



AGRICULTURE FUTURE OF AMERICA

2013 COMMUNITY SCHOLAR APPLICATION

RETURN BY: FEBRUARY 25, 2013
TO: Joel Mathiowetz
PO Box 207, Olivia, MN 56277
320-522-2657 Joel.mathiowetz@corncaptioninnovations.com

Please print or type application.

(This application should NOT be returned to AFA directly.)

| | | | | | |
|---|------------------|---|---|-------------------|------|
| Name: (Mr., Ms.) | | | Last 4 Digits of Social Security Number: XXX-XX- | | |
| Mailing Address: | | City: | State: | | Zip: |
| County of Residence: | Phone: | Email: | | Date of Birth: | |
| High School: | High School GPA: | High School Graduation Date: | | High School Rank: | |
| Parent(s) or Guardian: | | Primary Guardian's Mailing Address (if different than above): | | | |
| Father's Occupation: | | Mother's Occupation: | | | |
| How did you hear about the scholarship? | | | | | |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, GUARDIAN AND SCHOOL COUNSELOR (Required for eligibility)

We certify that all information given on this application is true, correct and complete. We understand that the AFA scholarship is to be used for tuition and fees (a maximum of \$1,600 per semester) during the freshman year. We understand that if a student enrolls in a college or university where tuition and fees per semester are less than \$1,600, the scholarship pays the lesser amount per semester but must be activated within two years of receiving the scholarship. The remaining funds may be allocated to later semesters until \$3,200 is exhausted. We understand that full participation in the AFA Leaders Conference November 1-4, 2012, is a requirement to receive scholarship funds from AFA. We understand that scholars must enroll, and remain in good standing, in a four-year agriculture-related degree program. We understand that should the student change majors to an unrelated program before or at any time during administration of the scholarship, the scholarship will be void.

| | |
|---|-------|
| Applicant: | Date: |
| Parent(s) or Guardian(s): | Date: |
| High School Counselor or College Advisor: | Date: |

COLLEGE INFORMATION

Name of college or university you plan to attend:

Have you applied for admission?

☐ YES ☐ NO

If yes, have you been accepted?

If you listed a community college above, where do you plan to complete a four-year degree program? (Scholarship recipients must plan to complete a four-year degree.)

Vocation/Major (Be Specific):

What is your career plan/goal?

Please list other sources of financial assistance you expect to receive. Financial need is a criteria determined by a local committee. AFA Scholarships must be activated within two (2) academic years or be forfeited.

| Source of support | Amount |
|-------------------|--------|
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*Provide additional information on white bond paper if necessary.

Additional information on back.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Activities (Provide additional information on white bond paper if necessary.)

| Local | County | State | Years |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

STUDENT GROUP ACTIVITIES

Organization*

| Local | County | State | Years |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|-------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | |

STATEMENT

What community and organizational activities have been most meaningful to your personal and career development?

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WORK EXPERIENCE

Please list jobs (including summer employment) you have held in the past four years.

| Job/Title | Employer | Approximate dates of employment | Approximate number of hours per week |
|-----------|----------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| | | | |
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| | | | |
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ESSAY

Write an essay sharing your personal vision for agriculture, stating why you are interested in an agricultural career. The essay should be 300-500 words. The selection committee may use this essay for reference during the personal interview. Please prepare on white bond paper and attach one copy to this form.



ProAg, in partnership with the Agriculture Future of America (AFA), sponsor a scholarship each year for students pursuing post-secondary education for careers in agriculture.

The scholarship is in the amount of \$4,200. This is comprised of \$3,200 of financial support toward tuition and fees plus a \$1,000 scholarship to the AFA Leaders Conference held each fall in Kansas City, Missouri.

The selection criteria for the AFA Scholarships are based on the following:

- Essay – 300-500 words describing how the student perceives the future of agriculture and why he or she is seeking to be a part of the industry
- Interview – Based on the student's application, interests, and essay
- Community Service – Involvement in activities outside the student's education-related activities
- Student Group Activities – Involvement within the student's education-related activities
- General Factors – Includes work experience, financial needs, reference letters, and other factors identified by the scholarship committee
- Scholarship – Student's high school GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 point scale)

The AFA Leaders Conference is a personal and professional leader development experience. The conference is designed to add value to the student's academic experience. The conference is held in Kansas City, Missouri in November. **Scholarship recipients are required to attend the AFA Leaders Conference. Failure to attend the conference results in forfeiture of the scholarship.**

Are there other student benefits?

