



CONNECTICUT

RESOURCE CONSERVATION & DEVELOPMENT

2025 Scholarship Program

Guidelines

The Connecticut Resource Conservation & Development Area, Inc. (CT RC&D) is a 501(c)(3) statewide charitable organization with the mission to cultivate a diverse, equitable, and resilient Connecticut through partnership-driven solutions to enhance natural resource conservation, agriculture, and rural economies. This serves as the announcement of the CT RC&D Scholarship Award Program for 2025. Under this program, two (2) \$750 scholarships will be awarded to graduating high school seniors, students attending a post-secondary technical school, or a college or university in Connecticut. Children of CT RC&D employees or Council members are not eligible to apply.

Available Scholarships

(1) Norma O'Leary Agriculture Scholarship - \$750 for a student pursuing a post-secondary technical or college career in agriculture.

(1) Linda B. Krause Conservation Scholarship - \$750 for a student pursuing a post-secondary technical school or college career in conservation.

Program Guidelines & Priorities

- Eligible students include graduating high school seniors pursuing a career in agriculture or conservation and technical or college students currently matriculated in a conservation or agriculture degree program in Connecticut. Applicants who are graduating high school seniors should demonstrate participation in after school activities related to agriculture or conservation.
- Applicants must have a minimum GPA of 2.5, a total family annual income under \$200,000, and plan to pursue a 2- or 4- year agriculture or conservation program at a post-secondary technical school, college, or university in Connecticut.
- Applicants who are graduating high school seniors must have the endorsement of their Guidance Counselor on their application attesting they meet the eligibility requirements for this scholarship program.

Application Instructions

Each application package must include: CT RC&D Scholarship Application Form, a <500 words essay written by the applicant, a Guidance Counselor signature (for graduating high school seniors only), and their school transcript showing GPA. **Email one copy of a completed application package to jlahey@ctrkd.org by the application deadline. The application deadline is Friday, May 16, 2025 by midnight. Late applications will not be accepted.**

Application Review & Selection

Each complete application will be reviewed and recipients selected by a committee consisting of CT RC&D Council Members. The scholarships will be awarded at the CT RC&D Annual Meeting, date TBD, to which we invite recipients to attend.

Applications may be downloaded from the CT RC&D website at <https://ctrkd.org/about-us/scholarships-awards/>. Please submit any questions to: jlahey@ctrkd.org.

CT RC&D 2025 Scholarship Program Application Form

Please complete the following information and, if not typed, make certain your answers are legible.

Applicant Information				
Last Name:	First Name:			
Mailing Address Street:				
City:	State:	Zip:		
Email Address:	Phone Number:			
Is your parent or legal guardian CT RC&D an employee or Council member? <i>(Circle or Check Yes or No)</i>			Yes	No
Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA): _____ (Based on a 4.0 scale) <i>You are required to provide your most recent school transcript as proof of GPA.</i>				
Are you currently enrolled in a post-secondary school? <i>(Circle or Check Yes or No)</i>			Yes	No
Are you, or will you be, the first person in your family to go to college? <i>(Circle or Check Yes or No)</i>			Yes	No
Please provide the name and location of the school you are currently attending. <i>For applicants who are graduating high school seniors, please also provide the name and location of the post-secondary technical school or the college or university you will be attending. If you have not made a selection yet, please list your top three choices for post-secondary schools.</i>				
Current School Name and Location:				
Secondary School(s):				
Parent/Legal Guardian and Household Information				
Last Name:	First Name:			
Mailing Address (If different from above):				
Email:	Phone Number:			
Please provide household Gross Annual Income for 2024. <i>If selected, recipients <u>may</u> be asked to verify household Gross Annual Income is under \$200,000 by supplying Page 1 of their 2020 IRS Income Tax Form.</i>			\$	

ACTIVITIES: Please list the requested information within the space provided.

List any academic honors or awards you have received, any participation with scholastic groups, or any school-related memberships.

List any volunteer or community service activities.

List any involvement with extracurricular groups/teams.

ESSAY

In a separate document, please submit an essay (<500 words) responding to the prompt below.

What motivated you to pursue a career in agriculture or conservation? Discuss in your essay any challenges or obstacles you have dealt with, what you learned, and how that lesson will help you succeed in school and beyond.

APPLICANT STATEMENT OF ACCURACY

By signing below, I hereby affirm that all the above stated information provided by me is true and correct to the best of my knowledge. I also affirm that I understand that incomplete applications or applications that do not meet eligibility requirements will not be considered for the CT RC&D Scholarship Program.

Please Check One of the Following Statements

_____ If selected as a scholarship winner, I consent to my picture being taken and used to promote CT RC&D's scholarship program.

_____ If selected as a scholarship winner, I DO NOT consent to my picture being taken and used to promote CT RC&D's scholarship program.

Signature of Applicant: _____ **Date:** _____

STATEMENT OF SUPPORT FROM GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

By signing below, I hereby affirm that this application meets the criteria set forth by this scholarship program and that I support this application.

Name:

High School:

Contact Information (email and phone):

Signature:

Date:

APPLICATION CHECKLIST FOR APPLICANT

- Application Form
- Essay
- School Transcript
- Guidance Counselor Signature (for graduating high school senior applicants only)