible to renew their scholarship for up to four years in a five-year period while pursuing an undergraduate degree, provided the following requirements are met:

- Submit year-end transcripts.
- Maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale (or its equivalent).
- Remain enrolled in an accredited university, college, community college or trade school.
- Maintain a major in computer science, software engineering, IT and/or computer information systems.
- A student may take up to one academic year off from enrollment in college and remain eligible to retain their scholarship provided all four years of the scholarship are completed within five years from the date of the original award.

REVISIONS

TPI and Progress Software reserves the right to review the eligibility and terms of this scholarship and to make changes at any time, including termination of the program.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS: Please contact progress@tpi.org