**The Master Gardeners of Central Georgia**

**2024 Academic Scholarship**

**(Continuing Education – College Sophomore)**

**The Master Gardeners of Central Georgia Academic Scholarship (Continuing Education – College Sophomore)** recognizes a rising college sophomore who has maintained an outstanding scholastic record during his/her freshman year, while participating in school and community activities. The 2024 scholarship is a one-time award of $1000.

**ELIGIBILITY:**

1. An applicant must be a legal resident of the state of Georgia from one of the following counties: Bibb, Crawford, Houston, Jones, Monroe, Peach, or Twiggs.
2. An applicant must be a rising sophomore currently attending an accredited post-secondary institution of higher learning (university, college, technical college, etc.) **located within the United States**. An applicant must also be enrolled as a full-time sophomore during the 2024-2025 Academic Year.
3. Although not a requirement, preference will be given to an applicant whose freshman year transcript shows a course of study that is consistent with a proposed major in a field of interest to Master Gardeners: agriculture, biology, botany, ecology, environmental science, horticulture, landscape architecture or design, or related fields.
4. An applicant who possesses any full scholarship that includes tuition, fees, room and board, etc. is ineligible for this scholarship.

**PROCEDURE:**

A selection panel composed of members of the Master Gardeners of Central Georgia determines the award recipient based on **scholastic achievement** [grade point average (GPA) based on 4.0 scale and academic honors], **involvement in school activities** (student government, tutoring, mentoring, clubs, etc), and **involvement in the community** (volunteer activities, service organizations, church, etc). Applicants must also complete a short personal statement outlining their educational goals. The scholarship recipient will be announced no later than May 10, 2024.

An applicant must provide **all** of the following:

1. Completed Part A of the application, signed in the appropriate places.
2. Copy of a current valid photo ID confirming legal residence within the state of Georgia and in one of the counties specified under “Eligibility (1)” above.
3. An official transcript (with raised seal and in a sealed envelope with school official’s signature across the flap) from the post-secondary institution currently attending.
4. A typed listing of the following accomplishments and activities engaged in while pursuing post-secondary education, divided and titled by category:
   1. Scholastic achievement (GPA based on 4.0 scale; any academic honors or distinction, including academic honor societies);
   2. Involvement in school (student government, tutoring, mentoring, clubs, etc);
   3. Involvement in community (volunteer activities, service organizations, etc).
5. A one-page letter of recommendation from a current or recent professor or instructor that discusses the quality of your work, your level of maturity and interpersonal skills, and your potential for success in your intended field of study. The letter must be signed and include the printed name, position, and current contact information of the writer. The writer must place the letter in an envelope, seal it and sign again across the seal before returning it to the applicant for inclusion in the application packet.
6. A typed personal statement of no more than 500 words outlining your continuing educational and career goals, including any “lessons learned” from your first year of post-secondary education.

The entire application (Items 1-6 above) must be mailed in a single envelope, **and received no later than April 19, 2024**, to the following address:

**UGA Cooperative Extension, Houston County**

**MGCG Scholarship Committee (Continuing Education—College Sophomore)**

**2030 Kings Chapel Road**

**Perry, GA 31069**

**Note:** The scholarship recipient will be announced no later than **May 10, 2024**. The award **must** be used within the **2024–2025 academic year** for educational expenses billed by the institution (tuition, fees, on-campus room and board, etc). **The award money is mailed directly to the recipient's school upon written verification of the recipient’s full-time status**. It is the award recipient’s responsibility to ensure that the scholarship committee receives this verification **postmarked no later than October 1, 2024** before any money is paid. Failure to do so will result in forfeiture of the award.

Please email any questions to scholarships@mgcg.org. Place “CE-CS Scholarship” in the subject line.

**THE MASTER GARDENERS OF CENTRAL GEORGIA**

**2024 ACADEMIC SCHOLARSHIP (CONTINUING EDUCATION - SOPHOMORE)**

**PART A:**

Please print or type all information.

**Applicant Information:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Best Contact Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

County of Residence: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Post-Secondary Institution Attending: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Intended Major(s): \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Degree Pursuing: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Expected Graduation Year: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

It is understood that this scholarship is based on **scholastic achievement, involvement in school and involvement in the community,** as well as the additional criteria listed under “Eligibility.” During the academic year 2023-2024, the applicant must be a full-time sophomore at an accredited post-secondary institution of higher learning (university, college, or technical college) located in the United States. All information contained in this application and all supporting documents are truthful and accurate. Any willful misrepresentation or falsification of facts will make the applicant ineligible to receive any Master Gardeners of Central Georgia scholarship in this or any subsequent year.

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Applicant’s Signature Date

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Parent’s/Legal Guardian’s Signature Date

(**Only if applicant is under 18 years of age**)