

# Lincoln County Corn and Soybean Growers Association's Scholarship Overview

## THE PROGRAM

The Lincoln County Corn and Soybean Growers Associations have a scholarship program to assist graduating high school seniors who plan to continue education in post-secondary education programs. This scholarship program is administered by a Scholarship Selection Committee made up of directors from the Lincoln County Corn and Soybean Growers Associations. Awards are granted without regard to race, color, creed, religion, gender, disability, or national origin.

## ELIGIBILITY

Applicants must meet criteria 1-4.

1. Be connected to Lincoln County, MN by at least one of the following.
  - a. A senior in a High School of Lincoln County, MN
  - b. A resident of Lincoln County, MN
  - c. A high school senior whose parent(s) operate farmland in Lincoln County, MN
  - d. A high school senior whose **primary** employment is an agricultural related position within Lincoln county, MN. **Must provide information of employment.**
2. Be a graduating student from High School in the current academic year.
3. Understanding of agriculture being a part of the foundation of the community and economics especially in rural Minnesota.
4. Plan to enroll in a 2+ year accredited college/university or a technical college.

## APPLICATION

Interested students must complete and submit:

1. the application via Google Forms
2. a current and complete **official** transcript of grades
3. a letter of recommendation from a community member (i.e. non-relative)
4. a written essay (minimum of 2 paragraphs)
5. 1-2 paragraphs summarizing work experience
6. a letter of recommendation from the employer or the applicant's parent if the majority of the work hours were spent working for applicant's family operation.

\* The transcript, letters of recommendation, summary of work experience, and essay will be uploaded to **the google form** in sections 6-10.

Applications are evaluated on the information submitted such as academic record, demonstrated leadership, participation in school and community activities, honors, work experiences, goals and aspirations.

All information received is considered confidential and is reviewed only by the Scholarship Selection Committee.

Selection of awarded recipients is made by the Scholarship Selection Committee. All applicants agree to accept the decision of the Scholarship Selection Committee as final. Not all applicants to the program will be selected as scholarship recipients.

**Submissions must be submitted in full by March 1st at 11:59pm.**

**Review Eligibility** at <https://lincolncountycornandsoybeangrowers.org/scholarship-program> before applying.

**Review "Payment of Scholarships"** at <https://lincolncountycornandsoybeangrowers.org/scholarship-program> in the "LCCSGA Scholarship Overview" document.

## **ESSAY**

Essay needs to include the following (but not limited to):

- applicable eligibility requirements to the scholarship
- applicant's activities
- applicant's achievements
- applicant's honors
- applicant's aspirations
- applicant's jobs for an employer, or worked for the family operation (ag-related or other), please summarize the type of work, the number of hours worked (approx.).
- Create a list after the essay or an additional page in the same document listing enrollment of Advanced Placement or Post-Secondary Enrollment classes taken or currently enrolled in

Use the above components to share your story and success. It is **NOT** a paragraph checklist (e.g. paragraph 1 = eligibility, paragraph 2 = activities). Make it flow.

## **SELECTION OF RECIPIENTS**

Scholarship recipients are selected on the basis of academic record, demonstrated leadership and participation in school and community activities, honors, work experience, goals and aspirations stated in the application, and an outside appraisal.

Scholarship preference will be given to students pursuing an education in an agriculture, agribusiness, food science related programs, or professions that support rural communities.

Selection of recipients is made by the Scholarship Selection Committee.

All applicants agree to accept the decision of the Scholarship Selection Committee as final. Not all applicants to the program will be selected as recipients.

**PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIPS:**

Lincoln County Corn and Soybean Growers Associations will award the scholarship payment jointly, to both the recipients and the school they are attending, upon achieving a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 or greater after a full semester. The recipient will be allowed up to two semesters within the following year to attain the minimum GPA of 2.0 for the semester. It is the recipient's responsibility to submit those transcripts to Lincoln County Corn and Soybean Growers Associations once grades are posted and before the Lincoln County Corn and Soybean Growers Association's Annual Meeting in February.

Upon receiving those records, the full scholarship amount will be granted when the recipient and at least one parent/guardian attends Lincoln County Corn and Soybean Growers Association annual meeting in February.

More information will be provided with the scholarship award certificate and follow-up emails to the recipients.

**AWARDS**

Awards are not renewable. Awards are for undergraduate study only.