

**APPLICATION FOR:  
2021 MONTGOMERY COUNTY FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP**  
**Administered by the Montgomery County Farm Bureau, Inc.**

Montgomery County Farm Bureau is a private, non-profit membership organization with over 3,000 member families. It is completely controlled by its members through the democratic process. Farm Bureau's purpose is to increase net farm income and improve the quality of life by promoting a legislative voice. The MCFB aims to educate and increase the public understanding of agriculture with our membership involvement.

Montgomery County Farm Bureau along with contributions from the Edward Byrd Foundation are pleased to offer the scholarships for the 2021-2022 academic year to assist Montgomery County students pursuing higher education. The total distribution for the 2021-2022 academic year will be determined based on the scholarship committee's evaluation of the applications submitted. Individual awards will range from \$1,000-\$5,000.

The principal goal of this scholarship program is to offer financial support to current high school seniors with plans to start college in the fall semester of 2021, or applicant who must be a current full-time student at any accredited vocational, community college, or four-year institution. The focus is to reach and assist as many young agriculturalists and/or Montgomery County Farm Bureau members as early as possible in their careers.

**Eligibility:**

1. Applicant must be a resident of Montgomery County, Maryland.
2. All applicants or their parents/guardians must be members, in good standing, of the Montgomery County Farm Bureau to be eligible to apply. If interested in joining the MCFB, you may register online at <https://members.mdfarmbureau.com/>
3. Applicant must be a current high school senior with plans to start college in the fall semester of 2021, or applicant who must be a current full-time student at any accredited vocational, community college, or four-year institution.
4. Applicant must demonstrate an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher.
5. Applicant must receive two letters of recommendation; one from a teacher/instructor in the area of your major and one from an employer, mentor, coach, club advisor, or religious leader.
6. Applicant must provide an answer to the provided essay question of 500 words or less.
7. Applicant should be available to receive the scholarship at our June monthly meeting with our Board of Directors, or must make arrangements to attend a board meeting. Currently, all our meetings are held via ZOOM. The June meeting will be held Tuesday, June 1, 2021 at 7PM. More details to follow scholarship committee decisions.

**How to Apply:**

Typed, completed application, essay response, and two letters of recommendation must be sent via email to Eric Spates, Scholarship Committee Chairperson, at [mcfbscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:mcfbscholarship@gmail.com).

**Deadline: Received by Monday, May 3, 2021**

For more information, please contact Montgomery County Farm Bureau Secretary, Kim Smith, at 301-467-1419 or by email at [mcfbsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:mcfbsecretary@gmail.com).

**2021 Montgomery County Farm Bureau Scholarship Application**

\*\*Answers MUST be typed \*\*

1.	Last Name:	First Name:			
2.	Mailing Address				
	Street:				
	City:	State:		ZIP:	
	Montgomery County Farm Bureau Member: Y/N				
3.	Daytime Telephone Number:				
	Email Address:				
4.	Date of Birth				
	Month:	Day:	Year:		
5.	Name and City of high school attended:			Year Graduated:	
6.	Current Grade Point Average (on a 4.0 scale) - <i>(Attach proof of GPA. If you are just starting college, your most recent high school transcript is required. Scanned photocopies are acceptable.)</i>				
7.	How many credits/classes are you taking this semester? _____				
8.	List the name of any college you have attended/are attending, if applicable.	Year Began	Year Ended	Year Graduated (if applicable)	Type of Degree Received
	a.				
	b.				
	c.				
9.	Name of school you will be attending in the Fall of 2021: _____				
	What year/program will you attend as: (select one below)				
	Undergrad. (Fresh. Soph. Jr. Sr.)      Graduate/Masters/PhD      Technical/Vocational				
	<i>(proof of acceptance or current enrollment from above school is required)</i>				
10.	What major do you plan to pursue? Please indicate your minor specialization as well.				
11.	Have you applied for and/or received the Montgomery County Farm Bureau Scholarship in the past? Y/N				
	If yes, what year did you receive it?				
12.	List expenses you expect to incur per semester	List other financial assistance you will receive per semester			
	Tuition:	Personal:			
	Books:	Scholarships:			
	Room & Board:	Grants:			