Students who participate in AFA have opportunities to network with business leaders and to connect with intern opportunities that help students build their resumes. AFA offers other leader development opportunities such as a Web conference series and AFA Leader Institutes for continued exposure and development.

How does the community develop internship opportunities?

Committee members contact businesses in the area or region to determine interest in community-based intern opportunities. Intern opportunities should provide career development experience. Community Partners may recognize intern hosts as supporters of the AFA Community Partnership.

What is the student's responsibility?

The student must complete the AFA registration information and send it to AFA by August 1. The student must provide copies of school registration and fees (invoice) to AFA by September 15 for fall semester and February 1 for spring semester to secure scholarship payment. The student must attend AFA Leaders Conference during the scholarship year.

What expenses are covered in the AFA Scholarship?

The scholarship provides up to \$1,600 per semester for 2 semesters or until funds are exhausted for:

- ▶ Credit hour fees
- ▶ Laboratory fees
- ▶ Books (if they are billed through the institution)
- ▶ Other mandatory student fees

The scholarship is paid directly to the college or university, not to the student.

What is AFA's commitment to the partnership?

AFA's commitment to the partnership provides dollar matches of the AFA Leader and Academic Scholarship. AFA leverages community dollars for marketing and donor relationships. AFA maintains a relationship with the student, parents, donors, campus contacts and intern corporations.

Interested in developing a partnership with AFA?

Contact AFA at 816-472-4232, P.O. Box 414838, Kansas City, Mo. 64141, or visit the web site at www.agfuture.org.



AFA Vision

To be a catalyst in the preparation of a new generation of agriculture leaders.

AFA Mission

To create partnerships that identify, encourage and support outstanding college men and women preparing for careers in the agriculture and food industry.



AFA Community Partnership

What is an AFA Community Partnership?

An AFA Community Partnership is the agreement between community supporters and AFA. The Community Partnership commits matching dollars to support academic tuition and AFA Leader Conference registration to collegiate students selected by the Community Partnership.

How do you know a partnership is right for you and your community?

- ▶ Is agriculture an important economic base in your community?
- ▶ Does your community need future agriculture leaders?
- ▶ Are there college-bound students in your community interested in the agriculture industry?
- ▶ Are there individuals and businesses in your community willing to provide financial support to establish an AFA Community Partnership?
- ▶ Are there intern opportunities for agriculture students in your community? Region?

What are the goals of an AFA Community Partnership?

- ▶ Fund an AFA Leader and Academic Scholarship(s) for students from the community.
- ▶ Select scholarship recipient(s).
- ▶ Identify and sponsor students to the AFA Leaders Conference.
- ▶ Identify local intern opportunities for students in the AFA network.
- ▶ Develop a local promotional plan to recognize scholars, their parents, donors and intern hosts.

What are the requirements for an AFA Community Partnership?

- ▶ Submit a Community Partner agreement to AFA by January 31. The agreement is to raise \$2,500 per scholarship per year.
- ▶ Raise funds to support local Leader and Academic Scholarships and forward to the AFA office by March 31.
- ▶ Promote scholarship to local community and eligible students.
- ▶ Complete student selection by June 1.
- ▶ Forward application(s) of selected recipient(s) to AFA by June 15.

How is a partnership established with AFA?

How do community partnerships operate locally?

How is the service area of a community partnership developed?

How are the funds secured?

How is the student(s) recruited and selected for the scholarship?

The community committee submits the Community Partner agreement to AFA by January 31. AFA commits to match the leader and academic development funds dollar-for-dollar. The community agrees to raise funds and select a student.

- ▶ Identify a group of colleagues: business leaders, producers, organization representatives or others, who share a commitment to young people and share the AFA vision.
- ▶ Establish a community committee to support the partnership. The committee does not need to establish local bank accounts.
- ▶ Identify a Community Coordinator to be the liaison with AFA.
- ▶ Establish four subcommittees: Fundraising, scholar recruitment and selection, local promotion and intern opportunity development.

