



2022 Scholarship Program Applicant /Student Instruction Sheet

Purpose:

The Appalachian Habitat Association (AHA) is offering five scholarships that will be awarded this spring to students who are currently or are planning to pursue an education that will lead to a two-year or higher degree in a course of study associated with Forestry, Wildlife Management, Wildlife Biology, Habitat Management, Conservation Resources, Conservation Criminal Justice or a similar field associated with improving wildlife habitat and/or protecting wildlife.

The AHA will accept applications from 2022 graduating high school seniors and post-secondary students currently enrolled in programs at Dabney S. Lancaster Community College or Va. Tech or an institution with an accredited program as identified above.

To Be Eligible:

- Students must be from the Counties of Alleghany, Augusta, Botetourt, Bath, Craig, Highland, and Rockbridge, and the Cities of Buena Vista, Covington, Lexington, Staunton, and Waynesboro.
- Students must have a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale.
- Students must support the preservation of the hunting tradition.
- Students must demonstrate ability as a leader among their peers.
- Students must submit an essay exhibiting dedication to wildlife conservation (see application).
- Students must submit with their completed application three letters of recommendation from a teacher, counselor, or community leader and official school transcripts.

**Applicants must submit applications to the
Scholarship Committee no later than May 31, 2022.**

Employees and Board Members of the AHA and their family members are not eligible to participate in the program.

Scholarship Award Levels:

Scholarships in the amounts of \$5,000, \$4,000, \$3,000, \$2,000 and \$1,000 will be awarded to the top five applicants, respectively.

Selection Process:

The selection process is detailed below. Scholarship Committee decisions are final. If you, your counselor, or a reference have questions *prior to* submitting your application please email us at: info@appalachianhabitat.org.

Applications May Be Completed and Submitted Online

**Please include the name of the applicant in the subject line of all online communications
Applications must be received online no later than May 31, 2022.**

Submit the application (signed electronically) to: info@appalachianhabitat.org

**Transcripts may be submitted online *by the institution* to: info@appalachianhabitat.org
Transcripts submitted online by the student will not be accepted as valid.**

**Letters of recommendation may be submitted online by the individual writing the letter.
info@appalachianhabitat.org. Letters emailed by the applicant will be ineligible.**

Please submit photos online to: info@appalachianhabitat.org

OR

You may also submit your signed and completed application, sealed transcripts, and signed letters of recommendation postmarked no later than May 31, 2022, to:

**AHA Scholarship Committee
489 Back Creek Lane
Buchanan, VA 24066**

Disbursement of Funds:

Students may use their scholarship at any accredited institution of higher education; this includes Community College, Technical College, College, or University.

The AHA will work with the student and the college financial aid officers in determining the payee when the check is issued. This will ensure the greater benefit to the recipient and avoid violation of eligibility requirements.



Appalachian Habitat Association 2022 Scholarship Program Application

The Appalachian Habitat Association's (AHA) mission is to establish, maintain and promote the science-based management of wildlife habitat for the benefit of Game and non-Game species by raising funds for on-the-ground work on public lands; by supporting wildlife habitat education and research, and by encouraging wildlife habitat improvement on private lands.

Scholarship Application Instructions

1. Read the application information carefully to determine your eligibility before completing the application. This application can be completed online then must be emailed. Please save your completed application as a (.doc.) or (.docx.) file.

A) When submitting the application by email send the application as an attachment to: info@appalachianhabitat.org. Subject Line: 2022 Scholarship Application.

B) Or send a hard copy of the application by mail to: **AHA Scholarship Committee, 489 Back Creek Lane, Buchanan, VA 24066.**

2. If submitting online the Candidate must sign the application electronically. Hardcopy applications must be signed in ink.

3. A complete application (this includes the online photo submission) transcripts, and letters of recommendation) must be either postmarked no later than or received online no later than **May 31, 2022. Incomplete or late applications will not be considered.**

Part I: Applicant Information

Today's Date: _____

Applicant Name: _____

Permanent Address (Can Be Parents): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Mobile #: _____ Email Address: _____

PART II: School Information

If you are applying as a 2022 graduating High School student please provide:

High School: _____ **Graduation Date:** _____

Have you been accepted by an accredited institute of higher education such as a Community College, Technical College, College, or University?

Yes

No

If so, what institute of higher learning will you be attending?

If you are applying as a current student of an accredited institution of higher education including a community college, technical college, college, or university. What institution are you attending?

Name of Institution or College: _____

Major Study Area: _____ **Anticipated Year of Graduation** _____

Degree or Certification Sought: _____

Career goal upon graduation: _____

PART III: Essay

Please write a brief essay describing your commitment to conservation and improving wildlife habitat. Your essay must be typewritten, double-spaced, should not exceed 500 words, and must include:

- Why you will be a good investment if you are awarded this conservation scholarship.
- Any experiences and background that demonstrate your dedication to conservation and the preservation of our hunting heritage.
- Why hunting and conservation are important to you and your family.

Please tell us how you learned about the AHA Scholarship Program?

PART IV: Extracurricular Activities (*Attach additional sheets if necessary*)

List membership in school-related organizations (i.e., Honor Society, FFA, Beta Club, Science Club, Ecology Club, Student Council, etc.):

List elected leadership positions held in high school, college, or organizations:

List any activity that demonstrates community leadership and /or involvement (i.e., Scouts, 4-H, civic group or club, volunteer work, etc.):

List any awards received for school or community involvement:

List job experience (i.e., after school, summer, etc.):

PART V: Letters of Reference

Your application MUST include three letters of reference from teachers, counselors, community leaders, clergy, etc., (Do not include relatives). Letters may be returned by email to: info@appalachianhabitat.org by the individual providing the reference. If the applicant is submitting the letters by mail the letters must be signed by the reference and sealed. Unsigned letters will not be considered valid.

Letters of Reference Will be Provided By:

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

Name: _____ Relationship: _____

PART VI: Signature of Applicant:

By signing this form, I hereby grant the Appalachian Habitat Association (AHA) the unconditional right to use my name, photograph, and essay in connection with press releases and /or publications. I also certify that I have read and met the eligibility requirements for the AHA scholarship. By typing my name on the signature line and including the date, I certify that I have complied with the requirements as set forth in this application."

Signature of Applicant

Date

Typed/Printed Name: _____

Part VII: To Be Completed by Counselor or Advisor:

Transcripts may be submitted *by the institution* to: info@appalachianhabitat.org.

Please reference the student's name in the subject line.

Transcripts submitted online by the student will not be accepted as valid.

Sealed, official transcripts may be mailed to:
AHA Scholarship Committee
489 Back Creek Lane
Buchanan, VA 24066



Before Submitting This Application Double-Check to Confirm

This form is for your reference. It does not need to be returned.

- I have read the **Applicant/School Information Sheet**
- I have completed the **Applicant Information**
- I have completed the **School Information** section and acquired the signature of my guidance counselor or advisor
- I have submitted my **Essay**
- I have submitted the **Extra-Curricular Activities**
- I have requested **Three Letters of Reference**
- I have requested **Official, Sealed Transcripts**
- I have submitted a **Headshot** of myself suitable for publication
- I have **Signed My Application** (either electronically or hard copy)

All applications must be complete and received online (and or postmarked) by May 31, 2022, to be eligible for consideration. Late or incomplete applications will be ineligible for consideration.

The AHA Scholarship committee thanks you for applying for scholarship funds for your continuing education. We wish you the best of luck. If you or your Counselor/Advisor have any questions regarding this application please send those questions to: info@appalachianhabitat.org.