



Revolutionizing the Face of Technology®



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Tesca Fitzgerald
AiC Community Member
Region: Western PA
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Tesca >](#)

ABOUT AIC

GET INVOLVED

BE INSPIRED

ABOUT NCWIT

Applications are Open!

Apply now for the **NCWIT Collegiate Award**, **Award for AiC**, and **A**

16K

COMMUNITY MEMBERS

80

REGIONAL AFFILIATES



13K+

HIGH SCHOOL RECIPIENTS

85+

COLLEGIATE RECIPIENTS

650+

EDUCATOR RECIPIENTS

JOIN THE REVOLUTION

LIFETIME PARTNER



STRATEGIC PARTNERS



Who We Are

The National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) is the only national non-profit focused on women's participation in computing across the entire ecosystem, helping 1,400 organizations recruit, retain, and advance women from K-12 and higher education through industry and entrepreneurial careers by providing support, evidence, and action.

NCWIT is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, chartered in 2004 by the National Science Foundation. Learn more [about us](#).

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors provides corporate governance, strategic advice, and development assistance. Board members represent academia, industry, policy, and the community. The Board's functions include: approving the NCWIT annual budget and strategy and operations plans; auditing finance; providing CEO oversight; ensuring legal and ethical integrity; and enhancing NCWIT's public standing. The Board meets three times per year.

[VIEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS](#)

Research Team

The NCWIT research and evaluation team is comprised of individuals with doctorates in a variety of fields, including education, sociology, communications, and psychology. This team contributes to the NCWIT mission by creating research-

based resources to spread awareness and increase motivation for systemic change, by translating existing research into actionable practices, and by conducting original research and evaluation.

[VIEW RESEARCH TEAM](#)

Social Science Advisory Board

The Social Science Advisory Board (SSAB) is an advisory group of social scientists from preeminent institutions nationwide that support NCWIT initiatives and goals through their knowledge of research and theory at the intersection of women and computing. The SSAB comprises approximately 20 Core Members (non-NCWIT staff) for whom travel support for NCWIT meetings is provided by NCWIT*, as needed. Members bring expertise from the areas of anthropology, education, evaluation, gender studies, history, policy, psychology, sociology, technology, and workforce study.

[VIEW SOCIAL SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD](#)

Staff & Consultants

NCWIT is based in Boulder, Colorado and financially supports employees at the University of Colorado, the University of Virginia, the University of Washington, and other organizations in support of our mission.

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[Board of Directors](#)

[Research Team](#)

Social Science Advisory Board

Staff & Consultants

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NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing

The NCWIT Award for Aspirations in Computing (AiC) honors 9th-12th grade students who self-identify as women, genderqueer, or non-binary for their computing-related achievements and interests, and encourages them to pursue their passions. Award recipients are selected based on their aptitude and aspirations in technology and computing, as demonstrated by their computing experience, computing-related activities, leadership experience, tenacity in the face of barriers to access, and plans for post-secondary education. Since 2007, more than 17,000 students have received an Award for AiC.



**AWARD FOR
ASPIRATIONS
IN COMPUTING**
an NCWIT Award

The multi-tiered award structure includes Winner, Honorable Mention, Rising Star, and Certificate of Distinction designations at National and Regional Affiliate levels, serving all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, all U.S. overseas military bases, and Canada. Regional Affiliate Award programs are hosted in 79 locations nationwide by NCWIT Alliance member organizations—a powerful, national network of universities, companies, non-profits, and government organizations working to increase the influence and meaningful participation of girls and women from every community.

The NCWIT Award for AiC is sponsored by Apple, Bank of America, Microsoft, and Motorola Solutions Foundation.

Applications are open.

Apply Now

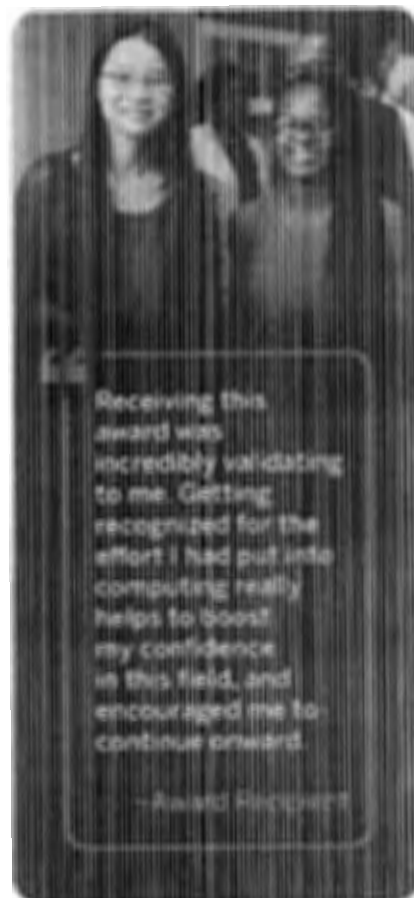
- Ver en Español.
- Applicants in Canada, please visit the Aspirations-Canada webpage.

