

The **IAA Foundation** enhances the future of agriculture by providing college scholarships to Illinois Farm Families, Illinois Farm Bureau members, spouses, and their children who major in agriculture, agribusiness, or an ag-related course of study. The IAA Foundation is pleased to administer scholarships on behalf of agricultural partners and families who wish to support future generations and help assure a well-qualified, professional agricultural workforce in Illinois.



For 2023, the IAA Foundation is pleased to offer 100 awards ranging from \$1,000 to \$7,500 and totaling \$201,501 in support.

APPLICATION PROCESS: Online application and guidelines are found on the IAA Foundation [website](#), along with a full listing of eligibility requirements and a *FAQ* section. For additional information please contact the IAA Foundation office at 309.557.2232 or email jsmith@ilfb.org

Applications are available on January 1 and must be electronically submitted by **11:59pm on February 15, 2023**.

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY: Applicants may be a previous recipient of an IAA Foundation scholarship, though certain scholarships restrict the number of times an applicant can be a recipient. All applicants must be a high school graduate or be graduating in 2023 and must be accepted for enrollment or be currently enrolled at an accredited college, university, community college or trade school. While applicants may apply for multiple awards, they can only receive one scholarship per program year. Applicants may not be a spouse, child, sibling, grandchild, son-in-law, or daughter in-law of an IAA Foundation trustee, employee, or current member of the Illinois Farm Bureau Board of Directors.

***Carefully read each scholarship for specific requirements, limitations, and guidelines.**

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION: In addition to individual scholarship eligibility guidelines, the following are considered in selection of recipients: Activities and Involvement, Academic Performance, Financial Plan, Essay Response, Personal Statements.

TERMS: All scholarship funds are sent to the designated institution prior to the beginning of the academic year. Funds are applied to tuition and fees. Scholarship recipients are not restricted from pursuing and accepting other forms of financial aid, assistance, or tuition waivers.

Scholarships Available in 2023

Illinois Farm Bureau Legacy of Leadership Scholarship

One \$7,500 scholarship – *Generously funded through donations from current and former IFB leaders.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must attend the University of Illinois, Southern Illinois University, Western Illinois University, or Illinois State University
- Must be an incoming junior majoring in a field directly supporting the agriculture industry with a min. cumulative GPA of 3.4
- Proven leadership experience with an emphasis on collegiate activity
- Priority given to an individual who is actively engaged in Illinois Farm Bureau activities
- ***Additional essay required on application***

IAA Foundation Distinguished Scholarships

Three \$5,000 IAA Foundation Top Scholars –*Recognizes excellent students who are committed to agriculture.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must major in agriculture, agribusiness, or an ag-related field at an Illinois institution
- (1) \$5,000 to an incoming Sophomore, (1) \$5,000 to an incoming Junior, (1) \$5,000 to an incoming Senior/Post-Graduate
- Students may only receive a Distinguished Scholarship once (former Top Scholars are ineligible to apply)

IAA Foundation General Scholarships

One \$1,000 scholarship awarded in the name of Robert Rouse

Two \$1,000 scholarships awarded in the name(s) of Fletcher A. Gourley and Leonard Southwell

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must major in agriculture, agribusiness, or an ag-related field at an Illinois institution

Alvin Eigenrauch Memorial Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship- *Alvin Eigenrauch was a teacher, a conservationist, and a lifelong Washington County Farm Bureau member.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field
- Must be an incoming junior or senior attending Southern Illinois University (Carbondale/Edwardsville)

Cashford Farm Youth Scholarship

Two \$2,000 scholarships - *Established through a bequest by Pearl H. Cashford, a longtime resident of Douglas County who was engaged in business in downtown Tuscola for many years.*

- For incoming sophomore and above college students majoring in agriculture or ag-related fields
- Applicants must be a member, son/daughter of a member of the Douglas County Farm Bureau with voting, or M/PM member status and an Illinois resident.

Charles B. Shuman Scholarship

One \$2,500 scholarship - *Established to recognize Mr. Shuman's contributions and reflect his values.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be a Masters or PhD student whose research topic is related to agriculture policy, agriculture marketing infrastructure, trade of agricultural products, seed technology issues or agriculture production/management practice

Clifton L. Duckworth, CPA Ag Accounting 4 Tomorrow Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship - *Established by Clifton Duckworth to give back by supporting education, and to commemorate IFB's oldest affiliate, the Illinois Agricultural Auditing Association (IAAA).*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- For incoming college juniors or above
- Major must be in agri-accounting/accounting, with preference to students from a farming background or those interested in pursuing an accounting career that services the agricultural industry

