



1ST FARM CREDIT SERVICES.
YOUR FIRST CHOICE

First Choice Agriculture Scholarship Application
APPLICATIONS MUST BE TYPED – DEADLINE IS March 31, 2016

Download this application from www.1stfarmcredit.com

Thank you for applying for the First Choice Agriculture Scholarship offered by 1st Farm Credit Services! This scholarship will assist deserving high school seniors to further their education in an agriculture or rural life-related field of study.

PROGRAM: Provides 24, individual \$1,500 scholarships to students within the 42-county services territory of 1st Farm Credit Services. The scholarship is for graduating high school seniors who have been accepted into an agriculture or agriculture-related curriculum at a university, college or community college and either reside or attend high school within 1st Farm Credit Services' service territory.* Agriculture-related fields include those that would contribute to the quality of rural life for people living in rural areas, or for those who want to return to a rural area to work in any field.

SELECTION CRITERIA: Selection will be based on a combination of academic achievement, community and agricultural youth organization involvement and essays. Applicants will be judged by a panel of independent agribusiness, education, youth and farm organization leaders.

DEADLINE: March 31, 2016 (Must be received by)

APPLICATION INFORMATION: Qualifying students may fill out an application online, or obtain an application online (Word format) or through a local 1st Farm Credit Services office. Online applications are at www.1stfarmcredit.com

Please review the following information for submitting your application:

- To complete the application using e-signatures, collect email address for the student, parent/legal guardian and school official before starting the application. Please be sure to give others ample time to complete the e-signature process and submit by the deadline.
- A school official needs to enter and verify ACT Score, Class Rank, GPA and Graduation date.
- Prepare Involvement List: Describe your involvement in community and agricultural youth organizations and other leadership activities.
- Prepare Goals: Describe your career plans using your studies and talents. What are your long-range career and personal goals? (Maximum of 200 words)
- Prepare Essay: Describe a past innovation, event or a person who you believe has greatly influenced modern day agriculture. Explain why. (Minimum of 250 words and maximum of 500 words).
- Prepare Photo to Attach(a color photo, preferably a head-and-shoulders portrait)
- Student must complete, sign and date
- Parent or Legal Guardian must sign and date
- School official must enter and verify academic information and sign
- If not submitted electronically, the application must be typed. Only signatures and school official information can be hand written.

TO SUBMIT: Applications can be submitted electronically, dropped off at a local branch or mailed. A confirmation email will be sent to all applicants when applications are received.

Electronic process:

Students can apply electronically using a secure service provided by 1st Farm Credit Services. Emails will be sent to the student, parent/legal guardian and school official to complete the process and the subject will be "The Student's First and Last Name's Scholarship Application." Students will be able to save their work and come back and complete the application during the submission process. The service is provided through DocuSign.

Email to:

kblatte@1stfarmcredit.com

Drop off: For the address of the nearest 1st Farm Credit Services office, call (800) 444-FARM or visit www.1stfarmcredit.com.

Mail to:

1st Farm Credit Services Scholarship Program
Attn: First Choice Scholarship
2000 Jacobssen Drive
Normal, Illinois 61761

QUESTIONS: If you have any questions, please contact your local branch or Karen Blatter at (309) 268-0254 or kblatte@1stfarmcredit.com.



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Applicant Information:			
Name:			
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
County of Residence:	Phone Number ()	Email Address:	
Parents' Names:			
High School:			
Name of High School:			
Address:			
City:		State:	Zip:
High School Phone: ()		Graduation Date:	
Future Plans:			
University, College or Community College:			
Course of Study (major):			

Please answer Involvement, Goals and Essay 1 on separate sheets.

INVOLVEMENT:

Please describe your involvement in community and agricultural youth organizations (4-H, FFA) and other leadership activities. (Please provide your involvement in a list format).

GOALS:

Please describe your career plans using your studies and talents. What are your long-range career and personal goals? (Maximum of 200 words)

ESSAY:

Describe a past innovation, event or a person who you believe has greatly influenced modern day agriculture. Explain why. (Minimum of 250 words and maximum of 500 words).

Please remember to attach send a color photo, preferably a head-and-shoulders portrait. Failure to do so will results in a point deduction.

INFORMATION AND PHOTO USE AUTHORIZATION

For valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, the undersigned give 1st Farm Credit Services the absolute and irrevocable right to copyright, use and publish Applicant's photograph; likeness; name; and any information disclosed in Applicant's Agricultural Scholarship Program Application and any subsequent communications related to the Scholarship, except for Applicant's social security number, grade point average or standardized test scores. Such use may include, but is not be limited to: publishing such materials in Farm Credit publications, advertisements, and/or on www.1stfarmcredit.com or a related Farm Credit web site, or providing such materials to publications of general circulation such as newspapers.

As a required part of your application, please write, sign and date your name below, have your parent(s) or legal guardian(s) write, sign, and date, and have a School Official fill out the section below.

_____	_____	_____
Written Name of Applicant	Signature of Applicant	Date
_____	_____	_____
Written Name of Parent/Legal Guardian	Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian	Date

Section must be filled out and signed by a School Official.

Composite ACT Score _____	Cumulative GPA _____ on a scale of _____
Class Rank _____ out of _____ Students	Graduation Date _____

I verify that the above information is correct and accurate according to school transcripts and official information.

_____	_____	_____
Written Name of School Official (Principal or guidance counselor)	Signature of School Official (Principal or guidance counselor)	Date