

RCON Conference Scholarship - 2026

Up to 5 Full Registration Scholarships awarded

Due July 8, 2026

RCon Conference Information:

SWANA is excited to hold their second annual RCon Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, offering attendees many opportunities to learn about local and national waste and resource management projects and a blended learning experience with technical training, roundtable discussions, keynote and concurrent sessions, and unique networking to achieve your professional goals.

RCon Dates: September 29 – October 2, 2026

Location: America's Center, St. Louis, Missouri

For more information regarding RCon please visit: <https://swana.org/events/RCon2026>

Application Rules

- Applicant must be a member of the SWANA Illinois Chapter.
- Up to 5 RCon conference registration Scholarships will be awarded.
- Scholarship covers RCon Conference registration, plus reimbursement of up to \$1,000 in travel and lodging expenses. No reimbursement of meals or incidentals will be provided.
- Proof of your company's permission to attend conference must be provided.
- Proof of actual travel/lodging expense must be provided prior to funds disbursement.**
- Applications must be received by July 8, 2026, email application to efasbender@willcountylanduse.com

Selection Criteria

Applications will be scored and reviewed by Scholarship Committee members with a top recommendation provided to the SWANA Board at the July meeting. Criteria for selection may include, but may not be limited to:

- Member activity / Chapter engagement
- Young Professional (35 years old or younger, or less than 5 years in the industry) status
- Relation to your career role in the solid waste field
- Career advancement potential
- Financial need

Applicants will be notified of their status following the July Board Meeting.

****Disbursement of Scholarship and Travel Expense**

Disbursement of RCon conference registration scholarships will be provided to selected applicants by the Chapter through a discount code.

Disbursement of scholarship travel/lodging expenses will be provided as a reimbursement by the Chapter within 30-days of receiving proof of actual travel/lodging expense receipts. If applicant is driving, proof of mileage must be submitted and will be paid based on IRS mileage rate as of the date of the conference (currently 72.5 cents/mile).

Applicant Information

Name: _____ SWANA Member Number: _____
YP status (< 35 yrs old / < 5 yrs industry exp.): Y/N _____ APPROVAL TO ATTEND: Y/N _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Employer: _____ Job Title: _____

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I am willing to help the Chapter at RCon Conference (~2 hr Block)

Is this scholarship financially needed for you to attend the conference?

Yes - my organization cannot fund my conference registration (include an explanation for this in the one-page summary of conference value or by a statement from your organization included in your proof of approval to attend the conference)

No - my organization may be able to fund my conference registration if the scholarship is not received

Unknown - I have not discussed available funding with my organization

Brief listing of SWANA National / Illinois chapter activities/boards/committees attended or participated in during the last 3 years:

Please provide a written summary of the value of your conference attendance (1 page maximum); this may address, but need not be limited to, the following items:

- Current job duties and how attending the proposed conference:
 - Applies to your job/field
 - Helps with your daily job duties
 - Helps the advancement of your career
 - Helps achieve your long term educational or professional goal(s)
- How conference attendance will support your engagement with the Chapter
- Why your company/ organization is unable to fund your attendance at this conference.

Email this application form, proof of organization's permission to attend on company letterhead or email block, and one-page summary of value of conference attendance to efasbender@willcountylanduse.com no later than July 8, 2026.