

American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences Chalkley-Fenn Public Policy Visiting Scholar Award

The Chalkley-Fenn Public Policy Visiting Scholar Award was established in 1990 to honor Gladys Branegan Chalkley, president and treasurer of AAFCS from 1940-1942. Dr. Chalkley founded the Montana Affiliate of AAFCS, as well as the state's dietetic association and its chapter of the American Association of University Women. The scholarship is also funded by a gift from the estate of Geraldine G. Fenn, a South Dakota native who was an Extension 4-H Specialist in Montana. After retirement, Fenn spearheaded development of the Montana 4-H Foundation for Montana and served as a youth advocate at state and national levels. Today, it is supported by donations from AAFCS members who believe in public policy and the utility of civic engagement.

The Chalkley-Fenn Award program is designed to:

- stimulate interest in public policy as it affects the family and consumer sciences profession.
- educate scholars in various aspects of policymaking.
- provide interaction with members of Congress and leaders of various family and consumer sciences-related organizations.

The Chalkley-Fenn Public Policy Visiting Scholar is recognized at the AAFCS Annual Conference & Expo, where a commemorative certificate is presented to the Visiting Scholar. The recipient receives an honorarium of up to \$10,000, depending on available funding, to assist with expenses during their time spent in the Washington, D.C. area to complete Visiting Scholar work.

Eligibility

Applications may be submitted by a family and consumer sciences professional who:

- is a current AAFCS member in good standing;
- has a minimum of a baccalaureate degree in family and consumer sciences or related field and is working toward or supporting the vision and mission of AAFCS;
- has demonstrated leadership in AAFCS at the state and/or national level;
- makes a commitment to spend a designated period of time working in the Washington, D.C. area on public policy issues and liaisons with key contacts by electronic and other means when not in D.C.

Current members of the AAFCS Board of Directors, Awards and Recognition Committee, and staff are not eligible for nomination. The award will be presented to one recipient per year when sufficient funds are available and when a qualified recipient is identified.

Duties and Responsibilities

Responsibilities as a Public Policy Visiting Scholar include:

- Monitoring legislation, regulations, and public policy movement;
- Interacting with Congressional staff, elected officials, and agency personnel and creating and/or participating in processes of civic engagement around designated policy concerns;
- Conducting technical and public policy research;
- Preparing documents and publications relating to public policy;
- Supporting current AAFCS public policy initiatives; and
- Preparing a written report for the designated AAFCS staff and appropriate AAFCS stakeholders.