



TWU Local 556

The Union of Southwest Airlines Flight Attendants

THE TWU LOCAL 556 GWEN YORK SCHOLARSHIP

The TWU Local 556 Gwen York Scholarship was established to honor the contributions of TWU Local 556 Member Gwen York. Gwen was hired at Southwest Airlines in 1980 and was a Dallas-based Flight Attendant. She was a Union advocate to her core, serving on the TWU Local 556 Executive Board, chairing our Local's Working Women's Committee, serving as a Legislative Representative with TWU International, on the Committee on Political Education (COPE), and chairing the International Working Women's Committee.

Gwen valued education and always worked on self-improvement so she could better advocate for working people. In 2006, at the age of 49, Gwen graduated from the National Labor College and used that knowledge to better represent the Members of TWU Local 556 and the TWU International.

When Gwen's daughter Alyson was asked how best her mom could be honored through our Local's scholarship program, she said it would be an honor "if the scholarship could include women who are continuing education or going back to school later in life, like my mom did".

Gwen passed away tragically on February 14, 2018. The Gwen York Scholarship was established to honor Gwen's memory by providing a scholarship to a TWU Local 556 Member. Special consideration will be given to women aged 40 and higher, but applications will be accepted from TWU Local 556 Members of all genders and ages.

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS:

- **Supports TWU Local 556 Members.**
- One Scholarship per year will be awarded, and funds will be paid directly to the college or university after acceptance and registration of the applicant.
- Each Scholarship has a maximum value of \$2,500 per recipient. The award can be used for tuition, books, room, and board.
- **Special consideration will be given to women aged 40 and higher, but applications will be accepted from TWU Local 556 Members of all genders and ages.**

APPLICATION PROCESS:

Scholarship application and essays **must be submitted by June 22, 2026**. Applications will be judged and awarded by the TWU Local 556 Scholarship Committee, consisting of the TWU Local 556 President or appointed representative, the Scholarship Committee Chairperson, and one individual from the academic or labor communities. **Awards will be announced by the end of August 2026**. Notice of the winners may be published in Union communications, including social media.

For questions regarding scholarships offered by the TWU Local 556 Scholarship Committee, please email: scholarships@twu556.org.