

2024 EDGE OF APPALACHIA – ADAMS COUNTY FUND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Deadline for Primary Consideration – December 12, 2024

The **Edge of Appalachia – Adams County Fund** was established with funding from The Nature Conservancy to provide annual funding to support Adams County residents and organizations to make sure Adams County is an even better place to call home.

The Fund supports scholarships for students seeking degrees in ecology, forestry, wildlife ecology, or related natural resource fields; trade, vocational and technical training in fields that contribute to energy efficiency, agriculture, and land stewardship; and programs that foster diversity, equity, justice, and inclusion (for example, Appalachian Studies or Women's Studies).

Up to \$25,000 may be awarded in scholarships. Applicants and recipients are invited to reapply as long as they continue to meet eligibility criteria.

Eligibility Requirements & Criteria

- Must be a resident of Adams County
- Must be a graduating high school senior or currently enrolled in accredited undergraduate, trade, vocational or technical training programs. Students enrolled in graduate programs are not eligible to apply.
- Must be pursuing degrees in one of the following:
 - Ecology, forestry, wildlife ecology, or related natural resource fields.
 - Trade, vocational, or technical programs in fields that contribute to energy efficiency, agriculture, or land stewardship; or
 - Programs that foster diversity, equity, justice, and inclusion, such as, but not limited to, Appalachian Studies or Women's Studies.

Please answer all applicable questions. You are responsible for ensuring all supporting documents are submitted. **This application becomes valid for consideration only when all the following have been received by FAO:**

- _____ **1. Complete and sign the Application Form** (pages 3-5).
- _____ **2. Distribute Letters of Recommendation** (pages 6 & 7) – Two letter of recommendation forms are attached to give to individuals who can attest to the applicant's academic achievements, character, and dedication to environmental stewardship and diversity, equity, and inclusion. These letters can come from teachers, employers, or community members that can provide an independent and unbiased assessment of the applicant. Give the forms to appraisers as soon as possible and determine how they prefer to submit the forms. You may attach them with your application, or the appraisers may email/mail them separately to FAO (see below).
- _____ **3. Attach Transcript** – Students must submit a school transcript (official or unofficial).

_____ 5. **Attach written responses to essay prompts.**

_____ 7. **Add scholarships@ffao.org to your email safe senders list** to ensure you receive all communications and award notification emails from FAO.

Process: Applications will be reviewed by the Edge of Appalachia – Adams County Fund committee comprised of Adams County residents which will make funding recommendations according to the scoring criteria shared in the application eligibility. Award recipients will be required to show proof of enrollment. All awards are made payable directly to the institution of enrollment on the recipient's behalf for the purposes and expenses associated with tuition, fees, books, supplies and equipment required (by all in the class) for coursework.

Notification of Awards: FAO will contact scholarship award recipients (only) by January 30, using the email address provided on the application. **Please use a personal email address (not a high school email)** and be sure to check all email folders, including junk/spam folders, for correspondence from FAO.

Please submit application and supplemental information through one of the following methods:

Option 1: Email to Scholarships@ffao.org and write "Edge of Appalachia-Adams County Fund Scholarship and STUDENT NAME" in subject line of the email. ****All application materials (listed above) should be scanned into one single-sided PDF attachment** (unless appraiser prefers to send separately). You do not need to mail originals. Emailed applications and appraisals must be received **no later than 11:59PM on December 12, 2024 for primary consideration.**

Option 2: Mail to FAO, P.O. Box 456, Nelsonville, OH 45764. **Applications sent by mail must be postmarked no later than December 12, 2024 for primary consideration. **PLEASE DO NOT USE STAPLES ON DOCUMENTS OR PRINT 2-SIDED PAGES****



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APPLICANT INFORMATION

County of Residence: ADAMS COUNTY

Name: _____
First Middle Initial Last

Date of Birth: _____ Gender _____ SAI (Student Aid Index): \$ _____
(Attach SAI page from FAFSA Submission Summary, if available)

Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Personal Email*: _____ Phone: _____
*(*FAO will use this email address to communicate with you) (Best number to contact you)*

FAMILY INFORMATION

Parent/Guardian #1 Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Permanent mailing address and phone number of parent/guardian: (if different from your address)

_____ Street City State Zip Phone

Parent/Guardian #2 Name: _____ Occupation: _____

Permanent mailing address and phone number of parent/guardian: (if different from your address)

_____ Street City State Zip Phone

Names and ages of siblings and any other school-aged dependents in the home:

- 1. _____ 4. _____
- 2. _____ 5. _____
- 3. _____ 6. _____

SCHOOL DATA

High School Attended: _____ Graduation Date: (MM/YY) _____

or High School Equivalent Date: _____ High School County: _____

Post-Secondary Institution(s) for which applicant's scholarship is requested:

Option One:

Name _____

Address _____
City State

Option Two:

Name _____

Address _____
City State

For 2025-2026 school year, indicate post-secondary grade level: 1 2 3 4 5 or Graduate School

Major/Field of Study you plan to pursue: _____

Anticipated graduation date: _____

Estimated Annual Cost: Tuition: \$_____ Room/Board: \$_____ Books/Materials: \$_____

Housing/Enrollment/Status:

I will: Live on Campus Live off Campus Commute

I will be/am enrolled: Less than half-time Half-time or more Full-time

FINANCIAL AID

Please list all awards and amounts, including Grants, Scholarships, and Student Loans already received for the upcoming academic year, and indicate if awards are one-time or renewable:

Please list any pending scholarships, grants, and loans sought for the upcoming academic year:

ESSAYS *(must be attached)*

Please attach a detailed typed response to the following questions. Be sure to address how you meet the criteria for the specific scholarship(s) to which you are applying. Essays should be no more than 500 words.

