

Patty Mitchell Northwest Section of The Ninety-Nines Scholarship

Patty worked as a substitute teacher to pay for flying lessons. After quickly earning her private, commercial, Instrument and CFI certificates, she became one of Montana's first smoke jumper pilots. Later, she flew charters and borrowed money to earn a type rating on a Citation. She interviewed in 1987-88 with several airlines and ran into gender discrimination barriers, but kept trying. Finally, she was hired by United Airlines in 1988 on the basis of her "thinking out of the box" during communication emergencies. She was one of 200 women out of 8500 pilots. Discrimination and harassment made it difficult but she never gave up. She flew 727's, eventually earning a type rating in the 747 which she loved to fly. Patty retired from United at age 60. She continued flying, instructing, mentoring, was an aviation friend, leader and active member of the 99's until passing in 2021.



Name of Scholarship: Patty Mitchell Northwest Section Scholarship, 2026
Amount of Scholarship: Up to \$2000.00
Application Due Date: March 15, 2026
Award Announcement: April 17-18, 2026, at the Spring Board of Directors Meeting

Brief Description: To support women pilots in the continued pursuit of aeronautical skills, both professionally and recreationally.

- Any Ninety-Nines member seeking to increase proficiency or regain currency by adding a new rating or certificate by participating in a defined training activity, e.g. instrument training, seaplane, tail wheel, mountain flying, aerobatics.
- This scholarship **IS available** to student pilots for initial flight training in obtaining their private pilot certificate.

Scholarship Requirements:

Application consists of the following:

- An essay strictly limited to 500 words, describing the applicant's objectives in obtaining the scholarship (i.e. professional aviation career; increasing proficiency; regaining currency), and how the scholarship will be used to advance that goal.
- Review Patty Mitchell's biography to identify your steps toward your aviation goal. The essay should address how you intend to use some of Patty's characteristics to achieve your goals. For example, how you deal with the gender gap and discrimination and/or examples of "thinking outside the box".
- Essays should emphasize what this training would mean to the applicant, and how the applicant would "**pay it forward**" to other Ninety-Nines by returning value to the aviation community.
- Any supporting documentation you deem important, such as:
 1. Evidence of passing written or practical test, if applicable.
 2. Current flight medical/BFR or other pertinent training
- Documented **TOTAL** cost of flight training requested and how you will pay for the additional cost of training not covered by the scholarship (make it clear that there are sufficient funds from other sources to complete the training or course of study). Financial need is **not** a requirement, but is an evaluation factor (tie-breaker).
- Letter of recommendation from applicant's chapter chair to verify member's activity level and participation in chapter activities.

Scholarship Limitations:

- Applicant must be a current member (in good standing) of the NW section of The Ninety-Nines, Inc.
- Training must be completed by June of the following year. June 30, 2027 for the 2026 award.

Other Information:

- Scholarship will be awarded based on qualified applicant.
- Scholarship funds will be reimbursed to scholarship recipient.
- For reimbursement; applicant must include a copy of receipt for services provided by instructor/agency showing fees paid, flight instructor's certificate, and contact information for flight instructor/agency.
- Reimbursement applies only to training/activity completed after scholarship application is **received**.
- **Invoices shall be submitted to the Treasurer of the Northwest Section of The Ninety-Nines.**
- The Northwest Section of The Ninety-Nines Scholarship Committee may request additional information or documentation.

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Include this cover page in your application package

Applicant

Name _____

Address _____

Contact phone number _____ Email _____

Name of chapter _____

Membership date _____

Name of rating, course, training _____

Checklist:

- **Watch the webinar “Scholarship Applications - Tools and Tips!” (11/7/2016), and “AEMSF Scholarships and Tips for Strengthening Your Application” (11/4/2020) on the 99s web site, <https://www.ninety-nines.org/webinars.htm> . Read the Instructions.**
- **Consult with your chapter scholarship chairman of intent to apply for scholarship.**
- Construct essay of maximum 500 words. Include items listed in the instructions.
- Include copies of student license or pilot certificate.
- Include copy of current medical certificate.
- Include results of airman knowledge course (as needed), or other applicable information.
- Include letter of recommendation from your chapter chairman.
- Email, in one PDF file, your application package including this page, to contact listed on this instruction page.

Neither the NW Section of The Ninety-Nines, Inc., nor their members, agents, or representatives are responsible for the quality of any training received with this scholarship, nor for any accident, incident, or any other event which may occur while the recipient of this scholarship is performing flight training or activities relating thereto, and recipient agrees to sign a hold-harmless agreement in favor of The Ninety-Nines, Inc. International Organization of Women Pilots, its Sections and Chapters, upon receipt of the scholarship and before any flight is made.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the information I have given is true and correct, and that I meet the requirements for this school/ training.

Signature _____

Date _____

Name of Group Offering Scholarship: Northwest Section of The Ninety-Nines
Contact Information, Name & Position: Teresa Bubb, Northwest Section Scholarship Chair
Telephone: 503-703-3476
Email: NWsectionscholarship@gmail.com