Criteria for ISA Scholarship Award

I. PURPOSE

The mission of ISA's Scholarship is to provide, through the award of scholarships and other educational program development, the recognition of, assistance to and encouragement of students with outstanding potential for long-range contribution to the fields of instrumentation, systems, and automation.

The scope of this program is limited to students studying in the field of instrumentation, systems, and automation. The overall approach of the program is to recognize as many outstanding talents in instrumentation, systems, and automation as possible, early in their careers.

By recognizing and supporting student and academic excellence, this program can significantly contribute to the development of talented individuals in the profession and related industries by:

- supporting individuals studying and/or doing research in instrumentation, systems, and automation
- attracting more high-talent individuals to the field
- increasing the visibility of the field in order to broaden the labor pool of individuals qualified to work in the field
- supporting research and academic endeavors of individuals in organizations that provide education in instrumentation, systems, and automation
- supporting talented students involved in novel research in instrumentation, systems, and automation

II. SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

Overview

Scholarships are made available to graduate, undergraduate, and 2-year program students. The awards typically will:
- support tuition and related expenses
- support research activities and initiatives

Annual scholarship awards will consist of:
- Top awards to students enrolled in an eligible 2-year degree program
- Top awards to students enrolled in an eligible undergrduate degree program
- Top awards to students enrolled in an eligible graduate degree program

Each scholarship is a one-time payment and is not paid annually to the recipient. However, a previous recipient may apply for another scholarship award.

Scholarship Award Criteria

Applications are categorized according to academic level (graduate, undergraduate, and 2 year programs). Each application is ranked on its own merit in the context of the academic level of the applicant. The key criterion in evaluation and ranking applications is the prospect for long-term contribution that the granting of an award will make to the field of instrumentation, systems, and automation.

Financial need shall not be considered as a criterion. An applicant's gender, citizenship, nationality, national origin, religion, and ethnicity shall not be used as criteria to rank a scholarship applicant. Applicants need not be an ISA member or dependent of a member for consideration.

Other general criteria include:

- Applicants are eligible to apply and win in multiple years if the applicant meets ISA's requirements for reporting back to ISA on the use of previously granted awards and if the application demonstrates additional potential contribution to the field beyond that for which any previous awards were based.

- Two-year program applicants must have completed a minimum of at least one academic semester of study or the equivalent of 12 semester hours to apply.

- Undergraduate applicants must be students at the sophomore year or higher of their study at the time of application.

- Graduate applicants should have at least one year remaining in their degree program. Applicants should be enrolled in at least the Fall semester.

- Applicants who plan to attend a different educational institution during the year of the scholarship award must supply an official confirmation letter of enrollment from the educational institution they will be attending.

- Applicants must be full-time students in an educational institution.

- Applicants should have an overall scoring sheet or Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.5 on a 4.0 scale or its equivalent.

- Awards are given to applicants who provide background explaining career and educational objectives; show the potential long-range impact in the field of their academic research and work; and whose applications are accompanied by recommendation letters from faculty or other credible sources who have knowledge of the applicant's academic achievements and relationship to the field and who provide evidence supporting the statement of the applicant.

Online Scholarship Application Submission

Scholarship applicants must submit the online application which requires that candidates complete and provide the following:

- Essay Questions (maximum of 1000 words per question)
- Supporting information such as extracurricular activities (career-related), academic honors, civic honors or awards received and advise of professional or honorary society memberships they are associated with
- Student Employment History – career related jobs, internships, and/or co-op experience
- Official Transcript – transcript(s) from the applicant's school(s) with an seal on the document
- Recommendation Letters – at least two letters of recommendation. One letter must be from a faculty member. Letters should include personal references relating to the students work and goals within the automation profession.

Application Evaluations

The ISA Scholarships Selection Committee will review eligible applications. Post review, scholarship recipients are reviewed by the Honors & Awards Committee who then vote to submit the recipients to the Executive Board for approval.

A member of the Scholarships Selection Committee may refrain from reviewing a particular candidate due to any self-perceived conflict of interest or unbiased evaluation. The Committee shall be notified of such and the following calculations will be modified to reflect the appropriate number of reviewers.

The Committee will review all undergraduate, two-year and graduate applicants.

Each application is evaluated by each committee member and scored as one of the following:

- **5 Points - Outstanding**
  Applicant's study has clear and convincing potential of long-term contribution to field. Support letter(s) provide outstanding endorsement from known leaders in field and should illustrate examples of student's work.

- **4.5 Points - Excellent**
  Applicant's study has clear and convincing potential of long-term contribution to field. Support letter(s) provide excellent endorsement from known leaders in field and should illustrate examples of student's work.

- **4 Points - Notable**
  Applicant's study has clear and convincing potential of long-term contribution to field. Support letter(s) provide notable endorsement from known leaders in field and should illustrate examples of student's work.

- **3.5 Points - Very Good**
  Applicant's study makes very good case for potential long-term contributions. Support letter(s) provide strong endorsement.

- **3 Points - Good**
  Applicant's study makes good case for long-term contribution. Support letters provide endorsement.

- **2 Points - Average or Below**
  Applicant's study makes case for long-term contributions. Support letters provide endorsement.

- **1 Point - Not Related**
  Application is not related to instrumentation, measurement, control or automation.

Any application that is deemed to be *Not Related* by the entire Scholarships Selection Committee is disqualified from further consideration.

The highest ranking applicants will be presented to the Honors & Awards Commitee and to the Executive Board for approval.

The award winners are notified by email and will receive congratulatory letters.

Awards are issued out to the student by check, electronic funds transfer (eft) or direct deposit.

All scholarship recipients will receive a one-year complimentary student membership in ISA.