



2017/2018 SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTION:

The California Chapter of the American Society of Agronomy will award a total of up to \$3,000 in scholarships to two eligible California residents currently enrolled in a degree program in crop production, plant science, soil science or a related science field at a 4-year California College or University.

ELIGIBILITY:

1. The applicant must be an undergraduate of at least sophomore-level standing and be enrolled full-time the semester or quarter of the award or the semester or quarter immediately following the award. Enrollment must be at one of the following schools: California State University, Chico or Fresno; California State Polytechnic University Pomona or San Luis Obispo; or the University of California Berkeley, Davis, Riverside, or Santa Cruz.
2. Be a resident of California.
3. Have a minimum GPA of 2.5 (based on a 4.0 scale) calculated through the last quarter or semester prior to application.
4. Candidates must submit two letters of recommendation; at least one from a college or university faculty member and the other can be from an agricultural industry representative or employer.

APPLICATION AND AWARD PROCESS:

1. All application materials including letters of recommendation must be received no later than **midnight January 6, 2018**.
2. Complete the attached application form provided on pages 3-4. The application form is also available electronically at: <http://calasa.ucdavis.edu>. Submit your application according to the instructions given on page 2.
3. Scholarship funds will be released upon selection and proof of enrollment. Recipients will be notified by January 29, 2018 with the monetary award available after February 7.
4. Scholarship recipients are required to report the monetary amount of the award to the financial aid department of the academic institution in which they are enrolled.



EVALUATION CRITERIA:

Applications will be evaluated based on the following:

- **Essay narrative content and quality (50%)**
- **Leadership, scholarship, and extracurricular activities (25%)**
- **Letters of recommendation (25%)**

A complete application package will contain the following (see pp. 3-4 for details):

- 1. Introductory information**
- 2. Essay on the subject matter provided**
- 3. Description of leadership, scholarship, and extracurricular activities including college transcripts**
- 4. Two letters of recommendation**

The preferred application method is electronic submission. Hard copies may be sent by standard mail delivery, but must be received no later than midnight January 6, 2018.

Send all application materials (electronic or hard copy) to the following address:

Dr. Eric Ellison
Agronomist
Koch Biological Solutions, LLC
2055 Mammoth Way
Lodi, CA 95242

E-mail: eric.ellison@kochind.com

All scholarship recipients will be recognized at the annual California Plant & Soil Conference, which will be held on February 6-7, 2018 at the Doubletree Hotel in Fresno, CA. Recipients will receive one free night of hotel lodging and free registration to attend the conference. Awards will be presented during the closing banquet on February 7, 2018. Attendance at the conference is encouraged but not required.



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM

All materials must be received by January 6, 2018. Materials sent from applicants (not including letters of recommendation sent by references) should be sent in a single mailing.

1. Introductory Information

Name of applicant: _____
First Middle Last

Permanent Home Address: _____
Street City Zip Code

Home Phone Number: _____

Mailing Address: _____
Street City Zip Code

E-Mail Address: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

High School Graduated From: _____
Name City State

Previous High School(s): _____

Hometown: _____

College or University currently attending: _____

Colleges or Universities previously attended: _____

Major or field of study: _____

Desired Career: _____



2. Essay (50 % of score)

Using essay format, answer the following question as fully and completely as you can in 1500 words or less (1-inch margins, about 2 pages single spaced, 12 font size). Type your response on a separate sheet and submit it with the application. Scoring is based on the essay's content, quality, originality, and thoughtful response. Essays from scholarship recipients will be published in the 2018 Proceedings of the Society available online.

Essay Topic:

The McKinsey Global Institute recently described twelve disruptive technologies that will transform life, business, and the global economy. For more information, visit the website: <https://www.mckinsey.com/business-functions/digital-mckinsey/our-insights/disruptive-technologies>. Included on this website are hyperlinks to the Executive Summary and the Full Report available as PDF downloads. (You can also directly access the PDF files through the hyperlinks below, but you will need the electronic version of this form to do so.) Review the information provided by the McKinsey Global Institute and describe how an agricultural practice in use today in California will change due to one of the disruptive technologies. What will the new technology do? Why would California farmers want to use it? Discuss the potential positive and negative impacts of implementing the technology. Do not dwell on whether or when the technology will be implemented, or exactly how the technology will work. Instead, assume the technology will eventually be developed and implemented by farmers.

- [McKinsey Executive Summary.pdf](#)
- [Mckinsey Full Report.pdf](#)

3. Leadership, scholarship, and extracurricular activities (25% of score)

- a. In 500 words or less, summarize your personal leadership abilities, academic capabilities, and personal development experiences.
- b. Include transcripts from all colleges or universities attended (unofficial transcripts or photocopies are acceptable)

4. Letters of recommendation (25% of score)

- a. Provide two letters of recommendation. At least one letter must be from a college or university faculty member and the other from an agricultural industry employer or leader. Emailed letters sent directly from the reference are preferred. Letters sent as hardcopies by the applicant must be in a sealed envelope provided by the reference. Letters emailed by applicants will not be accepted.