

2000-2001
Application for

Branch 5-Star Status

Completed applications must be received by April 20, 2001. No late applications will be accepted. Allow 10 days for regular mail delivery; overnight or priority mail service is encouraged.

Send your completed application to:
5-Star Branch Recognition Program
AAUW
1111 Sixteenth St. N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

Branches will be notified of their status by June 30, 2001, and will have until Aug. 15, 2001, to contest any decisions regarding stars achieved. Branches must apply each year for 5-star status. The 2000-01 program year dates from April 21, 2000, to April 20, 2001, except the recognition year for contributions applied to the fundraising star runs from Jan. 1, 2000, to Dec. 31, 2000.

Branches can apply for any number of stars as part of the program. Whether your branch earns one, five, or seven stars, your efforts are critical to AAUW's success.

Incomplete applications will not be considered. Please carefully review the form to ensure that you have answered all questions and included all necessary information and documentation. Sorry, applications and materials cannot be returned. For further information, contact the AAUW HELPLINE at 800/326-AAUW, fax 202/872-1425, helpline@aauw.org. HELPLINE representatives can answer your questions, provide materials, or direct you to appropriate staff.

As your branch plans its strategy to achieve these goals, see the action tips for each criterion.

To apprise your state of your good work, you might also send a copy of this application to your state president.

Your 5-star efforts may help you win an AAUW disability grant sponsored by the National Organization on Disability. For more information on this program, see www.aauw.org/6000/forms/nod.html or contact the HELPLINE.

Branch Information

Branch code

Name of branch

Your name

Your AAUW member identification number

Your branch position

Your street address

City

State

ZIP

To earn 5-star status, a branch must achieve five of the seven criteria listed in this application, including at least two of the following three stars: community action, public policy, and social justice. The community action star must contain a diversity component. Place a check by each criterion your branch has achieved. Please be sure to answer all questions that apply and label any attachments clearly.

Total number of stars applied for = ____

(_____) _____

Day phone

E-mail

☆ Community Action Star

Yes! Our branch has undertaken a community action project related to education and equity for women or girls. **Our project included a diversity component related to people from at least one of these groups (taken from AAUW's diversity statement): race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class. Our project was implemented prior to April 20, 2001.**

Name and purpose of project:

Please check all that describe your branch's community action project. If necessary, you may attach one additional page.

We included a diversity component by targeting for involvement at least one population underrepresented in our branch and identified in AAUW's diversity statement. **To receive this star, you must check this item and indicate the diverse population(s) you targeted:**

Our project involved both AAUW and at least one other group in the community, listed here:

We included a membership development strategy, described here:

We included a visibility strategy, briefly described here:

What was the project's impact in the community? How did your project promote education and equity within your community? What strategies did you use to target the diverse groups indicated?

☆ Public Policy Star

Yes! Our branch has engaged in ongoing public policy advocacy and voter education efforts in preparation for the 2000 and 2002 AAUW get-out-the-vote campaigns, as demonstrated by having met **at least four** of the following activities. (Please attach documentation.)

We had at least one designated recipient of *Get the Facts* and *Action Alert*.

- We regularly disseminated the information in these publications to all branch members through _____ (please describe, e.g. newsletters, e-mail, or meeting minutes).
- We had at least 10 percent of branch members participate in a phone, fax, or e-mail tree to contact legislators at the local, state, and federal levels.
- We had branch representation at state public policy events such as legislative days or public policy workshops.
- We gave every branch member an AAUW public policy program brochure.
- We offered at least one public policy program during the year that included a membership recruitment component and outreach to a diverse group.

Please briefly explain the major points of the components you checked above and specify the issues you addressed. Who were your organizational partners in this effort? What was the impact of your branch's participation? Did your members learn new advocacy skills and strategies? Please attach documentation. If necessary, you may also attach one additional page.

