



# RIA External Scholarship Policy

## I. Purpose

The **Pete Consigli Designation Scholarship Program** honors the enduring legacy of Pete Consigli, CR, WLS, by advancing educational excellence and professional development within the restoration industry. The scholarship provides financial support to eligible individuals seeking to pursue RIA's advanced professional designations.

## II. Scholarship Scope and Value

The scholarship supports registration in one of RIA's advanced designation courses:

- **Certified Restorer (CR)**
- **Water Loss Specialist (WLS)**
- **Fire Loss Specialist (FLS)**
- **Contents Loss Specialist (CLS)**
- **Environmental Restoration Specialist (ERS)**

Award Cap:

- The scholarship award shall not exceed **\$2,500 USD per recipient**.
- Funds will be disbursed **directly to the approved educational provider** upon verification of the recipient's eligibility and confirmed course registration.

## III. Eligibility Criteria for Applicants

To be considered for the scholarship, applicants must:

1. Be a current RIA member in good standing.
2. Complete the official scholarship application form and be selected by the Awards Committee for a scholarship
3. Submit verification of prerequisite completion prior to award disbursement.

## IV. Approved Education Providers

In order to receive scholarship funds for a designation course, an education provider must meet the following criteria:

1. **RIA-Approved School:**

- The provider must be formally approved by RIA to deliver advanced designation programs.

2. **Approved Vendor Status:**

- The school must be an RIA Vendor Member in good standing
- The provider must complete and maintain all required **RIA Vendor Registration Forms** and comply with RIA's vendor policies.

3. **Ongoing Course Offering Requirement:**

- The provider must consistently offer the applicable designation course at least **once per calendar year** to remain eligible for scholarship funding.

RIA reserves the right to review and revoke approved provider status if these conditions are not met on an ongoing basis.

## V. Award Disbursement Procedure

Scholarship disbursement will follow this process:

1. **Confirmation of Recipient Eligibility:**

- The applicant must submit proof of all required prerequisites for the designation course.

2. **Registration Confirmation:**

- The applicant must provide formal documentation confirming registration in the course.

3. **Payment Authorization:**

- Upon verification of the above, RIA will issue payment directly to the approved provider, not to the individual scholarship recipient.

## **VI. Selection and Review Process**

- Scholarship applications will be reviewed by the RIA Scholarship Review Committee.
- Selections will be made based on merit, commitment to the restoration industry, alignment with RIA's mission, and available funding. Application materials and rubrics will be updated yearly by the RIA Scholarship Review Committee with approval by the Board of Directors for any changes that would impact the selection process in a significant manner.
- Members of the RIA Scholarship Review Committee shall disclose any conflicts of interest and shall not review those candidates.
- Selection is based on the average score based on all reviewers who can review that particular candidate.

## **VII. Conditions and Limitations**

- Scholarships are non-transferable and may not be applied retroactively.
- Scholarships do not guarantee acceptance into a designation program; recipients must meet all program entry requirements before distribution
- RIA reserves the right to amend, suspend, or terminate the scholarship program or its criteria at any time, subject to Board approval.