

Advancement in Agricultural Studies Scholarship

The Student Association of the Geneva Experiment Station (SAGES) is led by graduate students, postdoctoral associates, and research technicians pursuing careers in the agricultural sciences. SAGES exists to promote leadership, to encourage the study of agricultural issues relevant to the State of New York, and to build a stronger relationship between Cornell AgriTech and the surrounding communities. As young scientists, SAGES members believe it is important to foster enthusiasm for agriculture at all levels and to promote awareness of the importance of agriculture in peoples' everyday lives. The Advancement in Agricultural Studies Scholarship was founded in 2009 as a way for SAGES to give back to the communities that have contributed so much to the lives and education of students at Cornell AgriTech.

SAGES will award up to two “**Advancement in Agricultural Studies**” scholarships of at least \$500. Each scholarship will be awarded to a qualified graduating senior from an area high school who intends to pursue an advanced degree (Associate's or Bachelor's) in agriculture. For the purpose of this award, “agriculture” is defined as the science, art, or practice of cultivating the soil, producing crops, raising livestock, and in varying degrees the preparation and marketing of resulting products.

The scholarship committee will accept applications from graduating seniors who are residents of or attend high school in the following eligible counties: **Ontario, Yates, Seneca, Tompkins, Cayuga, Schuyler, and Wayne**. Successful applicants must intend to enroll in a 2- or 4-year degree program in one of the agricultural sciences, including but not limited to: food science, entomology, plant science, natural resources, animal science, agronomy, horticulture, dairy science, pre-veterinarian (livestock), agricultural engineering, agricultural economics, agricultural communications, agricultural education, or agricultural marketing. Applications will be evaluated for the following criteria: academic achievement, leadership experience, and the application essay demonstrating interest in agricultural sciences.

Applications are due by April 15, 2025. Winner(s) will be notified by the end of May. Recipient(s) will also need to show proof of enrollment in a degree program.

Scholarship Checklist:

- ☐ Official High School Transcript
- ☐ Application Questionnaire
- ☐ Personal Essay
- ☐ Letter of Recommendation
- ☐ Proof of Enrollment
- ☐ Signature on all pages of the application

Please send all completed application materials by mail or email (**PDF file type only**) to:

SAGES Scholarship Committee
c/o Riley Harding
Cornell University
School of Integrative Plant Science
Plant Pathology & Plant Microbe Biology
15 Castle Creek Dr.
Geneva, NY 14456
Email: rsh263@cornell.edu

Application for the Advancement in Agricultural Studies Scholarship sponsored by:

The Student Association of the Geneva Experiment Station

Please type or print in blue/black ink

APPLICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Address: _____

High School: _____ Email: _____

How did you hear about this scholarship? _____

Circle the specific area(s) of agriculture in which you intend to pursue an advanced degree:

Food Science	Entomology	Plant Science
Dairy or Meat Science	Pre-veterinarian (Livestock)	Agricultural Communications
Agricultural Engineering	Animal Science	Horticulture
Agricultural Marketing	Agricultural Education	Agronomy
Agricultural Economics	Agricultural Science	Other: _____

List (in order of your preference) the colleges and/or universities to which you have applied, and indicate whether or not you have been accepted at each school.

College and/ or University	Accepted?
1. _____	_____
2. _____	_____
3. _____	_____
4. _____	_____

Please list extracurricular activities (work, sports, music, clubs) in which you have participated while in high school. Note any leadership or other special responsibilities (use up to one extra sheet if needed):

Signature: _____

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HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT

Please include your official high school transcript with your application. Transcripts may be mailed to the following address or scanned as a PDF and included with your electronic application:

SAGES Scholarship Committee
c/o Riley Harding
Cornell University
School of Integrative Plant Science
Plant Pathology & Plant Microbe Biology
15 Castle Creek Dr.
Geneva, NY 14456
Email: rsh263@cornell.edu

LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION

Please include one letter of recommendation from a person that can comment on your academic performance and/ or extracurricular activities in high school. The name, address, phone number, and relationship of the recommender to the applicant must be included in the recommendation. The letter of recommendation may be submitted via mail or emailed as a PDF directly from the recommender to the SAGES scholarship committee.

PERSONAL ESSAY

Write an essay on the following bullet points. Essays should be one page or less in length, typed in at least an 11 point font size, and margins should be at least 1". Double or single space is acceptable. If submitting your application electronically, use the PDF file format. **Include your name and signature on all pages of this application:**

- *Describe your interest in studying agriculture*
- *Describe the specific aspect of agriculture you want to study*
- *Explain why you chose that area of study*

The essay is **especially important** to the success of your application, so please be thoughtful in your response. You are encouraged to have someone review and proofread your essay before submission.

PROOF OF ENROLLMENT

Provide proof of enrollment in a qualifying 2- or 4-year degree program. This document typically can be obtained from your future institution's registrar, and contains your Name, Degree Program, Start/End Dates of the Semester, Enrollment Status, and Course Credit Load. An acceptance letter is not proof of enrollment unless you also provide proof that you have accepted the offer.

Signature: _____