**Mustang Foundation Scholarship**

**Application Guidelines**

**DR. MICHAEL A. AND ROSEMARY S. VESETH AGRICULTURE SCHOLARSHIP**

**(available for either senior or alumni)**

Application Requirements:

* The applicant must be a Phillips County High School graduating senior in good standing with college intent or a Phillips County High School graduate in good standing (minimum of 2.0 GPA) with an accredited college. Please include a copy of your transcript. The applicant must attend/be attending a college in Montana.
* The recipient must satisfactorily complete one full-time semester of college with a 2.0 GPA or higher before payment is received. Payment will be made directly to the student upon proof by the school’s registrar that the student’s grades are in good standing. **Please include a sealed official transcript from the registrar’s office. Also include a copy of your next semester’s classes for alumni-this does not have to be official.**
* The school the applicant/recipient plans to attend must be an accredited college and have plans to continue his/her education at an accredited college.
* If you do not have all requirements listed, your application may not be considered for the award.
* Applications must be pursuing an ***Agriculture-related degree***

Deadline: Applications must be postmarked no later than the 2nd Friday of April. Applications may be mailed to Mustang Foundation, P.O. Box 757, Malta, MT 59538.

Selection: The Mustang Foundation Scholarship Committee will review applications

and select recipients within thirty (30) days after the deadline. One individual from the category will be selected and contacted by the Scholarship Committee. Two alternates from the category will also be named if the recipient is unable to utilize the award as intended. The applicant receiving the highest cumulative total points will be awarded the scholarship from the category they applied. In case of a tie, the scholarship committee will have the option of splitting the award or selecting an independent tie-breaking system to determine the scholarship winner. If any essay is similar/exact to that of another student’s essay, both/all applications will be disqualified.

Award: A $1,000 cash award payment will be made payable to the recipient upon

proof of satisfactory completion of the first semester. As stated above, proof of good standing must be signed by the registrar of the school the recipient attended. The recipient must use the award within three (3) semesters from the time of the award. If the recipient chooses not to use the award the first year, notification must be given to the Mustang Foundation.

Exclusions: If an applicant is related to any person on the Scholarship Selection

Committee, that committee member will be excused from participating in the scholarship selection process. A relative in this situation would include any children, grandchildren, cousins, nieces and/or nephews of a committee member.

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**Section I. – Title Page Points: 10**

**This is the only section where the applicant’s name should appear. *If his/her name***

***appears anywhere else in the application, he/she will be immediately disqualified. If there is any additional information/anything added to application, it will be disqualified.* Please include the name of the scholarship as a header on each page as well.**

* Full name of the applicant (on title page only) 2 pts.
* Full address of applicant (on title page only) 2 pts.
* Telephone number where applicant may be reached (on title page only) 1 pt.
* Trade/Vocational School applicant is planning to attend/Career Path 2 pts.
* High School GPA 2 pts.
* Include name of scholarship as a header on each page 1 pt.

**Section II. – Career Plan Points: 20**

 **Grammar/Spelling: 5 pts.**

 **Content: 15 pts.**

* In 50 – 100 words, describe your career plans. Include specific reasons for choosing a career in this field.

**Section III. – Essay Points: 50**

Up to 500 words **Grammar/Spelling: 10 pts.**

 **Content: 40 pts.**

* Question: How would you use your farming/ranching education to benefit the agriculture industry?

**Section IV. – One (1) Letter of Recommendation/One (1) OFFICIAL Transcript Points: 20 total (10 each)**

The applicant should provide one (1) letter of recommendation. This letter may be included with the application, in a ***sealed envelope***.

***Bonus points shall be awarded if the applicant’s family is a member of the Mustang Foundation.***

***5 points for 1 year of membership***

***7 points for 2 or more years of membership***

***10 points for 4 or more years of membership***

Before mailing your application, make sure you have included all necessary information.

* Title Page with all required information
* Career Plan explanation completed, in 50-100 words.
* Essay completed – up to 500 words
* Edit for Grammar/Spelling
* One letter of recommendation included, sealed by the letter’s author
* Transcripts included
* Postmarked by the second Friday in April