*NCGA William C. Berg Academic Excellence in Agriculture Scholarship Program*

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

**Introduction**

In its mission to create and increase opportunities for this country’s corn producers, the **National Corn Growers Association (NCGA)** continues to play a significant role in keeping U.S. growers the most efficient and successful in the world. A well-orchestrated focus on strategic initiatives—sound farm policy; advancement of biofuels and research efforts; improved trade relations; and promotion of conservation practices that have revolutionized farming—continues to drive the future of the organization, leading corn farmers into a new era of agriculture. A mainstay in NCGA’s success is the Association’s ability to remain forward looking and provide a solid base for the next generation of corn producers.

Likewise, **BASF** **Corporation**, as the world’s largest chemical company and a leader in the U.S. crop protection product market, realizes the continued success of American agriculture relies on looking toward the future. Through ongoing education and by providing technologically advanced and environmentally sound products and services, BASF provides current and prospective growers with vital tools to ensure success.

The ***NCGA William C. Berg Academic Excellence in Agriculture Scholarship Program*** is conducted annually, awarding five (5) $1,000 one-year scholarships to deserving, qualified second-year or later, agriculture students enrolled in an agriculture, agribusiness, or ag vocation programs at a U.S. 2-year or 4-year program of study at an accredited junior college, college or university.

The program is named in honor of Ohio farmer **William C. Berg**. A retired postal worker and farmer for more than 40 years, Bill served in various positions for both the Ohio Corn and Wheat Growers Association and the National Corn Growers Association. He served as a judge for the NCGA-BASF scholarship program for its first five years and recommended many important adjustments that ensured its continued success and enhanced the experience of the scholarship recipients. Program recipients can be proud to receive a scholarship honoring this staunch supporter of modern American agriculture.

SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTION

* Scholarships are for one year; previous recipients may **not** reapply.
* Scholarships may be used to offset tuition, school supplies, or student housing.
* Funds will be issued directly to student in May 2018.
* Scholarships awarded for the 2018-2019 school year.

APPLICANT/APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

* Applicant must be entering at least their second undergraduate year at an accredited junior college, college, or university.
* Applicant must be pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree in an agricultural, agribusiness, or an ag vocation field.
* Applicant must be an NCGA member or son/daughter of an NCGA member.
* Employees and the families of employees of any division of BASF or their subsidiaries are not eligible for the scholarship.
* Applications must be postmarked by December 1, 2017.

NOTIFICATION

* + Recipients will be notified by phone and email in mid-January 2018.
	+ Official announcement will be held at NCGA’s annual tradeshow and convention, Commodity Classic ’18 – Anaheim, CA. Recipients need not be present. Travel and one night’s lodging will be provided by BASF to recipients and parent/guardian.
	+ Checks will be mailed to recipients in May 2018.

APPLICATION CHECKLIST

By Friday, December 1, 2017, please postmark and submit the following materials:

* Completed application
* Current transcript from junior college, college or university
* Proof you are seeking an undergraduate or graduate degree in an agricultural, agribusiness, or an ag vocation field (transcript may suffice, consult your registrar or department office for more information)
* Three (3) letters of recommendation (at least two must be from non-family members, and one should be from a faculty member)
* Current resume (include list of activities, awards and honors)
* 500-word essay on “Why I am pursuing an agriculture-related career”
* A few paragraphs on “What are the three most important issues facing agriculture today?”

**Please ensure all materials are complete and your application package is postmarked by Friday, December 1, 2017.**

***Please do not staple any part of your application.***

If you have any questions, please contact:

Steve Uram

Marketing Manager

NCGA Academic Excellence in Agriculture Scholarship Program

632 Cepi Drive + Chesterfield, MO 63005

(636) 733-9004 x123 + (636) 733-9005 (fax) + scholarship@ncga.com

*NCGA Academic Excellence in Agriculture Scholarship Program*

**APPLICATION / MEMBERSHIP FORM**

Name \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 Number Street Apt./Unit

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 City State Zip

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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 City State Zip

Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Year in School \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

NCGA Member Name (self or parent/guardian) \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 NCGA Member Number \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Letters of Recommendation

Please provide three (3) letters of recommendation from individuals familiar with your personal character, your accomplishments, and your interest in agriculture. At least two letters should be from non-family members and one should be from a faculty member or school administrator.

Essays

Please provide an essay, not to exceed 500 words, on “Why I am pursuing an agriculture-related career.” Please also answer in a few paragraphs: “What are the three most important issues facing agriculture today?”

Additional Documentation

Please attach a certified copy of your current academic transcript and a current resume or list of activities, awards and honors. Resume/list of activities should not exceed two (2) pages. **Please do not staple any part of your application.**