



For Immediate Release:

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\$10,000 in "Water" Scholarships Available from West Basin

Applications Accepted Until February 26, 2010

CARSON, Calif.—West Basin Municipal Water District's (West Basin) Board of Directors, for the second consecutive year, is supporting students interested in water careers through its scholarship program. Ten \$1,000 scholarships will be awarded, with up to two awarded within each of West Basin's 5 divisions (for a map of these divisions and a list of eligible cities and schools, please visit www.westbasin.org).

This program is open to graduating high school seniors living in or attending a school within the West Basin service area and have been accepted into a trade school, junior college, or university. The program aims to nurture student interest in pursuing studies that could lead to a career in the water industry and recognizes scholastic achievement and community service.

"With the state of the economy, rising tuition costs, and an ongoing need to train tomorrow's water specialists, this is a great opportunity for a student entering higher education," said West Basin Board President Edward C. Little.

To apply, students must complete and submit the official application with a 500-word essay describing the applicant's knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of current and future water issues, describe how water will be integrated into their field of study, and the reason the applicant would like to work in the water industry. Additional guidelines for the scholarship can be found in the application packet, available at www.westbasin.org.

"I believe that it is the responsibility of us as the human race to keep Earth in a healthy condition for years to come and that people must become aware of that responsibility," said 2009 awardee and Lawndale High School graduate Andrea Flores in her essay. "I intend to continue my passion for advocating the importance of protecting Earth's water."

Applications are due no later than 5:00 p.m. (PST) on February 26, 2010 by email, standard mail, fax, or hand delivered to West Basin's office in Carson. The award will include a Certificate of Achievement and a one-time \$1,000 cash scholarship for use toward tuition or books.

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West Basin Municipal Water District is reducing its dependence on imported water through the Water Reliability 2020 program that will double conservation, double recycled water production and add desalted ocean-water to our portfolio by the year 2020. Partnering with community organizations, businesses and other public agencies keeps West Basin lean and strengthens its programs. West Basin is a wholesale water district that serves nearly a million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas throughout its 185-square mile service area.