



DeSoto County  
SOIL & WATER  
CONSERVATION  
DISTRICT

PRESS RELEASE  
For Immediate Release  
May 9, 2024

## DeSoto County Soil and Water Conservation District announces call for annual scholarship applications!!

DeSoto County Soil and Water Conservation District, a member of the Mississippi Association of Conservation Districts (MACD), announces its annual call for applications for six scholarships to be awarded in January 2025.

First place: \$10,000. Second place: \$10,000. Third place: \$10,000. Fourth place: \$10,000. Fifth place: \$10,000 and sixth place \$10,000.

These scholarship awards are open to any college sophomore, junior, senior, or graduate student enrolled in a college or university in the state of Mississippi.

• Applications will be evaluated based on student's grade point average, activities and leadership qualities, financial need and supporting materials. The Scholarship is open to students pursuing a Natural Resources field of study which includes but is not limited to: Agribusiness, Agricultural Engineering Technology and Business, Agriculture Information Science and Education, Agricultural Pest Management, Agricultural Science, Agronomy, Animal and Dairy Sciences, Agricultural Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Biological Engineering, Food Science and Technology, Forestry, Human Sciences, Horticulture, Landscape Architecture, Landscape Contracting and Management, and Poultry Science.

MACD is a non-profit organization made up of the state's 82 Soil and Water Conservation Districts who promote the conservation of Mississippi's natural resources through education and outreach. The deadline for submitting applications is **October 1, 2024**.

To obtain an application, information, or specific evaluation criteria, contact Meleiah Tyus with DeSoto County Soil and Water Conservation District Office via email to [desotcountyswcd@gmail.com](mailto:desotcountyswcd@gmail.com) or via phone at 662-912-4152.

Complete scholarship applications must be mailed to: Telephone: 601-354-7645, Fax: 601-354-6628

MACD ENDOWMENT FUND  
ATTN: SCHOLARSHIPS  
P.O. BOX 23005  
JACKSON, MS 39225-3005



## Mississippi Association of Conservation Districts, Inc.

P. O. Box 23005, Jackson, Mississippi 39225-3005

Phone: 601-354-7645 • Fax: 601-354-6628

### The MACD ENDOWMENT FUND 2024 SCHOLARSHIP CRITERIA:

*The Scholarship deadline is October 1, 2024*

- Mississippi sophomores, juniors, seniors and graduate students currently enrolled in college may apply.
- The scholarship may be used at a two-year junior college or a four-year college in Mississippi.
- A student can defer the scholarship to be used at a later date. **The scholarship funds must be claimed within eight years of the applicant's high school graduation date.**

### SCHOLARSHIPS

1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place	5th Place	6th Place
\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00	\$10,000.00

The 6th Place Scholarship will go to a family member of MSWCC, MACD, NRCS, Soil and Water Conservation Districts and Commissioners if eligible.

- The scholarship funds will be sent directly to the college.
- A student may only receive the scholarship once.
- The Scholarship is open to students pursuing a Natural Resources field of study which includes but is not limited to: Agribusiness, Agricultural Engineering Technology and Business, Agriculture Information Science and Education, Agricultural Pest Management, Agricultural Science, Agronomy, Animal and Dairy Sciences, Agricultural Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Biological Engineering, Food Science and Technology, Forestry, Human Sciences, Horticulture, Landscape Architecture, Landscape Contracting and Management, and Poultry Science.
- A Point system will be used to determine the winners. (See attached sheet.) All requested information **MUST** be attached to the application. We do not always receive reference letters and transcripts when sent separately from the application.

Nick Elmore, MACD President



# MISSISSIPPI ASSOCIATION OF CONSERVATION DISTRICTS ENDOWMENT FUND SCHOLARSHIP 2024 APPLICATION

Date \_\_\_\_\_

1. Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Middle

2. *Permanent address and telephone number:* County \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

Address at school \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

3. *Name and address of parents or guardians:*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Street City State Zip Code

4. Occupation of parent or guardian \_\_\_\_\_

5. Applicant's date of birth \_\_\_\_\_

6. Applicant's place of birth \_\_\_\_\_

7. Is applicant married? [ ] Yes [ ] No

8. If married, give spouse's name \_\_\_\_\_

9. List names and ages of any dependent children \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

10. Do you receive any other scholarships at the present time? [ ] Yes [ ] No  
If so please list with Amount received.

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_
- 3. \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_

11. What percentage of your funds for college has come from parents? \_\_\_\_\_%,  
summer or part-time work \_\_\_\_\_%, loans \_\_\_\_\_%, scholarships \_\_\_\_\_%, other \_\_\_\_\_%?



18. List credit courses completed during your previous years of college that provide background to the understanding of natural resources:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

19. List positions of leadership that you have held or now hold (4-H, FFA, student organizations, church activities, civic organizations, other).

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

20. Attach a **one-page letter** outlining your background, attitudes toward conservation, objectives of your educational program, career plans, work Experience, and financial need.

21. References: Please attach three letters of recommendation to this application. We suggest you use your college or university advisor and two others of your own choosing.

22. Attach most recently available transcript (copy).

23. Student ID Number of applicant \_\_\_\_\_

24. Student Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

25. Signature of applicant \_\_\_\_\_

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PLEASE MAIL ONE COPY OF THE APPLICATION, WITH ALL SUPPORTING MATERIALS ATTACHED, BY OCTOBER 1, 2024, TO:

MACD ENDOWMENT FUND  
ATTN: SCHOLARSHIPS  
P.O. BOX 23005  
JACKSON, MS 39225-3005

**\*\* NOTE: Scholarship funds will not be available before January 30, 2025.**

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

## MACD ENDOWMENT FUND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION EVALUATION CRITERIA

\_\_\_\_\_ Grade Point Average. "A" equal to 4.00, "B" equal to 3.00, "C" equal to 2.00

4.0 – 3.75	15 points
3.74 – 3.50	13 points
3.49 – 3.25	11 points
3.24 – 3.00	9 points
2.99 – 2.75	7 points
2.74 – 2.50	5 points
2.49 – 2.25	3 points
2.24 – 2.00	1 point

\_\_\_\_\_ Financial need. After examining the student's financial need, please assign a point for the financial need.

Great need	20 points
	15 points
	10 points
	5 points
No great need	0 points

\_\_\_\_\_ Up to 20 points for a Natural Resource Field of study (Agriculture, Natural Resources or related field)

\_\_\_\_\_ Extracurricular activities and leadership qualities. After examining the student's extracurricular activities, please assign a point for their involvement.

Extremely involved	11-15 points
Little involvement	6-10 points
No involvement	0-5 points

\_\_\_\_\_ Letter from applicant outlining background, attitudes toward conservation, objectives of educational program, career plans and financial need. 0-25 points will be given.

\_\_\_\_\_ Completeness and accuracy of the application. 0-5 points will be given for a complete and accurate application.