**FRANKLIN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2018 SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION**

The goal of the Franklin County Conservation District’s $500 college scholarship program is to encourage young people from Franklin County to pursue careers in sustainable agricultural and natural resources management.

Applicants demonstrating a sustained interest in agriculture, natural resources or the environment are encouraged to apply. We seek to support education in fields including but not limited to environmental studies, sustainable agriculture, storm water management, veterinary care, horticulture, urban design, botany, soil health, pest management, and weather forecasting, to name a few. Other fields such as engineering, computer programming, business, literature, art and law may also qualify if the skills will be applied to agriculture or the environment.

We support students seeking post-high school education through technical programs, colleges and universities for the pursuit of Certificates, Associates Degrees, Bachelor of Science Degrees and Bachelor of Arts Degrees.

Eligibility:

* Current resident of Franklin County, VT, and attended at least two years of high school in Franklin Co.
* GPA of 2.5 or higher (4.0 scale)
* In the fall of 2018 will be a first- or second-year college student
* Has not previously received a scholarship from the Franklin County Conservation District
* Complete application received by September 15, 2018:
  + Application (see other side)
  + Cover letter (please describe your interest and experience in agriculture, natural resources or the environment and your career plans or ideas. Note our selection criteria for further guidance.)
  + Transcript (unofficial photocopy or online print-out is okay)
  + Documentation of college enrollment (e.g. acceptance letter or other)
  + One or two letters of reference from school and/or work

Selection decisions are made by the Franklin County Conservation District’s board of supervisors. Selection is based on the following criteria:

* 30% Interest in agriculture, natural resources or the environment. Demonstrated depth of thought or problem-solving abilities related to these fields will rank higher.
* 30% Experience (work, volunteer, or personal project) in agriculture, natural resources or the environment. Demonstrated long-term or time-intensive commitment in these fields will rank higher.
* 30% Likelihood to achieve the planned degree of education. Demonstrated ability to follow-through on academic and/or workplace commitments will rank higher.
* 10% Financial need

Selections are made without regard to race, color, religion (creed), gender, gender expression, age, national origin (ancestry), disability, marital status, sexual orientation, or military status. Neither do we give preference to applicants with personal, familial, or professional connections to the District.

Applications must be received at the Franklin County Conservation District no later than September 15, 2018.

*Submit by mail or in person:*

Franklin County NRCD

50 South Main St. #20

St. Albans, VT 05478

*Or email:*

franklincountynrcd@gmail.com

Applicants will receive notification by October 15, 2018. Successful applicants will receive payment by the same date.

**FRANKLIN COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT 2018 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION**

Applicant Name:

Home Address: Telephone:

High school: Year of graduation:

College or university you attend or plan to attend:

Fall 2018 will be my (circle one) 1st 2nd other:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ year at college.

Planned major or fields of interest:

Please list jobs you have held in the last four years. Exclude any positions you worked for fewer than 80 total hours. **Include** work for family businesses and volunteer positions.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Organization/company name | Your position | Years you held the job | Total hours worked (approx.) |
|  |  |  |  |

Please describe your financial need and plans to pay for your course of study.

COVER LETTER: Please write a letter describing your interest and experience in agriculture, natural resources or the environment and your career plans or ideas. Note our selection criteria for further guidance.

*I attest that I have prepared this application myself and that it is true and complete. Any assistance I received was in the form of guidance only; the words are entirely my own.*

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

Signature of applicant Date

*(If applicable) I attest that any support I supplied to the applicant in preparing this application was in guidance only. I did not write any portion of this application.*

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Signature of guidance counselor, mentor or parent, if applicable Date Relationship