Dale E. Butz Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship - *Established to honor Mr. Butz's distinguished career by developing agricultural leaders.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field
- Must have a background in production agriculture as demonstrated on the application

Dr. E. Ray and Jeanie Searby Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship - *Established to honor the life of Ray Searby, who was a community college president and later a beef and grain farmer, with a lifetime of interest in farming and education.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Open to students attending an Illinois community college only
- Major must be in agriculture, agriculture related fields, education, business, or engineering with a minimum 2.5 GPA required

Driving Agriculture Forward Scholarship

Twenty \$2,000 scholarships – *Created to help ensure more well trained, safe drivers are available to drive agriculture forward.*

- Must be an Illinois resident, though Illinois Farm Bureau membership is not required
- Must be enrolled or planning to enroll in a commercial driver training program at an Illinois Community College
- An endorsement from a farmer, County Farm Bureau leader, agribusiness or food processing business is required
- Separate application with year-round consideration is available at www.iaafoundation.org

Dwain Ford Memorial Soybean Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship- *Established in memory of a long-time leader of the soybean industry.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field
- Must demonstrate current or former active involvement in 4-H and FFA
- **Additional short answer required on the application**

Elbert and Mary Elsbury Scholarship

Three \$1,000 scholarships- *Established through a bequest to encourage the pursuit of higher education and careers in agriculture.*

- Must be studying agriculture, home economics or related field
- Three equal scholarships awarded with recipients meeting the following:
 - One to a Lake County Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member and must reside in Lake County
 - One to a graduating senior of Warren Township High School, Gurnee, IL (Farm Bureau membership not required)
 - One to a Lake County Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member who is a member of a Lake County 4-H Club

Greg Carney Scholarship

One \$1,500 scholarship - *Established to honor Greg Carney, a Farm Bureau employee, and University of Illinois graduate.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Must be actively involved in production agriculture in a family farm operation and must be a current/former active 4-H member

H.R. Beeson Scholarship

One \$1,500 scholarship – *Established to honor Harry Richey Beeson, an Illinois farmer, agricultural educator, and soil conservationist.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field at an Illinois institution
- Preference given to students from Clay, Crawford, and Macon counties

Harris Thomas Scholarship

Five \$2,000 scholarships- *This legacy fund honors Ewell and Josephine Harris; Frank and Jacqueline Thomas for agriculture students.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be an undergraduate (excluding University of Illinois students) majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or closely related field
- Preference to students who reside in southern Illinois, defined as south of Springfield

Harris Thomas Fellowship

Up to five awards ranging from \$2,500-\$5,000 each

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field at a public university, excluding the University of Illinois
- Preference to students who reside in southern Illinois, defined as south of Springfield
- Acceptable uses of funding include tuition and fees, lab supplies, program, and conference fees to present research. Funding MAY NOT be used for capital expenditures or summer salary for PI. research.
- Individuals may only receive one fellowship from the IAA Foundation in their academic career.

Heartland NAMA Steven A. Hammerschmidt Memorial Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship - *Established by the Heartland Chapter in memory of Steven A. Hammerschmidt, a long time agri-marketing professional with GROWMARK and a Heartland Chapter leader.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be an incoming junior or senior majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field
- Must attend an Illinois institution with an active NAMA chapter in the Heartland region: University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Illinois State University, Illinois College - Jacksonville

Herman E. Wiedle and Cecilia E. Wiedle Scholarship

Three \$2,000 scholarships - *With a gift of farmland, the Wiedle's support students in their home community with these scholarships.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Open to any major
- Must be a resident of Clinton County

Illinois Award Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship - *An anonymous donor closely tied to Illinois Farm Bureau, seeks to improve leadership skills in agriculture.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be an incoming freshman majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field
- Priority will be given to students from Cass, Morgan, Stark and Henry counties

Illinois Collegiate Farm Bureau Scholarship

Eight \$1,000 scholarships – *Given to encourage students to stay active and engaged with Farm Bureau during their college years.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field
- Must be an active member of an Illinois Collegiate Farm Bureau Chapter and may only receive this scholarship once

Illinois Farm Bureau Presidential Memorial Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship – *Honoring the past Presidents who shaped and influenced Illinois Farm Bureau through their leadership.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be an incoming college senior majoring in a field that directly supports the agricultural industry at an Illinois institution
- Proven leadership demonstrated by offices held in clubs/organizations and emphasis placed on Internship/Work Experience

Jean Stubblefield Memorial Scholarship

One \$1,500 scholarship; One \$3,000 scholarship - *Jean's legacy farm supports students pursuing careers that care for animals.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be an undergraduate majoring in Animal Science or Pre-Veterinary Medicine (\$1,500)
- Must be a post-Graduate currently enrolled in a school of Veterinary Medicine (\$3,000)

Jean Stubblefield Memorial Fellowship

Up to two awards ranging from \$2,500-\$5,000 each

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field at a public university with preference to students whose area of research applies to dogs, cattle sheep, or swine.
- Acceptable uses of funding include tuition and fees, lab supplies, program, and conference fees to present research. Funding MAY NOT be used for capital expenditures or summer salary for PI.
- Individuals may only receive one fellowship from the IAA Foundation in their academic career.

