



SCHOLARSHIP PROCEDURES, CRITERIA AND FORM

DUE MAY 1, 2022

1. Scholarships awarded: Three scholarships will be funded on an annual basis from the Wisconsin Custom Operators (WCO) general fund. Three scholarships will be awarded to applicants who plan to enter post-secondary education either as a freshman or continuing student. BS degree candidates as well as short course and technical degrees will be considered.
2. Scholarship amount: The total amount of scholarships funded by the WCO general fund will be determined by the WCO board prior to the posting the application in the spring. The total funds will be split equally between the three recipients. The scholarship amount will be \$3,000— i.e. three scholarships at \$1000 each. A \$1500 Robert Hoerth Memorial Award will be considered for one deserving applicant.
3. Selection criteria: Selection will be based on leadership and civic activities, high school or post-secondary scholastic achievement, work and volunteer activities specifically related to production agriculture, and an essay that provides a vision for the applicant's educational and vocational future. Preference will be given to students who have not previously received a WCO scholarship.
4. Eligibility:
 - a. All applicants must have direct family ties to a current member of WCO (excluding corporate members) or to an employee of a WCO member. Applicants may also be a WCO member or employee of a WCO member themselves.
 - b. A WCO member (excluding corporate members) may sponsor one scholarship applicant per year who does not meet the above criteria. To be considered for a scholarship, the application must include a direct correspondence to the scholarship committee from the WCO sponsoring member indicating they are sponsoring the candidate.
 - c. An application from a family member of an employee must supply a letter or e-mail from the WCO member to confirm employment with the WCO member.
 - d. Applications would also be considered if the applicant was directly related (son or daughter) to a deceased WCO member. Deceased member must have been a regular member within the last two years of their death for the application to be considered.
 - e. Applicants who are planning to further their education at either a university or technical school are eligible.

5. Application process: Applicants must complete the Scholarship Application form that is found on the WCO website (wiscustomoperators.org). Applications may be mailed as a hardcopy to PO Box 567, DeForest, WI 53532 *or* emailed to info@wiscustomoperators.org.
6. Timing: Applications must be submitted to WCO by May 1st. The WCO Scholarship and Awards Committee will be comprised of at least three board members. The committee as a whole will review applicants in June and contact the scholarship recipients in July.
7. Award presentation: The award will be given to the recipients at the annual WCO meeting in January or February.
8. Fund disbursement: Funds will be made available at the end of the fall semester. Winners must provide a transcript to the Chair of the Scholarship and Awards Committee showing that they have attained a 2.5 GPA (on a 4.00 scale) during that semester. WCO will mail a check to the student if this criterion is met.



APPLICATION COVER PAGE

Name _____
Last First MI

Mailing address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Relationship to WCO member or employee of WCO member: _____

An application from a family member of an employee must supply a letter or e-mail from the WCO member to confirm employment with the WCO member.

Sponsoring WCO member (if no family or employee ties to a WCO member):

Requires a letter or e-mail from the WCO member to confirm that they are sponsoring your application.

Post-secondary educational institutions under consideration: _____

Post-secondary areas of study under consideration: _____

The application requires your signature below. Your signature on the application indicates that the information in the application is complete and correct to the best of your knowledge.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

WISCONSIN CUSTOM OPERATORS, INC.
PO BOX 567
DEFOREST WI 53532
wiscustomoperators.org

Applicants must provide the following information to WCO Scholarship and Awards Committee along with the signed application Cover Page.

Scholastic Achievement:

Please provide official documentation concerning your high school grade point average, ACT or SAT exam scores or class rank. If your high school does not provide class rank data, then a letter from appropriate high school official must be provided. These data must be provided by a high school official and sent to WCO directly by that official. The data should be accompanied by a letter from the official on school letterhead.

Academic and Civic Involvement and Leadership:

Provide a chronological list of activities demonstrating your level of involvement and leadership during your high school career. You should include any awards or honors in this section. Please emphasize activities related to production agriculture. Please limit this section of the application to no more than two pages, single spaced.

Essay:

Please write a one-page essay (double-space, 12-point font) to help the selection committee understand your future goals and how your educational plans will help these goals become a reality.