INVESTMENTS & WEALTH FOUNDATION

2022 REPORT

The Investments & Wealth Foundation scholarship program supports women, diverse professionals and veterans with financial need to elevate their careers and contribute to our profession.

investmentsandwealth.org/foundation

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ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

What We Do
The Investments & Wealth Foundation provides scholarships for underrepresented professionals to pursue the CIMA®, CPWA®, and RMA® certifications. With your support, the Foundation will reduce the financial barrier to certification through scholarship.

Your investment in the future of a diverse and representative financial advisor profession is not a campaign, it is vital to the future of the profession.

Our Mission
Accelerate career advancement of target professionals who are currently underrepresented in the profession, thereby fostering sustainable diversity within the financial advisor profession.

Our Goal
To grow and support a more diverse workforce within the financial advisor profession through scholarship.

We formed the Foundation in 2022 as a 501(c)(3) entity to confirm our long-term commitment toward providing financial assistance to underrepresented professionals who seek certification. This year, we are building an endowment to strengthen and protect our scholarship resources, even in times of instability.

The endowment will help ensure enduring support for the Foundation’s Mission and Goal. We recognize the need to establish transparency and build trust among our donors and want to provide a way for you—or your firm—to help the Foundation advance the resilience of our profession.

OUR 2023 PRIORITIES

Want to endow and name a scholarship as either an individual or corporate donor?

Contact us at: foundation@i-w.org
OUR IMPACT IN 2022

$1.1M+ IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO:

MORE THAN 185 CIMA® PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES

161 CPWA® PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES

28 RMA® PROSPECTIVE CANDIDATES

IMPACT SINCE PROGRAM INCEPTION

186+ Scholarship recipients certified

264+ Candidates in-process

671 Scholarships Awarded
BENEFITS TO SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS
The Institute believes all advisors should have the same opportunity when it comes to their access to specialized education and advanced designations. The goal of the Scholarship Fund is to reduce the financial barrier to entry for eligible professionals who meet the requirements.

Through the Institute’s programs, scholarship recipients are able to sharpen their skills and add new, specialized expertise to their business. Scholarship recipients attract and retain high-net-worth clients with complex needs due to the knowledge, skills, and techniques they learn through our certifications. Holding a prestigious designation such as the CIMA®, CPWA®, and/or RMA® certifications creates the opportunity to excel through heightened confidence, competency, and compensation.

“As financial security is often borne out of opportunity and knowledge. Many people take that for granted. I don’t. I come from a family and a community whose history often didn’t have either. Earning both my CPWA® and CIMA® designations were two pursuits that helped solidify my financial expertise and opened the door to other professional opportunities. More importantly, I’m now in a position to better help others build more financially secure lives. That includes members of my family, my community, and one day, my future family.”

Ken Chambers,
CIMA®, CPWA®
Investment Sales Consultant
Morningstar Investment Management LLC

“I am very thankful for receiving financial assistance from the Foundation to pursue the CPWA® certification. As a veteran and woman within the LGBTQ+ umbrella community, I serve a specific niche of people, people that feel more comfortable working with financial professionals that identify in some part with them on a personal level. This certification has allowed me to broaden my skillset to more deeply serve their unique financial needs.”

Ashley Bloom, CFP®, CPWA®
Financial Advisor
Edward Jones

“As a minority woman who has been in the industry for more than a decade and in settings where I am often the only person of color and/or woman in the room, I am used to the stereotypes that can often come with the territory. One of the ways I counter those misconceptions is through my proven experience in working with HNW clients. Another way I do so is through my credentials. As a complement to my other strategically selected and hard-earned designations, I obtained the CPWA® certification as another example of my commitment towards continuing education and ethical standards. The assistance from the Foundation made it easier for me to pursue the CPWA® certification, and it has helped fine-tune my knowledge on how to better serve the complex wealth management and planning needs of my clients.”

Solitaire Dasher-Smiley, CFP®, CEPA®, CPWA®, CAIA®, MBA
Financial Advisor
Raymond James & Associates
“Advisors are often so focused on serving their clients—helping to provide better outcomes for their clients day in, day out—that devoting time to their own career advancement can take a back seat. I donated because I’m committed to helping remove financial barriers to pursuing certifications that will help an advisor’s adherence to ethics and access to education, which increases their knowledge in financial areas key to investors’ needs. If a scholarship can help encourage someone to enhance their knowledge—particularly for those who are underrepresented in our profession—I want to do what I can to help.”

Betsy Piper/Bach JD, CFP®, CIMA® CTFA
P/B Wealth Consulting

“I donated because financial literacy is the key to building a better future for more people that look like “us,” which can even lead more people who look like us working in this industry—and even building successful careers. It also means more opportunities to connect and help a broader community of investors to aspire and achieve financial freedom. Helping others by providing a little assistance to obtain advanced certifications—helping them to get more knowledge and expertise—is just one way in which I can help make this happen.”

Desiree Maldonado CPWA®, CIMA®, CFP®
Financial Consultant
Popular Securities, LLC

“I made a donation because I am passionate about promoting positive change in the financial advice industry. Financial advisors play a crucial role in helping individuals achieve their financial goals, but the industry’s pool of talent is more homogeneous than ideal, which can limit the range of perspectives and ideas available to clients. By providing educational support to individuals who may face financial barriers to entry, we can work towards creating a more diverse group of advisors that will benefit investors by providing a wider range of experiences and viewpoints.”

Asif Nasim
Owner and Principal at Nasim Management
We are grateful for the following individuals who contributed in 2022:

Jefferson Adcock
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Libet Anderson
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MAKE YOUR GIFT TODAY
Visit the Foundation donation page:
https://investmentsandwealth.org/foundation-donate

Or access the donation page via our QR Code:

HOW TO DONATE
Your donation is tax-deductible and supports scholarship assistance to pursue CIMA®, CPWA®, and RMA® certifications for:

- Women
- Black, indigenous, and people of color
- Veterans
- Those who identify under the LGBTQ+ umbrella
- Persons with disabilities
- Advisors from small, independent RIA or independent broker-dealer firms who don’t provide tuition reimbursement assistance

We do not discriminate on the basis of gender, color, race, sexual orientation, disability or veteran status.

100% of your donation to the Investments & Wealth Foundation supports scholarship. The costs of the Foundation are underwritten by the Investments & Wealth Institute.

Your donation is tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.
Our EIN is 87-4617128.

MULTIPLY YOUR GENEROSITY
Matching gift programs are a type of corporate giving where companies match the gifts their employees make to nonprofit organizations. Ask your employer if they have a matching gift program in order for your donation to provide significantly more support for the Investments & Wealth Foundation.

GET INVOLVED
Interested in volunteering with the Investments & Wealth Foundation? Contact us at: foundation@i-w.org

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