

The Joel M. Ressner Scholarship for Minority Students in Chemistry

Brief Biography:

Dr. Joel M. Ressner was born in Philadelphia in 1950. He graduated from Northeast High School in 1967. He earned his BS in Chemistry from Lehigh University in 1971. Dr. Ressner earned his MSc in Organometallic Chemistry from University of Sussex, Brighton, England in 1972. He earned his Ph.D. in Chemistry from Lehigh University in 1978. He was a research associate at University of Toronto in 1982 and Lehigh University in 1983. He was a sabbatical replacement professor at University of Louisville in 1978. Before he came to West Chester University in 1984 as an assistant professor, he taught at University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown from 1979 to 1981. Dr. Ressner became an associate professor at West Chester University in 1989 and retired in 2016.

Recipient Requirements:

To qualify for this scholarship a student must:

1. be a full-time major in a degree program (other than Chemistry-Biology) offered by the Department of Chemistry
2. belong to a minority population, as defined by the U.S. Census Bureau
3. have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher
4. demonstrate financial need
5. have a record of service to the Department or University (Alchemist Club, tutoring, etc.)

Weighting of the qualifications above will be decided by the selection committee; they need not be weighted equally and may vary from year to year. The selection committee shall consist of the Scholarship Committee of the Department of Chemistry.

The purpose of this scholarship is to aid the Department of Chemistry in the maintenance of matriculated minority students in chemistry. Gender or religion may not be considered as criteria in awarding this scholarship. This scholarship is renewable, but not automatically so. The funds may be used only towards tuition at West Chester University. Acceptance of this award shall not remove the awardee from consideration for other scholarships or awards, internal or external. The endowed fund will last in perpetuity. If any of its terms become impracticable to carry out in the future, the Foundation may take changes in those terms, while keeping as close as practicable to the donor's original intent.

Website announcement: