

APPLICATION FOR:  
**2020 MONTGOMERY COUNTY FARM BUREAU SCHOLARSHIP**

Administered by the Montgomery County Farm Bureau, Inc.

Montgomery County Farm Bureau, Inc. is a private, non-profit membership organization with over 3000 member families. Montgomery County Farm Bureau established this scholarship program to assist Montgomery County students pursuing higher education.

Montgomery County Farm Bureau, Inc. with contributions from the Edward Byrd Foundation are pleased to offer \$30,000 in scholarships for the 2020-2021 academic year to Montgomery County residents majoring in an agricultural field at a vocational, two-year, or four-year institution. Montgomery County Farm Bureau member families are also eligible for these scholarships in any field of study.

## ELIGIBILITY

1. Applicant must be a resident of Montgomery County, Maryland.
2. Applicant must be majoring in an agricultural field **OR** have family or individual membership with Montgomery County Farm Bureau.
3. Applicant must be enrolled or accepted in an undergraduate or graduate curriculum at a vocational, two-year or four-year institution. (Student must carry a full-time course load during the semesters the scholarship is granted.)
4. Applicant must demonstrate an overall GPA of 2.5 or higher.
5. Applicant must receive two excellent letters of recommendation from a teacher/instructor and an employer, mentor, coach, club advisor or religious leader.
6. Applicant must provide response to essay prompt of 500 words or less.
7. **Applicant must be available to receive the scholarship in person at the Montgomery County Farm Bureau June Picnic or a monthly Board of Directors meeting. \*Please Note: With the current COVID-19 crisis, the June Farm Bureau picnic will potentially change to a later month in the year.**

## HOW TO APPLY

Completed, **TYPED** application and all attachments must be sent via email to Eric Spates, Scholarship Committee Chairperson, at [mcfarmbureausecretary@gmail.com](mailto:mcfarmbureausecretary@gmail.com).

## DEADLINE

**Sunday, May 10, 2020**

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



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:mcfarmbureausecretary@gmail.com">mcfarmbureausecretary@gmail.com</a> or by mail to PO Box 217, Damascus, MD 20872 by Sunday May 10, 2020. <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><i>"In 1980, 93,000 acres of farmland and rural space was designated by the Montgomery County Council as the Montgomery County Agricultural Reserve. This Reserve is to protect farmland and rural space in our county. In the years since, landowners, farmers, and our county government, have continued to further protect this acreage for agricultural purposes.</i></p> <p><i>Given Montgomery County's growing population and increasing development in suburban areas, how do you envision agriculture within the Agricultural Reserve in the next 50 years?"</i></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>			
<p><b>Application Deadline: Sunday, May 10, 2020 - Send all materials to: <a href="mailto:mcfarmbureausecretary@gmail.com">mcfarmbureausecretary@gmail.com</a></b></p> <p>Application answers must be typed. Handwritten entries will be disqualified.          Application must be filled out entirely. Attached resumes will not be accepted.</p> <p>In addition to this application, be sure the following items are emailed by the deadline to be eligible:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Most recent high school or college transcript. Scanned copies are acceptable.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Proof of college acceptance or current student enrollment (i.e., acceptance letter, current college transcript. Scanned copies are acceptable.)</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Two letters of recommendation. <b>MUST</b> be sent by references.</li> <li><input type="checkbox"/> Typed response to the essay question that is 500 words or less.</li> </ul>				

## **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.

E-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 Sunday, May 9, 2020)*

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

I am applying for the 2020 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, Inc. (MCFB) is a private, non-profit membership organization with over 3000 member families. Montgomery County Farm Bureau established this scholarship program to assist Montgomery County students pursuing higher education.

This year MCFB is offering \$30,000 in scholarships for the 2020-2021 academic year to Montgomery County residents who are either majoring in an agricultural field or are MCFB Members majoring in any field of study.

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 [mcfarmbureausecretary@gmail.com](mailto:mcfarmbureausecretary@gmail.com) or by mail to: PO Box 217, Damascus, MD 20872, by Sunday, May 10, 2020. Please include your full name, title, telephone number, and address.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Thank you,

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Applicant's Name)