Leonard C. Zimmerly Memorial Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship - *Honors Leonard Zimmerly, a teacher, farmer, and proud member of Tazewell CFB who influenced many students in school and in career choices.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field at a four-year institution, with a minimum 3.0 GPA
- Preference given to students attending the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and students from Tazewell County

Martha J. and Walter J. Wills Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship – *Established during his lifetime to support students at the University where Dr. Wills served for 27 years.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, or a closely related field at Southern Illinois University, excluding equine, floriculture, forestry
- Student's parents must live on and operate a farm

Mary Lou Diebold Memorial Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship - *Recognizes the dedication and passion Ms. Diebold had for agriculture and community involvement.*

- Must be a member or child of a member of Lake County Farm Bureau for at least two years, Illinois residency in not required
- Open to any major, preference to a field related to agriculture at any four-year institution with a required minimum 3.0 GPA

Prairie Farms Dairy - Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship

Six \$2,000 scholarships to children of current PFD patrons and six \$2,000 scholarships to children of current PFD employees
Established to honor Fletcher A. Gourley, Leonard J. Southwell, Roger Capps, and Edward L. Mullins for their years of leadership.

- Illinois Farm Bureau membership is not required, Illinois residency is not required
- Open to any major and students may only receive a Prairie Farms Dairy scholarship twice
- Applicants must be children of Prairie Farms Dairy patrons or children of employees of Prairie Farms Dairy and its subsidiaries with a minimum of three years patronage/employment determined as of the application deadline date

Robert F. Rouse Scholarship

Two \$1,000 scholarships - *Established in memory of Robert F. Rouse, who closely associated with Illinois Farm Bureau in Lake County.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Preference given to Lake County residents
- One award to a student majoring in agriculture or closely related field and one award to a student majoring in nursing

Sandhu Minority in Agriculture Scholarship

One \$3,001 scholarship – *Created to help meet the demand for innovation and to foster an agriculture industry which more closely represents the world it feeds.*

- Must be an Illinois resident, however, Illinois Farm Bureau membership is not required
- Must be pursuing an agriculture or STEM major with intent to pursue an agriculture related career
- Must be a racial minority

Sara C. Andrews Memorial Scholarship

Two \$1,000 scholarships and two \$2,500 scholarships - *Established to honor Sara C. Andrews, who was deeply rooted in Illinois, in her farm and in her family.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field at an Illinois institution
- Must be an incoming freshman (two \$1,000), must be an incoming junior (two \$2,500)
- Preference given to students actively engaged in agriculture on a family farm operation

Six Generations Illinois Farming Scholarship

Two \$2,500 scholarships – *Established to benefit agriculture students from Tazewell County.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident within Tazewell County
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field

Steve Willits Memorial Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship (renewable)- *Founded in honor of Steven Willits who devoted his life to advancing his farm through education and hard work.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident within Mercer County
- Must be an incoming freshman majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field
- Awardees are eligible to renew and receive an additional \$1,000 as an incoming sophomore upon successful maintenance requirements and a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or better

Thomas E. and Mary Morgan Lykins Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship - *Established to help fulfill the dreams and transform the lives of well-deserving students.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be an undergraduate pursuing an agriculture or closely related major
- Preference given to academically strong students who have held leadership roles

Twin Creek Family Farm Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship - *A family scholarship supporting youth in their home community who are interested in agriculture.*

- Illinois Farm Bureau membership is not required
- Must be an incoming freshman majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field
- Must be an Edgar County resident

Vincent O. Greene Memorial Scholarship

Four \$1,000 scholarships - *A legacy that supports agriculture students who demonstrate qualities of leadership and citizenship.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field

William J. Kuhfuss Memorial Scholarship

One \$1,000 scholarship - *Established to honor Mr. Kuhfuss for his many years of leadership in agriculture.*

- Must be an Illinois Farm Bureau member, spouse or child of member, and an Illinois resident
- Must be majoring in agriculture, agribusiness, or a closely related field at an Illinois institution
- Preference given to students from an agricultural background or working toward an occupation in/related to agriculture