1. Please describe yourself, including your passion for environmental stewardship, environmental sustainability, and a more just world; how your chosen field of study contributes to these objectives; and how your specific educational plans help achieve these goals.
2. Please describe what receiving a scholarship would mean to you and any personal or family challenges that have affected you, your achievement in school, work experience or participation in volunteer activities.
3. Please describe your community service, extracurricular activities, work, volunteer experience, and any other community engagement, along with any leadership roles, special awards or honors you received.

TRANSCRIPT/TEST INFORMATION

High school students and students who have completed less than one full semester of post-secondary education must submit a high school transcript (official or unofficial) and fill in the following information:

- Cumulative grade point average (GPA): _____ / 4.0 scale
- Class rank _____ in a class of _____

Test Scores: Many post-secondary schools are not requiring ACT or SAT scores for admission or scholarship consideration. Submitting your test scores is optional.

- ACT: STEM _____ English Language Arts _____ Composite Score: _____
(1-36 range)
- SAT: Math _____ Reading/Writing _____ Total Score: _____
(400-1600 scale)

Students currently enrolled in college, community, or trade/vocational/technical school who have completed more than one semester of school **must submit a recent, *unofficial or official transcript.***

Current GPA: _____

Certification: *In submitting this application, I certify the information provided is complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. Falsification of information will result in termination of any scholarship granted.*

Applicant's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

This application is available on FAO's website at www.appalachianohio.org/AdamsCountyFund. Scholarship awards will be for the 2025-2026 academic year.

This application becomes valid only when the following have been received by the Foundation:

- _____ Completed, signed application;
- _____ Personal Essays;
- _____ Current, unofficial or official Transcript of student grades/scores (student name and school name must appear on the transcript); and
- _____ Two (2) completed letters of recommendation, either attached or emailed directly by appraiser.

Please submit application and supplemental information through one of the following methods:

Option 1: Email to Scholarships@ffao.org and write "Edge of Appalachia-Adams County Fund Scholarship and STUDENT NAME" in subject line of the email. ****All application materials (listed above) should be scanned into one single-sided PDF attachment (unless appraiser prefers to send separately). You do not need to mail originals. Emailed applications and appraisals must be received no later than December 12, 2024 for primary consideration.**

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If you have any questions, please call FAO at 740.753.1111 or email scholarships@ffao.org.

Letter of Recommendation #1

This form is to be completed by a high school or college counselor, advisor, clergy person, instructor, employer, job supervisor, etc.



Student Name: _____

Instructions to the Appraiser: You have been asked to provide information in support of the above student's scholarship application. The **due date is December 12, 2024**. Please give immediate and serious attention to the following questions and provide your thoughts and comments regarding the student's specific and unique qualifications. When complete, please return to applicant in advance of the due date, or if you prefer, scan and email it to Scholarships@ffao.org by the due date (**include "STUDENT NAME and APPRAISAL #1" in the email subject line**). Please note: This appraisal is not an indicator of student perfection, but rather an indicator of the applicant's academic achievements, character, and dedication to environmental stewardship.

1. What qualities does this student have that make them well-suited to receive this scholarship award? Why do you recommend them for this scholarship award?

2. Please note any pertinent information you feel would be helpful to the selection process. Identify how long you have known the applicant, and the circumstances and experiences that are the basis for this recommendation.

Appraiser's Signature

Date

Title

Phone

Letter of Recommendation #2

This form is to be completed by a high school or college counselor, advisor, clergy person, instructor, employer, job supervisor, etc.



Student Name: _____

Instructions to the Appraiser: You have been asked to provide information in support of the above student's scholarship application. The **due date is December 12, 2024. Please give immediate and serious attention to the following questions and provide your thoughts and comments regarding the student's specific and unique qualifications.** When complete, please return to applicant in advance of the due date, or if you prefer, scan and email it to Scholarships@ffao.org by the due date (**include "STUDENT NAME and APPRAISAL #1" in the email subject line**). Please note: This appraisal is not an indicator of student perfection, but rather an indicator of the applicant's academic achievements, character, and dedication to environmental stewardship.

3. **What qualities does this student have that make them well-suited to receive this scholarship award? Why do you recommend them for this scholarship award?**

1. **Please note any pertinent information you feel would be helpful to the selection process. Identify how long you have known the applicant, and the circumstances and experiences that are the basis for this recommendation.**

Appraiser's Signature

Date

Title

Phone