☆ Social Justice Star

Yes! Our branch collaborated with people who differ from us with respect to gender, race, creed, age, sexual orientation, national origin, disability, or class to support work on social justice issues such as gender equity, race relations, democratic government, economic opportunity, intellectual freedom, high quality education and health care, human rights in the United States and in other countries, security for older Americans, and inclusive public policies.

We conducted social justice work by (check all that apply and attach supporting documentation):

- Informing branch members about social justice issues for diverse groups in the community, and encouraging action on those issues through letter-writing campaigns, demonstrations, projects, and community forums.
Social justice issues for diverse groups: _____
Means of informing branch members: _____
Action encouraged or taken: _____
- Working in coalition with diverse organizations to assess the key social justice issues facing various populations in the community.
Diverse coalition organizations: _____
Key social justice issues in our community identified: _____
- Holding a Woman-to-Woman community dialogue that included partners from diverse groups and addressed a critical social justice issue. Please attach documentation such as a brochure and publicity.
Date of event: _____
Partners: _____
Social justice issues addressed: _____

☆ Membership Star

Yes! Between Feb. 1, 2000, to Feb. 1, 2001, our branch achieved the following:

- We increased our membership by at least a net 5 percent.
Membership as of Feb. 1, 2000: _____
Membership as of Feb. 1, 2001: _____
Net increase of branch: _____

OR

We matched or increased by less than 5 percent our Feb. 1, 2000, membership total plus achieved one of the following:

- We recruited a new college/university institution member.
Date recruited: _____
Name of new institution member: _____

OR

We established a new student affiliate satellite group.

Name of satellite: _____

OR

We maintained a current student affiliate satellite group.

Name of student satellite: _____

OR

We established a campus-based, workplace, or Internet branch or satellite.

Name/location of branch/satellite: _____

Please briefly describe strategies that helped to increase your membership. You may attach documentation and an additional sheet.

Membership counts are based on the Association Feb. 1 membership count reports. Annual branch members, paid and honorary life members, student affiliates, dual members, and associate members are counted. Paid life members have paid current Association dues multiplied by 20. Honorary life members have paid Association dues for 50 years, and either they or their branch has applied for honorary life status. Student affiliates are undergraduates enrolled in regionally accredited two- or four-year institutions. College/university members are accredited institutions of higher education. Dual members hold membership in more than one AAUW branch.

☆ Fundraising Star

Yes! We achieved at least one of the following:

We contributed an average of at least \$5 per member to the Legal Advocacy Fund.

Total LAF contribution: \$ _____

LAF per capita contribution: _____

AND/OR

We contributed an average of at least \$25 per member to the Foundation.

Total Foundation contribution: \$ _____

Foundation per capita contribution: _____

Total number of branch members per Feb. 1, 2000, count: _____

Contributions to LAF and the Foundation are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Contact the HELPLINE for the amount credited to your branch. The contribution recognition year runs from Jan. 1 to Dec. 31, 2000. (NOTE: The 5-star program year runs from April 21, 2000, to April 20, 2001.)

☆ Visibility Star

Yes! Our branch attained local visibility through media outreach for branch community action projects, public policy efforts, or work on social justice issues. All four criteria **must** be met to attain the star:

- Our projected audience included nonmembers.
- Outreach to the media extended beyond meeting notices.
- Targeted media included outlets such as newspapers, television, radio, or other organizations' newsletters.
- Documentation from this program year—April 21, 2000, to April 20, 2001—is attached. Documentation clearly displays the date and media source and includes press clippings, news releases, a list of local targeted reporters, a mailing list used to send a public service announcement, a media kit, a phone log of media contacts, an interview list, or evidence of television or radio coverage.

☆ Leadership Star

Yes! Our branch has undertaken leadership development.

We attach **at least two** of the following (documents **must** be attached):

- a written branch plan of action with a timeline and measurable annual goals
- a written branch leadership transition plan to identify, recruit, train, and retain new leaders for leadership positions within our branch
- a written strategy for incorporating and promoting leadership education and development into the program activities of our branch