



Education and Scholarship Program Guidelines

Professional education is the most important part of the mission of NACM Business Credit Services. It is the association's goal to raise the profile of the credit profession and help members enhance their skills in the field of commercial credit. High quality classes and seminars are vital to achieving these goals.

Equally important to the classes themselves is the benefit you receive from taking them: professional certification through NACM and a path to a college degree. NACM Business Credit Services is one of the few NACM affiliates across the nation to offer classes that lead to certification *and* a degree. Our belief is that both are critical for members to have successful careers.

Available Classes

The following classes are offered in accordance with NACM National certifications. All are now available on-line through an agreement with Edmonds Community College enabling NACM members in any location to participate. Classes taken through other educational institutions may also meet NACM certification requirements; however, it is advisable to contact NACM National for further information.

- Business Credit Principles
- Financial Accounting
- Financial Statement Analysis
- Credit Law
- Business Law

Invest in the Best

Lifelong education is the best investment you can make. It will help your career and your employer. It will help you as a person. Best of all, it is transferable. You can take it with you wherever you go and no one can take it away from you. There are few other investment vehicles that can make those promises. Invest in the Best. YOU!

There is, of course, a cost to education. NACM does its part to keep tuition expenses reasonable. We cannot offer classes for free, but we try to keep the price you or your employer pay at a reasonable level. The good news is that it is possible to reduce your out-of-pocket expense.

First, many employers will help pay for all or part of your tuition as long as classes are related to your work. NACM classes and seminars almost always meet that test. Talk to your supervisor or human resources office for information about what your company may offer as part of its employee benefits.

Second, NACM Business Credit Services has scholarship support available through a competitive application process. NACM scholarships help cover a portion of the entire cost of educational programs and are intended to help reduce your out-of-pocket expense. Combined with any support you may receive from your employer or other sources, you will hopefully find that your on-going professional education is affordable.

Scholarship Guidelines

All NACM Scholarship support is currently provided through the Alice M.H. McGregor Scholarship Fund. This fund was set up as a tribute to Alice McGregor who was a nationally and regionally recognized leader in commercial credit. Money raised through various fundraisers, direct contributions to the fund, and investment income provide the basis for NACM's scholarships. The total amount of scholarship funding will vary each year based on available resources.

There are two different opportunities available. The first is for coursework focused on professional certification and college degrees. The second option is for professional conferences.

Class Scholarships

Scholarships are awarded throughout the year for the various classes offered through NACM Business Credit Services. Awards are in the amount of \$250 each and are awarded to individuals who are employed by companies that are members in good standing of NACM Business Credit Services. Interested parties may apply for the awards using the on-line application form available at www.nacmbcs.org. All applications will be reviewed and winners selected by the NACM Scholarship and Education Committee. Applicants may apply for only one scholarship per application form. Greater consideration will be given to first-time applicants.

Eligibility requirements include:

- Membership in NACM Business Credit Services;
- Employment with a member company of NACM;
- Demonstrated commitment to professional education through previous participation in classes, seminars or conferences;
- A professional track record that demonstrates solid career aspirations;
- Support of employer;
- Completed on-line application. Handwritten applications will not be accepted;
- Recipients cannot win two scholarships in the same 12 month period.

Scholarships will be paid upon verification of enrollment. Recipients are required to earn a passing grade, proof of which must be presented by the recipient at the conclusion of the class. Failure to do so will require immediate repayment of the scholarship award in full to NACM.

Conference Scholarships

Scholarship assistance is also available to assist with attending professional programs that provide continuing education in the commercial credit field. Eligible conferences and seminars will be listed periodically at www.nacmbcs.org. The size of awards will vary depending on the program and current availability of funding.

Interested parties may apply for the awards using the on-line application form available at www.nacmbcs.org. All applications will be reviewed and winners selected by the NACM Scholarship and Education Committee. Applicants may apply for only one conference scholarship per application form. Greater consideration will be given to first-time applicants.

Eligibility requirements include:

- Membership in NACM Business Credit Services
- Employment with a member company of NACM;
- Support of employer;
- Recipients may not receive an award for the same event in two consecutive years;
- Awards may only be used for conference registration and direct educational program costs. Travel and other personal expenses are not eligible for NACM support;
- Awards will supplement, not replace, an employer's support;
- If you have received scholarship support from another organization, you are not eligible to apply.
- Recipients will be required to provide a written report of their conference experience within 60 days of the conclusion of the program. Failure to do so will cause the recipient to be ineligible for future NACM conference support.
- Conference Scholarships are awarded to individuals who are employed by companies that are members in good standing of NACM Business Credit Services.