



NABWMT 2026 Convention Scholarships Available

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Due to the generosity of NABWMT contributors, limited funds are available to help those in need attend this year's convention.

There are two types of assistance available:

The **Michael John Smith Scholarship Fund** (named in honor of NABWMT's founder) helps individuals with demonstrated financial need attend the annual NABWMT convention, particularly so the recipient can take advantage of the educational programming at the core of the convention's purpose. Applicants may apply to have some or all of the convention registration fee covered by this fund.

The **Wendell Roberson Fund** (named in memory of the late Wendell Roberson of Chicago) serves a purpose similar to the Michael John Smith Scholarship Fund insofar as it helps individuals with demonstrated financial need attend the NABWMT convention. Whereas an award from the Michael John Smith scholarship fund covers some or all of the convention registration fee, an award from the Wendell Roberson Fund may be used to cover some portion of the key expenses normally incurred to attend the convention. Examples include transportation, lodging, and/or meals.

First priority for Wendell Roberson Fund awards is given to persons living with HIV who also have a demonstrated financial need. Second priority is given to persons not living with HIV who nonetheless have a demonstrated financial need. Wendell Roberson Funds are disbursed directly to the vendor (i.e. to the hotel or airline) or on a reimbursement basis for approved purposes (i.e. meals) upon furnishing valid receipts.

The ability to offer assistance primarily depends on the amount of funds available. Other factors are described in the application cover letter. To apply for assistance, please read the letter below and fill out the application materials below. The deadline to apply is Jun1, 2026. Award notifications are usually made about 10-15 days after the application deadline.

Thank you for interest in finding out about assistance to attend the upcoming 2026 NABWMT convention, in Las Vegas Aug, 5-8 2026. As you probably know, the convention is a highly dynamic educational and social event that consistently proves to be a rewarding experience. We hope that you can attend, and that perhaps our available funds, while limited, might be helpful.

An assistance application form is attached on the next page. Please complete it and then return it to NABWMT via post to the above address or email it to NABWMT Co Chair Ollie Lee Taylor at *infantmystics@yahoo.com*. Your application is confidential and will be reviewed by the NABWMT Co-Chairs and a limited number of board members serving on the scholarship committee.

Applications for assistance will be evaluated based on the following:

- The amount of financial assistance you are requesting.
- The amount and ratio of resources you can provide or obtain versus the amount you are requesting from NABWMT.
- Your history with NABWMT and/or a local chapter organization.
- Whether you have received financial assistance from NABWMT in recent years.
- What you expect to gain from your convention experience.
- Other personal factors that warrant consideration.

Applications for assistance must be received no later than **Jun 1, 2026**. Decisions about awards are made shortly after this deadline and promptly communicated to applicants.

If you have any question about the application process, please e-mail us at:
nabwmt@nabwmt.org

Sincerely yours,

NABWMT Co-Chairs

NABWMT Convention Assistance Application Form

(Please print or type all information clearly.)

Name: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Address: _____

Phone(s): _____ E-

mail(s): _____

In order for us to evaluate your request, it is important for us to know how much it will cost for you to attend the convention, what resources you have to cover those costs, and how much assistance you desire from NABWMT. Please fill in every blank spot on the grid below. To do so, you will need to estimate your costs to attend the convention, determine what resources you have, what resources you can obtain, and what resources you want NABWMT to provide. The sum of all columns and rows must equal the totals indicated.

	Amount you can pay:	Amount from your chapter, if any:	Amount from other sources:	Amount from NABWMT:	Total:
Transportation	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Lodging	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Meals	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Registration	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$

Incidentals \$ _____ TOTALS \$ _____

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Please read this statement, and then sign below: I have completed this form truthfully and as accurately as possible. I promise that if I accept financial assistance I will attend the NABWMT convention and uphold the NABWMT Statement of Purpose.

Signature: _____(type your name if submitting electronically.)

Please provide the following information. Attach additional sheets if necessary:

1. Are you a member of NABWMT or one of its chapters? If so, please describe the length and extent of your involvement.

2. If you are a member of an NABWMT chapter, have you asked your chapter to help you attend the convention? If so, what assistance will the chapter provide?

3. Have you ever requested financial assistance from NABWMT to attend a convention? If so, how much assistance did you receive and when did you receive it?

4. How will your attendance at NABWMT's convention affect your life?

5. Are you living on a limited or fixed income? Please describe your personal finances to the extent you are comfortable:

6. (Optional) As priority for some forms of assistance is given to persons living with HIV disease, do you have any medical conditions you would like us to consider?

7. Are you able and/or willing to do on-site volunteer work at the convention?