



Conservation Districts of Iowa
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Informing, educating & guiding Iowans to conserve natural resources through our local Soil & Water Conservation Districts

Conservation Scholarship Application — Class of 2026

A. Instructions

1. **Complete this form** by typing or neatly handwriting your responses in the spaces provided below.
2. **Answer the nine (9) application questions** on separate pages.
 - Your responses must not exceed **four (4) single-sided, single-spaced pages**, using a **minimum 12-point Times New Roman font** and **1-inch margins**.
3. **Attach an official school transcript** that includes your attendance record, GPA, and current class rank.
 - If your school does not provide this information, please have a school official include a note on school letterhead stating that the information is unavailable.
4. **Attach your ACT, SAT, or other standardized test scores (optional).**
5. **Include one (1) letter of recommendation** from a teacher, school official, or employer.
 - Please do not submit more than one letter.
6. **Submit your completed application** and all required attachments to the **Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD)** office in the county where you reside **no later than Friday, February 6, 2026**.
 - To find your county SWCD office, visit the [USDA Service Center Locator](#) and select your county on the map.

B. Applicant Information

First Name _____ Last Name _____

County _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Date of Birth _____ Phone _____

Email _____

Parent or Guardian Name _____

Phone _____

Planned Graduation Date: _____

GPA* _____ / _____

Class Rank* _____ / _____

Attendance Record* _____

ACT, SAT, or Other Test Score* _____

*Please include documentation supporting GPA, class rank, attendance record, and standardized test scores. ACT/SAT scores optional.

C. Application Questions

Please answer the following questions on separate pages, adhering to the formatting requirements listed above.

1. List the **name, location, and dates of attendance** for all high schools you have attended.
2. List your **school extracurricular activities** and indicate any **leadership roles** you held.
3. List your **community and volunteer activities** during high school and note any **leadership roles**.
4. Describe your **career goals**. Have you identified more than one? Are they compatible? How long have you been considering this career?
 - *Only students pursuing careers in conservation or agriculture are eligible. Preference will be given to those pursuing conservation careers.*
5. What has influenced you most in choosing your potential career?
6. List your **part-time and/or summer jobs**, including the position held, employer, and location. Explain how these experiences have helped shape your career goals.
7. What are your **personal and professional goals** after completing your formal education? Please elaborate.
8. Why should you be considered for this scholarship?
9. **Essay: What does soil and water conservation mean to you?** (400–600 words) – note: **Essays determined to have been written using artificial intelligence software will be disqualified.**

D. Questions?

For assistance, please contact: Conservation Districts of Iowa (CDI)

Email: admin@cdiowa.org Phone: (515) 289-8300