



**ARKANSAS DIAMONDS IN THE ROUGH:
THE MANY FACETS OF AAUW BRANCHES**

Information and Criteria for Scoring

A. Branches must apply for either the Community Action Diamond OR the Public Policy Diamond. They may apply for both either by describing two projects or by documenting how one project meets the criteria for both diamonds.

1. Community Action projects

- a. Choices for a Changing World (Sister-to-Sister, Woman-to-Woman, Transitions Conference Tech Check, Signposts)
- b. International program
- c. Higher education program
- d. Translating research into action utilizing results from one of AAUW's research reports (e.g., *A License for Bias: Sex Discrimination, Schools and Title IX*; *Drawing the Line: Sexual Harassment on Campus*; *Gains in Learning, Gaps in Earning*; *Women at Work*)
- e. Other branch program that advances AAUW's mission and makes an impact on the community including but not limited to a mentoring program, leadership development program, math and science or career conference math and sports camp. Projects may be undertaken by the branch alone or in conjunction with other groups. When collaborating with other groups, clear recognition of AAUW in project publications as well as branch financial support or participation by multiple members of the branch must be demonstrated.

2. Public Policy projects are designed to address one of the initiatives described in AAUW's biennial action priorities. Examples of projects include

- a. Letter writing campaign, lobbying or similar activities about local, state or national legislation related to one of the priorities (e.g., Social Security and Medicare reform, reproductive choice, Title IX) with report back to branch members;
- b. Voter education/registration campaign;
- c. Candidate or issues forum;
- d. Attendance at school board, city council, county commission or similar meetings at which members raise issues and ask questions related to AAUW priorities and report back to branch members;
- e. Public testimony and comment on issues related to AAUW priorities with report back to branch members.

To achieve the Public Policy Diamond with any of the above or similar projects, clear mention of AAUW must be made in letters, testimony, advertisements, etc. and multiple members must participate.

B. Branches may submit documentation for any or all of the other diamonds.

C. When providing narrative in support of the Membership, Leadership/Project/Strategic Plan, Visibility, Education and Diversity, or Technology Diamonds, branches may provide supporting evidence related to the Community Action or Public Policy project or other branch activities.

D. Applications should not have duplicate information in different portions of the application. Activities related to Community Action or Public Policy projects that reflect membership, leadership, visibility, education and diversity, technology or planning should be described in the latter sections of the application rather than in the description of the project.

E. To be awarded the Membership Diamond, branches must do one of the following:

- a. increase membership by 5 members;
- b. increase membership by 10%;
- c. earn 14/20 points from the checked boxes and narrative.

F. Tax deductible contributions to any of the AAUW Funds will count toward fulfilling the criteria for the fundraising diamond. AAUW Funds includes all of the following programs: Legal Advocacy Fund, Educational Opportunities Fund, Public Policy Fund (with subdivisions of Government Relations, Civic Engagement, and Field Organizing), Eleanor Roosevelt Fund and Leadership Programs Fund (with subdivisions of National Conference for College Women Leaders, Campus Action Projects and Campaign College.) Any contribution either generally to AAUW Funds or individually to any of the tax-deductible components of AAUW Funds will count toward meeting the contribution criterion. Education to donors about AAUW Funds may be about any of the individual funds.

To be awarded the Fundraising Diamond, branches must do one of the following:

1. contribute a minimum of \$35 per member to any combination of AAUW funds;
2. contribute a minimum of \$25 per member to any combination of AAUW funds and provide narrative describing education to donors about 3 of the 5 AAUW Funds;
3. contribute a minimum of \$20 per member to any combination of AAUW funds and provide narrative describing education to donors about all 5 of the AAUW funds.

G. To be awarded each of the remaining diamonds, the branch must earn 14/20 points for that diamond. Each checked box is worth 3 points and the narrative is worth 5 points. Raters may disallow points for a checked box if the narrative or supporting documentation does not provide evidence for that item.