

# Westchester Foundation Scholarship Application

To the Scholarship Applicant:

**The Westchester Foundation** was created and funded to ensure that top students with leadership potential who wish to pursue careers in agriculture can do so. The Foundation accomplishes its mission by providing scholarship funds to college and post-graduate students. Awards will be based on demonstrated scholastic ability; leadership in school, church and community activities; and commitment to agriculture or related fields. Scholarship amounts will vary, but will generally be renewable annually for up to four years. The guidelines for the scholarships and the responsibilities to which recipients must agree are as follows:

## **I. Who is Eligible?**

1. The applicant must be a senior in high school accepted for enrollment at an accredited college, university, or community college in a course of study related to agriculture or agribusiness. Students already enrolled in such institutions and courses of study may also apply.
2. The applicant must be a full time student and complete at least 12 hours per semester to qualify for and maintain the scholarship.
3. The applicant must submit a completed application and all qualifying documentation no later than February 1<sup>st</sup> for consideration for the fall semester.
4. Dependents of the Members of the Board of Directors or the Executive Director of the Foundation are not eligible.

## **II. What Are the Qualifying Criteria? Who makes the selection?**

1. Selection will be based on academic qualifications, community and school involvement, and leadership potential. Academic qualifications will be evidenced by grade point, class rank and college entrance examination scores. Each applicant will provide a resume of community involvement and two references attesting to character and capacity to excel in the field of agriculture. The applicants' character, reputation and integrity, as demonstrated in school and in their personal lives, will be assessed via references and/or direct inquiry.
2. Selection will be made by the Board of Directors of the Foundation. It is possible that personal interviews will be requested of applicants. The Board is not committed to a specific number of scholarships or a particular dollar amount to award. Rather, each successful applicant will be reviewed individually and an offer made based on the Board's assessment of qualifications.

3. The applicants will demonstrate a strong interest in and intention of entering a career in agriculture or a closely related field upon graduation. Scholarship funds will be available only so long as the student remains in an acceptable curriculum.

### **III. Awards and Responsibilities**

1. Scholarship funds will be delivered directly to the student and may be used to fund any expenses related to attendance at the college of choice. The size of the awards will vary, but successful applicants may anticipate a minimum of \$1,000 per academic year. Higher amounts may be issued at the sole discretion of the Board of Directors of the Foundation.
2. Scholarships will generally be issued on an annually renewable basis. In order to qualify for continuing awards, the student must maintain a cumulative grade point average acceptable to the Board. Successful applicants will also be asked to submit periodic written reports of their progress.

### **IV. How to Apply**

Use this brief checklist:

- 1. Complete the attached application.**
- 2. Provide a copy of your most current academic transcript.**
- 3. Provide two letters of reference from unrelated individuals.**
- 4. Deliver to The Westchester Foundation by February 1<sup>st</sup>.  
c/o Westchester Group, Inc.  
P.O. Box 3009  
Champaign, IL 61826-3009  
Attn: Renee Schum**

**The Westchester Foundation Scholarship Application**

Please type or print

Date\_\_\_\_\_

**Section 1: General Information**

Name:\_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (    )\_\_\_\_\_ Best Time to Call:\_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Names:\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

Parents' Occupation:\_\_\_\_\_

High School Attended:\_\_\_\_\_ Graduation Date:\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

College/University at which accepted or enrolled:\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_

**Section 2: Academic Information**

High School GPA\_\_\_\_\_ on a \_\_\_\_\_ point scale. (i.e., 3.5 on a 4 pt. Scale)

High School Class rank: \_\_\_\_\_ Number in graduating class: \_\_\_\_\_

*Provide the following information for the test you took:*

Composite ACT score \_\_\_\_\_ percentile rank \_\_\_\_\_

Composite SAT score \_\_\_\_\_ percentile rank \_\_\_\_\_

College GPA (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_ on a \_\_\_\_\_ point scale (i.e., 3.4 on a 5 pt. scale)

Major or Degree Sought:\_\_\_\_\_

College starting date:\_\_\_\_\_ Projected graduation date:\_\_\_\_\_

List High School or College Academic Honors You've received:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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**Section 3: Activities**

List extracurricular activities in which you've been involved. Indicate offices you have held or other positions of leadership. Be sure and include all agricultural activities and clubs whether school sponsored or not.

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List church, civic or community activities in which you have been involved.

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**Section 4: Financial Information**

How is your education being funded?

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Do you or will you work during the school year to support your education? What do you expect to do?

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Do you have other scholarships or a tuition waiver? \_\_\_\_\_

If so, please complete the following:

Name of Scholarship	Value
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_____	_____
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### Section 5: Self Analysis

Briefly summarize your professional goals.

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What things do you feel you do very well?

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What do you feel is especially difficult for you?

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Where do you see yourself in five years? In ten years?

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Describe any employment experience you have had during school or summer vacations.

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What can you do, both today and tomorrow, to make U.S. agriculture better?

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Why do you feel the Board should offer you a scholarship?

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Describe the character traits you possess that will allow you to create success in academics and your chosen career.

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Why did you select your major or concentration of study?

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What is the toughest challenge you face today?

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I hereby certify that all of the information supplied above is correct and complete, to the best of my knowledge.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Student

\_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent of Guardian

**Send completed application with additional requirements to:**

**Westchester Foundation  
2004 Fox Drive Ste L  
P.O. Box 3009  
Champaign, IL 61826-3009  
Attn: Renee Schum**