**Marie Welch Scholarship Application**

***Sponsored By:***

**IIAO Insurance Foundation**

*This Scholarship is given in honor of Marie Welch, an entrepreneur who began Oklahoma General Agency literally on her kitchen table. Marie knew that many of the rural insurance agents were being neglected by the large insurance companies and consequently, had few products to offer to their clients. Knowing that the key to success was identifying a need and then filling it, she set out to provide those products formerly unavailable. The concept worked.*

*Marie became known as an innovator and leader in the insurance industry. Growing OGA into a large and prosperous business. Insurance industry friends from all over the state have donated to the fund in her memory and we are pleased to offer this scholarship in her name to deserving students in the state of Oklahoma.*

**IIAO Insurance Foundation**

**Marie Welch Scholarship Application**

**MISSION STATEMENT**

**Encourage students to pursue post-secondary education.**

## SCHOLARSHIP PURPOSE

To encourage either the beginning or continuation of a current course of higher education study. The funds are to be used for degree or certification studies only at an academically accredited institution in the United States.

The scholarship will be awarded on basis of merit as demonstrated by grades, school and community service. Selection will be made by a committee of judges on the basis of information provided in their application and references given herein. “Financial need” is not a criteria.

## ELIGIBILITY

**Up to three $1,000 scholarships will be awarded:**

* Candidate must be a child of an IIAO agency or associate member, or a full- or part-time employee of an IIAO agency or associate member.
* Candidate must be a resident of Oklahoma pursuing a bachelor’s degree at a community college, college or university in any state or applicant must be presently working in the insurance industry in the state of Oklahoma. High school seniors as well as students presently enrolled in college are eligible.
* An official transcript of most recently recorded grades and a letter of recommendation from a non-family member should accompany application.

## SPONSOR

Applicants must be sponsored by an insurance agent who is a member in good standing of the Independent Insurance Agents of Oklahoma. A letter of sponsorship from the member agent should be included with the application.

## ESSAY

Applicants must include a one-page, typed (double-spaced) essay on the following topic:

**How does the emergence of insurers doing more direct-to-consumer insurance sales**

**via online platform technology and innovative customer engagement technology affect your decision to join the insurance industry as an independent agent?**

Applications submitted without the essay will not be considered.

## HOW TO APPLY

The application should be filled out in its entirety, the essay completed, and the necessary supporting documents (including the letter of sponsorship) should be attached. Incomplete applications or applications without the required attachments will not be accepted.

## APPLICATION DEADLINE

Completed applications and supporting information should be mailed to the IIAO Insurance Foundation at the address listed below. All applications and supporting information must be received by May 1. Funds will be made available after July 1 of each year and must be used by June 30 of the following year. Winners will be notified by July 15.

# IIAO INSURANCE FOUNDATION

### P.O. Box 13490 • Oklahoma City, OK 73113

**Phone: (405) 840-4426 • Fax: (405) 840-4450**

[**Internet: http://www.iiaok.com**](http://www.iiaok.com/)

**Marie Welch Applicant Information:**

Full Name: Address: City, State, Zip:

Telephone: Fax:

Email:

Child of IIAO Agency or Associate Member?  Yes  No

If yes, Parent’s Name/Agency:

Employee of IIAO Agency or Associate Member?  Yes  No

**Sponsor Information:**

Sponsoring Agency:

Contact Name:

**Education:**

 Attach copy of most current transcript (either High School or College). Last School Attended: City, State, Zip:

Years Attended: Current GPA:

Field of study:

School Counselor: Phone:

**Work Experience:**

Present Employer:

City, State, Zip:

Position: Date Hired:

Current Supervisor: Phone:

Responsibilities:

List proposed college major and trade/professional plans:

**During school or professional years, I gained recognition for (music, athletic, professional awards):**

**Outside of school/work, I have pride in these accomplishments:**

**Why do you think you should be chosen for this scholarship?**

I certify that the foregoing facts are true to the best of my knowledge. If the Marie Welch Scholarship is granted, I will use the funds solely for the payment of tuition, fees or books at the post-secondary institution specified. I understand that misrepresentation of facts called for on this application will disqualify me from further consideration, and if awarded the scholarship, will be cause for revocation of same. I also grant the IIAO Insurance Foundation permission to use my name and/or likeness to publicize and/or promote the scholarship. I hereby grant permission for any references listed within to release information about my employment

or school career to the Scholarship Committee. I understand that all information will be kept confidential for the sole purpose of determining scholarship recipients. I agree to inform the IIAO Insurance Foundation in the event that: a) my educational program is interrupted or terminated, or b) my current address or telephone number changes.

Applicant Signature: Date:

*Send completed application, essay and supporting documents, by May 1, to:*

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