

MASON COUNTY AG SCHOLARSHIP

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Mason County Ag Scholarship is to enhance interest in and financially support young people majoring in agricultural fields

II. FUNDING

This scholarship is funded by the Mason County Farm Bureau and Sunrise FS.

III. AMOUNT

Three scholarships are to be awarded as a **one-time** \$1,000 amount. Payment will be made to the Financial Aid Office of the appropriate college or university for the benefit of the recipient.

IV. ELIGIBILITY

High school seniors, whose parents or guardians are members of Mason County Farm Bureau in good standing, and who:

1. Are enrolled in full-time study in one of the following schools: Havana, Midwest Central, Illini Central, A-C Central, or home schooled.
2. Are accepted at an accredited 4-year college or university or a 2-year junior college.
3. Are not immediate family members of employees or boards of Mason County Farm Bureau or Country Financial (family members of employees of Sunrise FS are eligible).
4. Have fully completed the application and essay requirement.
5. Students do not need to major in agriculture to receive this award.

V. APPLICATION, ESSAY PROCEDURES

Applications must be **filled** out and information must be verifiable. Online form is preferred. Information on the application will be judged against other applications. Particular attention will be paid to the academic record, extra-curricular activities, work experience, leadership skills and achievement. Fifty percent of the overall score will be based on the application.

Essays must be original and created by the applicant. They must be typewritten, more than 250 words but less than 500 words, and double-spaced. The theme for 2024 is **“What does the future of agriculture look like to you, and what skills will you need to play a part in it?”** Content, adherence to the theme, grammar, spelling, and punctuation will be judged. Fifty percent of the overall score is based on the essay.

VI. PROCEDURES

Applications and essays must be submitted online via the JotForm or presented to the office of the Mason County Farm Bureau, 127 S High, PO Box 318, Havana, IL 62644 **by 4:00 pm on March 29th, 2024.**

A selection committee, named by the Farm Bureau Manager and Service Company Manager, will judge each application and essay.

Announcement of the winner will be made during the month of May.