- Encourage a student to apply.
- Apply by the early deadline on October 15th at 11:59 p.m. EST to be invited to the exclusive AiC Tech-Blazers VIP Event!

Eligibility

Applicants who self-identify as women, genderqueer, or non-binary in grades 9 through 12 are welcome to apply. Applicants who meet the eligibility requirements outlined below will be considered for both the National and Regional Affiliate Awards:

- They are 13 years of age or older *at the time of account creation*.
- They attend a school in the U.S., Puerto Rico, Guam, the U.S. Virgin Islands, or on a U.S. overseas military base.
- They are not an NCWIT employee and have no immediate family relationship with employees, extended staff, contractors, or board members of NCWIT (including spouses, siblings, children, grandchildren, and persons residing in the same household).



In addition to the aforementioned eligibility requirements, to be considered for a National Award (National Winner or National Honorable Mention designations), the applicant must meet the additional criteria:

- They are a U.S. citizen, permanent resident, or individual who meets the requirements of the substantial presence test.
- They have a U.S. Tax Identification or Social Security Number.

Restrictions







- Applicants may reapply each year; however, National Award Winners are not eligible to win again.
- Regional Affiliate Award programs allow repeat recipients, at their own discretion.

Prizes

Prizes vary by award designation:

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Prizes	National Award Winner	National Honorable Mention	National Certificate of Distinction	Regional Affiliate Award Winner	Regional Affiliate Honorable Mention	Regional Affiliate Rising Star
cash and a trip to the National Award for AiC Celebration, hosted by Bank of America						
recognition at a Regional Affiliate Award event (at the discretion of the Regional Affiliate Award program)						
an engraved award for the recipient						
a personalized award certificate						
scholarship and internship opportunities						
automatic induction into the AiC Community—a national network of peers, supported by						

professionals and volunteers						
various prizes, such as computing resources, gadgets, swag, and more						

Application Details

Getting Started

Applicants must first create or update an aspirations.org account [here](#).

Then, students can apply online, beginning September 1, 2020 and submit a completed application by the early deadline by 11:59 p.m Eastern Standard Time (EST) on October 15, 2020 to receive an invitation to the AiC Tech-Blazers VIP Event. To be considered for the 2021 Award for AiC, applicants must submit an application by the final deadline at 11:59 p.m. EST on November 5, 2020.

The application includes several short essays and multiple-choice sections:

- You may want to review the Application Step-by-Step Guide.

Additional Guides

- Parents can review the Approval Step-by-Step Guide as well.
- Have your educator follow the Endorsement Step-by-Step Guide to complete their endorsement.
- For frequently asked questions about applying, approvals, and endorsements, please visit the FAQ page.

Definition of Award Designations

Every applicant is eligible to receive awards at both the National and Regional Affiliate tiers. The Award levels for 2020-21 include:

National Awards

- **Winner:** Highest-achieving students selected to represent the rich diversity of applicants. Prior National Award Winners may not win this award more than once.
- **Honorable Mention:** High-achieving students selected to represent the rich diversity of applicants.
- **Certificate of Distinction (CoD):** Students who merit recognition and entry into the AiC Community.

Regional Affiliate Awards

- **Winner:** Students who have significantly demonstrated interest and aptitude for computing.
- **Honorable Mention:** Students who have demonstrated interest and aptitude for computing.
- **Rising Star:** Students who may be starting out in their pursuit and study of computing. Rising Stars embody the idea of aspirations and are encouraged to continue their exploration of the field.

Additional Rules

Winners of the National Award are required to submit additional paperwork, including a notarized travel waiver and tax ID information. Failure by National Award Winners and/or her parent(s) or guardian(s) to return required paperwork or book travel within the allotted time may result in forfeiture of all awards hereunder. To the extent required by law, Bank of America will report the value of the gift/reward/travel expenses to the IRS on Form 1099.

NCWIT may require additional hard-copy, notarized paperwork, at its discretion.

Applications are reviewed anonymously by technology academics and industry professionals. Selection of the National Award Winners is made by NCWIT and Bank of America representatives at their sole discretion; selection of the Regional Affiliate Award recipients is made by each Affiliate at their sole discretion.

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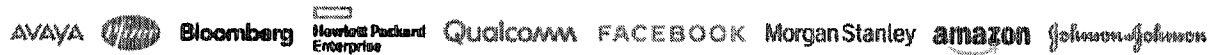
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