

AUGUSTA COUNTY FARM BUREAU

Charles E. “Bo” Wonderley Memorial Scholarship To Virginia Tech’s Agricultural Technology Program

Guidelines

Charles E (Bo) Wonderley

This scholarship, established in the name of Charles E. (Bo) Wonderley, is designed to encourage, enhance, promote, and preserve agriculture by supporting further education of those studying in the field of agriculture. Mr. Wonderley contributed to the importance of Agriculture by actively managing and personally working a two hundred fifty-nine acre crop and beef cattle farm with and additional two hundred sixty-five acres of grazing land. He had a passion for the importance of agriculture education for young people and for the general public. “Bo” acted on these feelings by becoming a member and serving as President of the Augusta County Farm Bureau, Inc. and a leader in the Augusta County Young Farmers. In addition, he actively participated and held offices in the Ruritan Club and the Augusta County Fair Association. In all of his endeavors “Bo” Wonderley made a difference by leading the way to preserve and promote an awareness of the importance of education in agriculture.

About the Agricultural Technology Program

The Agricultural Technology Program offers a concentrated academic experience for individuals pursuing an associate degree in preparation for careers in the agriculture and green industries. Students can specialize in either Applied Agricultural Management or Landscape and Turf Management. The Ag-Tech Program is based on technologies that are used in the industry. Every class has a direct industry application. More than 80 percent of the classes include a laboratory experience. A 12-week, summer internship experience is required. At least half of the graduates find a job within one month after graduation and graduates earn more than \$25,000 their first year on the job.

Farm Bureau Mission Statement

The Board of Directors of the Augusta County Farm Bureau (ACFB) requests applications for scholarships to achieve educational improvement from residents of Augusta County. Applications for scholarships must be consistent with the organization’s mission statement. The Augusta County Farm Bureau, Inc. is a membership organization that will advance the agricultural, economic, political, and social interests of their members by:

- Providing economically feasible services and programs that are beneficial to our membership, which will, in turn, increase and retain members,
- Being recognized as the legislative and political voice for Augusta County farmers,

- Communicating the benefits and importance of agriculture,
- Attracting, developing, and maintaining leaders, volunteers, and professional employees who are dedicated to member service, and,
- Educating the non-agricultural community to the benefits and importance of agriculture.

Scholarship Program Purpose

The mission of the Charles E. “Bo” Wonderley Memorial Scholarship Program is to financially support and encourage individuals to further their education and leadership development in preparation for a career in the agricultural industry or to expand and enhance a current occupation in agriculture.

Eligibility

Applicants must be legal residents of Augusta County.

Scholarships are open to members and nonmembers and the children of members and nonmembers.

Applicants must be pursuing an associate degree in the Agricultural Technology Program at Virginia Tech.

Applicants must document leadership and achievement in activities related to agriculture.

Applicants must demonstrate good citizenship and character.

Awards will be based on the quality of the application and the availability of funds.

Approval of Scholarships

Approval of scholarships is dependent upon the quality of the application, the impact on the applicant’s agriculture career goals, the availability of funds, and the following priorities established by the Augusta County Farm Bureau:

1. Essay relating agricultural interests and scholarship benefits
2. Academic achievement
3. Agriculture related activities and work experiences
4. Agriculture related leadership experiences
5. Reference letter/s

Conditions

Any portion of a scholarship not used for the stated purpose must be repaid to the Augusta County Farm Bureau. A progress report in the form of a one-page narrative or letter must be submitted when the educational program has been completed.

Procedures (applicants must adhere to established application procedures)

Applications may be submitted to the Farm Bureau Office in Staunton during regular business hours or to the Chair of the Grants and Scholarship Committee by May 1st of each year. Applications must include the completed scholarship application form, an academic transcript, at least two reference letters, and a brief essay. The essay should relate agricultural interests and the benefits to be gained by receiving financial support. All applications will be reviewed and responded to in a timely manner. Once approved, the scholarship check will be paid directly to the Virginia Tech Foundation and sent to the Agricultural Technology Program office for processing.