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AWWA 2018 American Water Scholarship Presented to University of California, Riverside Doctoral Student

VOORHEES, N.J.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- [American Water](#) (NYSE: AWK), the largest publicly traded U.S. water and wastewater utility company, today announced that Michael Bentel, a doctoral student at the University of California, Riverside (UCR), has been chosen as the recipient of the [American Water Works Association \(AWWA\) 2018 American Water Scholarship](#). The scholarship is an annual award of \$5,000 presented to a graduate level student to assist with the development of professionals interested in service to the water industry.

"American Water is pleased to present this prestigious award to Michael, who was selected among 65 outstanding applicants," said Dr. Ben Stanford, Senior Director of Water Research and Development. "Not only is Michael an exceptional scholar, he has the credibility to take on a future leadership role in developing advanced water treatment technologies. We are honored to help advance his drinking water research studies."

Michael was selected for this scholarship due to his exceptional academic abilities, outstanding character, community and outreach experience and dedication to contribute to the [advancement of science in the field of drinking water](#). His current research focuses on developing new water remediation technologies for treating perfluoroalkyl substances in the environment.

Michael was born in Chicago, Illinois where he obtained his B.S. degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Currently pursuing his doctorate degree from UCR in the Chemical & Environmental Engineering department under the supervision of Dr. Jinyong Liu, he is also a research fellow for the National Science Foundation's WaterSENSE IGERT. Upon completion of his PhD, Michael plans to pursue a career in developing advanced water treatment technologies.

Administered by AWWA, American Water's Scholarship is currently the only one offered by a water utility among the Association's 16 active scholarships. For more information about AWWA scholarships, visit <http://www.awwa.org/membership/get-involved/student-center/awwa-scholarships.aspx>.

About American Water

With a history dating back to 1886, American Water is the largest and most geographically diverse U.S. publicly traded water and wastewater utility company. The company employs more than 6,900 dedicated professionals who provide regulated and market-based drinking water, wastewater and other related services to an estimated 15 million people in 46 states and Ontario, Canada. American Water provides safe, clean, affordable and reliable water services to our customers to make sure we keep their lives flowing. For more information, visit [amwater.com](#) and follow American Water on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).

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