Community committee defines the parameters of the service area. The service area may change in successive years of the partnership.

Examples of community partnerships are: multi-county areas, local businesses, lead or sole contributors, regional corporation and agriculture-related associations or organizations.

Each community develops its own funding plan. AFA recommends the first scholarship be community-based with five or more sponsors. Additional scholarships may be sponsored by a single donor, business or event.

Fundraising: The task of the fundraising committee is to develop a list of potential donors and develop a strategy for raising the funds to support the partnership. AFA's Guide to Building a Community Partnership provides strategies and identifies potential donors. A chairperson and two assistants are recommended for this committee. The funds should be forwarded to the AFA office by March 31. If you would like ideas and tips on fundraising, please contact AFA.

Sample Goal: Sponsor an AFA Leader and Academic Scholarship (\$2,500) and two delegates (\$500 each) to the AFA Leaders Conference. Funding goal: \$3,500

After the number of scholars and delegates to be sponsored is known, AFA Scholarship applications, interview dates and deadlines should be distributed to community youth leaders and career guidance professionals by March 1. Completed scholarship applications and essays are to be submitted by April 1 and interviews completed before May 1.

The selection committee recruits and selects community scholars. The committee coordinates the selection process, establishes application and interview dates and conducts the interviews. The committee informs youth leaders and career guidance professionals about the AFA Scholarship, distributes applications and identifies three to five agriculture or business professionals to serve on a review committee. It is recommended that the selection include a review of applications, evaluation of the essay and a personal interview with candidates.

Sample Goal: Recruit three to five applicants to compete for the AFA Leader and Academic Scholarship and conference delegate award.

- ▶ Be a graduating senior in high school.
- ▶ Be enrolling in an accredited college of agriculture seeking a Bachelor's degree in agriculture or agriculture-related major.
- ▶ Attend the AFA Leaders Conference in the fall semester of the student's freshman year of college.

AFA is interested in the student's overall profile indicating he/she will succeed in a college environment and will provide strong leadership in his/her future career. Candidates need not be ranked the highest in their high school class or be an elected leader.

Academic Tuition + Fees = \$3,200: Local partners contribute \$1,600. AFA matches local dollars to establish an academic scholarship.

AFA Leaders Conference = \$1,000: Local partners contribute \$500 toward registration to AFA Leaders Conference and AFA provides matching dollars.

Selection is based on the following:

- ▶ **Essay** — 300-500 words describing how the student perceives the future of agriculture and why he/she is seeking to be a part of the industry.
- ▶ **Interview** — Based on the student's application, interests and essay.
- ▶ **Community Service** — Involvement in activities outside the student's education related activities.
- ▶ **Student Group Activities** — Involvement within the student's education-related activities.
- ▶ **General Factors** — Includes work experience, financial needs, reference letters and other factors identified by the community committee.
- ▶ **Scholarship** — AFA recommends using a high school GPA of 3.0 (on a 4.0 point scale).

The promotion committee is responsible for creating awareness of the AFA Leader and Academic Scholarship program. The committee has \$200 per scholarship to support community awareness. AFA provides support materials and guidelines for the committee to use. Documented expenses should be forwarded to AFA by December 31.

Sample Goal: Distribute news release to local media (newspaper, school newspapers, radio, etc.) to promote scholarship. Following scholarship selection, host a meeting to introduce students and thank donors.

The AFA Leaders Conference is a personal and professional leader development experience. The conference is designed to add value to the student's academic experience. The conference is held in Kansas City, Missouri in November. The registration fee for the conference is \$1,000, of which \$500 is included in the funds raised by the community. Scholarship recipients are required to attend the AFA Leaders Conference. Failure to attend Conference may result in forfeiture of the scholarship at the discretion of the community and AFA. AFA Scholarship recipients are encouraged to return to Conference subsequent years.

What are the student qualifications for the scholarship?

What does the AFA Leader and Academic Scholarship provide?

What is the selection criterion for the scholarship?

How does the community promote the scholarship?

What is the AFA Leaders Conference?