



**DEKALB COUNTY SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT  
SIMONSON SCHOLARSHIP  
FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS**

**PURPOSE:** To provide a scholarship to one (1) deserving DeKalb County high school graduating senior interested in or intending to pursue a career in agriculture, the environment, or land use.

**BACKGROUND:** The Simonson Scholarship is offered by the DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District (DCSWCD) to recognize the Simonson family's commitment in support of agriculture and the environment, and in the promotion of sound land use practices.

**AWARD COMPONENTS:** One (1) \$1,000.00 scholarship awarded to one (1) student selected by the DCSWCD. Funds may be used to offset any reasonable fees to advance the recipient's educational career and may be used in conjunction with other scholarship awards.

**CRITERIA:**

- Applicant must be a DeKalb County resident.
- Applicant must be a graduating high school senior in the year of the award.
- Applicant must be a full-time college/university freshman in the coming academic year with an interest or intent to pursue a career in agriculture, the environment, conservation, or land use. If not a full-time student, please specify.
- Applicant must provide a description of need.
- Applicant must demonstrate scholarship – in the complete sense – consistent with capacity and circumstances.

**APPLICATION PROCESS (APPLICANT MUST SUBMIT):**

- Completed typed application form. (Handwritten and/or incomplete applications will not be processed.)
- Letter of application addressed to the Simonson Scholarship, DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District. The letter should contain a brief explanation of career goals and biographical (background) information.
- An essay (200-300 words) describing the student's ideas regarding farmland preservation and conservation.
- Two letters of recommendation from the applicant's high school teachers, administrator, and/or former employer.
- A complete high school transcript with cumulative grade point average and class standing/rank.
- Description of need.

**Deadline for application is March 31, 2025. Applications postmarked after this date will not be considered. The award recipient will be chosen on or before April 30, 2025 and the award granted by May 31, 2025.**

**Send to: DCSWCD, Simonson Scholarship, 1350 W. Prairie Drive, Sycamore, IL 60178. If you have questions or need further information, please call the DCSWCD Office at 815-756-3234 ext. 3.**



DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District  
SIMONSON SCHOLARSHIP FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Student Application

Please read this form carefully and answer each question completely. Your application **will not** be processed if all of the questions are not answered in full. Mark N/A for items not applicable. Your application **must be typewritten**.

PERSONAL DATA

Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Full Name and Address of Parents or Guardians:

Father \_\_\_\_\_ Mother \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Local Newspaper \_\_\_\_\_

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION

High School \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Where do you plan to attend college? \_\_\_\_\_

College/University Address \_\_\_\_\_

Have you applied for admission? \_\_\_\_\_ Been accepted? \_\_\_\_\_

Proposed Major \_\_\_\_\_

What is your cumulative grade point average? \_\_\_\_\_ Class Rank? \_\_\_\_\_

#### AGRICULTURAL/ENVIRONMENTAL/LAND USE SUBJECTS:

Please list high school or college subjects taken, year taken, and grade received related to agriculture, environment, and/or land use.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

#### ACTIVITIES/ORGANIZATIONS

Please list activities and organizations (in school or out of school). Indicate offices held and accomplishments while in office.

#### HONORS/AWARDS

Please list.

#### WORK EXPERIENCE

Include both paid and volunteer work experience and job duties performed.

NOTE: The committee requests a description of need and a 200-300 word essay, double-spaced, describing your ideas regarding farmland preservation and/or conservation. The applicant should explain in the essay why he or she is interested in this area of study and how he or she would advance farmland preservation and land conservation practices. (See scholarship information sheet.)