

Wilkes Soil & Water Conservation District Scholarship

Purpose: To provide financial support to a student with attaining an education to be successful in a career in the field of natural resources and agriculture. This scholarship will support a student attending a community college or university in the study of natural resources and agriculture.

Amount: The amount of the scholarship will be, at minimum, a single \$1,000.00 award. This will be paid in one (1) payment to the selected student.

Criteria for Application:

- The student must be an outstanding high school senior of Wilkes County or a currently enrolled college student; participation in our conservation education programs and other subjects pertaining to the natural environment is a plus.
- The student must be planning to or is attending an accredited institution.
- The student is expected to have an interest and expectation of a career in agronomy, agricultural or civil engineering, agriculture sustainability, agriculture education, animal science, forestry, natural resources, plant science, soil science, water management, water quality, wildlife management, or another closely related degree program.

Application Documents Required:

- Completed Scholarship application.
- Questionnaire/Essay Response(s)
- Résumé (include all community service, volunteering, extracurricular activities, employment, awards, organizations (positions and years), and honors)
- Copy of Acceptance letter or if no acceptance letters have been received, a brief explanation of their application/admission status, or proof of current course of study enrollment for college.
- Official School Transcript
- Two Sealed Letters of Recommendation: One from a teacher or administrator from graduating school and one from any individual from the community with knowledge of the student and his or her character, (non-family member).

Application Dates:

- Application Opens: September 1, 2025
- Application Closes: April 3, 2026
- Selection by: April 24, 2026

Additional Information:

- An interview may be held with the qualifying applicant before a final decision is made.

Application Submission & Status: Completed and signed applications will need to be mailed to the address below or turned directly into our office. Applications are due by the end of business day on April 3, 2026. Once you have mailed your application please contact Julia Hardy, Conservation Education Specialist via email: jhardy.wilkes@gmail.com, to notify us of your application. For Status updates please contact Julia Hardy via email.

Wilkes SWCD Scholarship
Attn: Julia Hardy
416 Executive Dr. Ste. A
Wilkesboro, NC 28697



Wilkes Soil & Water Conservation District Scholarship Application

***This information will be kept confidential and will only be viewed by the scholarship committee and soil and water district supervisors. ***

Full Name: _____

Mailing Address: (Street) _____

(City, State Zip) _____

Phone: (_____) _____ - _____

Email: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____

Graduation Date: ____/____/____

Funds are sought for attendance at:

School: _____ Accepted Pending

School: _____ Accepted Pending

School: _____ Accepted Pending

What is your first choice of college?

School: _____

Address: (Street) _____

(City, State Zip) _____

Intended Field of Study: _____

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Are you a recipient of any other scholarship(s)?

Scholarship Name	Amount

Any additional info, experiences, or awards you would like the selection committee to know?

Do you have any close family members that work in natural resources or agriculture? (If so, please list name, organization, and title.)

Name	Organization	Title

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I have completed this application and provided answers based on my experience and knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: __/__/____

Questionnaire/Essay Questions: Each answer is limited to 150 words

1. What are your goals and how do you plan to achieve them?

2. Where do you plan to be in 5 years and then in 10 years?

3. Provide an example(s) of your initiative where you adapted/adjusted and overcame adversity?

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4. Describe your relationship with our natural resources?

5. If you could wave a wand, what is the one thing you would create/fix/preserve/repair/ or restore?

6. Why have you chosen to earn a college degree in agronomy, ag engineering, ag sustainability, ag education, animal science, forestry, natural resource conservation, plant science, soil science, water management, water quality, wildlife management, or other very closely related programs?