



2026 Scholarship Process

Scholarship applicants must be involved in some aspect of seed production, technology, or science, without regard to the intended area of study. Three separate awards may be available. Each applicant will be eligible to receive only one award. The task of determining award recipients will be assigned to the Oregon Seed Council Scholarship Committee (OSCSC).

Finalists will be selected by the OSCSC and interviewed by the committee prior to May 1.

Oregon Seed Council Scholarship Selection Criteria

1. Selection preference will be given to applicants who:
 - a. Come from a farm background with a specific participation in seed production, technology, or science.
 - b. Have been employed by a farm which has an emphasis on seed production.
 - c. Have been employed by a business that has an active seed dealer license under ORS 633.
 - d. Will be enrolled in at least the first year of college; having at least one year remaining towards a degree at the time the scholarship is received.
***Seniors will be considered if they plan to pursue a graduate degree.*
2. Applicants must be legal residents of the United States, permanent residents of Oregon, and have or will graduate from an Oregon high school or equivalent.
3. Applications for scholarship must include responses to a questionnaire, an original essay of less than 500 words describing why the student deserves the scholarship, and three letters of reference.
4. Prior years' scholarship recipients are eligible to receive an award. Application from a prior winner must include information on progress toward degree.
5. Previous applicants are asked to provide updated information to ensure our evaluation is based on the most current achievements and circumstances. This includes letters of reference, activities, and essays within this application.

Application Selection

The selection of the scholarship recipients will be the responsibility of the OSCSC. The committee will consider only applicants who meet the above criteria and who have submitted a completed application using the current year's application form, prior to March 1. Oregon Seed Council executive staff will determine if applications meet the required criteria and set the time and location for the interviews.



If an applicant is selected for an interview, the applicant will be required to submit appropriate award paperwork prior to the scheduled interview date to be interviewed by the committee.

OSCSC will score applications using a subjective scoring matrix and reserve the right to limit the number of applicants to interview based on scored applications.

Scholarship Amount

The scholarship awards will be determined annually by the OSCSC and will be based on available funds as set by the Oregon Seed Council Board of Directors. Awards will be made on an annual basis providing deserving candidate(s) are identified by the committee. In the event no suitable candidates are identified in a given year, no award will be made that year. The scholarship(s) shall be presented to the recipient(s) through their post-secondary schools after the OSCSC has made a final determination.

Scholarship Eligibility Restrictions

Family members of OSCSC members are not eligible to receive an award. Committee members' families are encouraged to apply, but will not be eligible for an award if the committee member remains on the committee for the selection process.

Family members of OSC staff, staff of the Oregon seed commissions, or other seed trade association's staff are not eligible to win an award.

Family members are defined as children or step-children, grandchildren or step-grandchildren, and siblings or step-siblings.