

The Nuts and Bolts of The AAUW Fund

What Every Member Needs to Know



Topics

- **What is the AAUW Fund?**
- **Why Contribute?**
- **Unrestricted Funds**
- **Restricted Funds**
- **Ways to Contribute**
- **Fellowships and Grants**
- **Resources**

What is the AAUW Fund?

- It is the umbrella that supports all of National AAUW's programs and initiatives.
- It is the part of AAUW that helps keep AAUW running to be able to fulfill its Mission and Vision.
- It includes Fellowship and Grant Endowments and much more.
- The AAUW Fund remains the largest source of funding exclusively for graduate women.
- Fiscal Year 2024 = \$6.2 Million/276 Fellows & Community Organizations.
- AAUW CA members and branches generously donated \$475,275 to AAUW Fund in 2024.
- Contributions to the AAUW Fund are tax deductible.

Why Donate?

- Allow AAUW to fulfill its Mission and Vision
- Continue focus on Pay Equity, Workplace Harassment Protections
- Programs like Work Smart, Start Smart and Money Smart
- Keep AAUW Solvent and able to adapt to emerging needs
- Dues account for only 12% of AAUW's assets

Champion legislation supporting:

- Reproductive Rights
- Research
- Paid family & Medical leave; Paid Sick Leave
- Enforcement of Title IX
- Civil Rights, Voting Rights, Student Debt
- Safe, Accessible Educational Environments

Restricted vs Unrestricted Funds

**Restricted: (96% of assets)
can only be used for the specific fund purpose**

VS

**Unrestricted Funds: (4% of assets)
are used wherever there is a need**



Unrestricted Donations

#9110-The Greatest Needs Fund

- ❑ **Vital source** of **unrestricted support**
- ❑ Allows AAUW to **respond quickly and efficiently** to **emerging challenges and opportunities**.
- ❑ Enables AAUW to **sustain core operations, advocacy efforts, & program expansion** and some **critical operations** like **administrative costs**.
- ❑ **Supports initiatives** like **economic empowerment** programs, **voter engagement** campaigns & **policy advocacy**.
- ❑ Allows AAUW to **adapt to evolving needs** and continue leading the **fight for gender equity**.
- ❑ Crucial to **keeping AAUW agile**, provide **long-term sustainability**
- ❑ Empowers the organization to **drive meaningful change**.

Preferred Restricted Funds

4513 – The Defend Higher Education Fund

- Enables AAUW to elevate the critical higher education issues impacting women.
- Mobilizes advocates across the country.
- Provides strategic resources to students, staff and faculty on campus.
- Fuels investments in the infrastructure & technology necessary to move our mission forward.

4337 – The Public Policy Fund

- Increases the impact of our Action Network through growing the number of advocates across the country.
- Provides timely, accurate, & actionable information about our key issues.
- Equips branches with customized talking points on core policy issues like Title IX, student debt and pay equity.



Popular Restricted Fund

#3999 Legal Advocacy Fund

Open to AAUW Members and the Public

- ❖ **Funds cases in state or federal court** that address sex discrimination in employment or education **and** have the **potential to set or reinforce precedent** for future cases on gender discrimination. (Pay Inequity, Violations of Title IX, Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, & Tenure Violations).
- ❖ Provides **renewable grants** (\$5K-\$20K).
- ❖ Current and Former **Litigant information** is on the **AAUW Website**.
- ❖ Provides **Clinic Grant Awards to Law Schools** for outstanding clinical programs.

Some Ways to Contribute

1. Use the Donate Link on the AAUW Webpage
2. Donate through your branch
3. Tax Benefit by giving through your IRA Required Minimum Distribution
4. Legacy Circle: Planned Giving - Leave a Legacy (Will, Estate, Revocable Living Trust, Retirement/Life Insurance Policy Beneficiary; Real Estate, various other types of trusts & annuities)
6. Contact the AAUW National Office for Funds not listed on the AAUW Donate Page (for an express link or to mail a check).

Fellowship and Grant Endowments

The Endowments are fully funded and restricted (with \$100+ million in reserve). The principle is never touched. Recipients are awarded from the \$5-6 million in interest produced yearly from the endowments. Open to the public. Branch members may apply.

For Individuals

- American Dissertation Fellowship (\$25,000)
- American Short-Term Research Publication Grant (\$8,000)
- American Postdoctoral Research Leave Fellowship (\$50,000)
- Career Development Grant (\$8,000)
- International Fellowship (Master's and Doctorate Degrees) (\$20-\$25,000)
- International Project Grant (\$15,000)
- International Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (\$50,000)
- Selected Professions Fellowship (\$20,000)

For Organizations

- AAUW Branch and State Affiliate Community Action Grants (up to \$10K)
- Community Action Grant (up to \$75K)

Resources

[5 Star Program](#)

[AAUW CA Fund Webpage](#)

[AAUW Donation Page](#)

[AAUW Legal Advocacy Fund](#)

[AAUW National Fellowships and Grants](#)

[Branch Job Description](#)

[Current and Past LAF Cases](#)

[Fellowship Directory 2004-5 thru 2023 \(by name of recipient\)](#)

[Fellowship Directory 2023 to present](#)

[Greatest Needs Flyer](#)

[Legacy Circle \(CA Webpage\)](#)

[Legacy Circle Brochure](#)

[Named Gift Honoree Info](#)

[National AAUW Fundraising Policies](#)

[Planned Giving](#)