	Transportation:	Student Loans:
	Other:	Other Financial Resources:

13.	What are your educational and professional goals and objectives?
14.	List your academic honors, awards and membership activities while in high school or college:
15.	List your community service activities, hobbies, outside interests, and extracurricular activities:

16.	List any memberships, leadership roles, or offices you have held:			
17.	Work Experience: List most recent or pertinent work experience whether or not they are related to floriculture, horticulture or agriculture.			
	Name of Company	Position Held/Duties Performed	Start Date	End Date
18.	<p>Letters of Recommendation: Please have two (2) references send a letter of recommendation to Eric Spates, Scholarship Committee Chairperson, at <a href="mailto:mcfbscholarship@gmail.com">mcfbscholarship@gmail.com</a> or by mail to PO Box 217, Damascus, MD 20872 by Monday, May 3, 2021. <b>Letters must be sent by references.</b></p> <p>First Reference: A teacher/instructor in the area of your major          Second Reference: Employer, mentor, coach, club advisor or religious leader          Letters must be written by persons qualified to attest to your abilities, character and interests.  <i>Instructions for Letters of Recommendation Sheet</i> is attached for your convenience.</p>			
19.	<p>Essay: Please provide a response to the following question:</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>The Coronavirus Pandemic created some serious challenges for those who produce, process, and distribute food and other consumer goods. It also opened up some great opportunities. What do you think we learned about the food supply chain in the United States and what can growers do to capitalize on these opportunities based on changes in consumer habits?</b></p> <p>The essay should not exceed 500 words and should be typed in Times New Roman 12 pt. font, double spaced with 1in. margins.</p>			

**Application Deadline: Monday, May 3, 2021 - Send all materials to:**  
[mcfbscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:mcfbscholarship@gmail.com)

Application answers must be typed. Handwritten entries will be disqualified.  
Application must be filled out entirely. Attached resumes will not be accepted.

In addition to this application, be sure the following items are emailed by the deadline to be eligible:

- Most recent high school or college transcript. Scanned copies are acceptable.
- Proof of college acceptance or current student enrollment (i.e., acceptance letter, current college transcript. Scanned copies are acceptable.)
- Two letters of recommendation. **MUST** be sent by references.
- Typed response to the essay question that is 500 words or less.

**Statement of Accuracy**

I hereby affirm that all of the above information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also consent that my picture may be taken and used for any purpose deemed necessary to promote the scholarship program. I hereby understand that if chosen as a scholarship winner, I must be available to receive the scholarship in person at a Montgomery County Farm Bureau event or monthly Board of Directors meeting.

Signature of scholarship applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Instructions for Letters of Recommendation Sheet

*(The instructions that follow are a template that may be copied/pasted and emailed/mailed to two references who can attest to your suitability as an applicant for this scholarship. Reference letters must be emailed/mailed by the Reference by Monday, May 3, 2020)*

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,  
(Reference's Name)

I am applying for the 2021 Montgomery County Farm Bureau Scholarship. I'm writing to ask if you could please compose a brief reference letter attesting to my attributes and accomplishments.

Montgomery County Farm Bureau (MCFB) is a private, non-profit membership organization with over 3000 member families. It is completely controlled by its members through the democratic process. Farm Bureau's purpose is to increase net farm income and improve the quality of life by promoting a legislative voice. The MCFB aims to educate and increase the public understanding on agriculture with our membership involvement

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In your letter, please explain how you know me, and why you feel that I may be deserving of this scholarship. Please send your letter, addressed to Eric Spates, Scholarship Committee Chairperson, to [mcfbscholarship@gmail.com](mailto:mcfbscholarship@gmail.com) or by mail to: PO Box 217, Damascus, MD 20872, by Monday May 3, 2021. Please include your full name, title, telephone number, and address.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

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(Applicant's Name)