



2024 Scholarship Requirements

Eligibility Requirements

Recipients must meet all eligibility requirements contained herein and be a current student or entering student at an accredited college or university (documentation of status will be required). Age, gender, race, religion, or national origin are not conditions of eligibility for any SMA Foundation scholarship award.

Specific eligibility requirements:

1. Only students pursuing a degree in an approved program in Animal/Meat/Food Science or related Agricultural Engineering departments in an accredited educational institution are eligible. The SMA Foundation's Board of Trustees reviews and updates this list as conditions dictate and reserves the right to consider special circumstances as warranted.
2. All recipients must be enrolled in an approved program at the time the scholarship becomes effective (Fall Semester).
3. In the event an awardee withdraws from school or transfers to another major (other than those listed in 1 above) during the tenure of their scholarship, the unused balance of the award must be returned to the SMA Foundation.
4. A **2.5 GPA (A=4.0)** must be maintained for the first term of study after receipt of the scholarship.
5. All students must remain enrolled full-time for two consecutive semesters (or equivalent) following the effective date of the scholarship (exceptions may be considered under special circumstances upon written request by the recipient).

Application Instructions

Complete the application at [2024 SMA Foundation Scholarship Application | Southwest Meat Association](#). Applications will be evaluated based upon the criteria listed below. **Application deadline is May 1, 2024.** The Trustees of the SMA Foundation reserve the right to, in special situations, consider other criteria on a case-by-case basis if the situation warrants such action.

1. Prepare a typed 200 to 250-word essay outlining your career goals and the purpose for applying for the scholarship. Age, gender, race, religion, or national origin are not conditions of eligibility for the award.
2. Provide a summary of your work experience, especially as related to the commercial meat industry, university meat lab employment, and(or) other food processing related work experiences (*a resume will suffice and can include all the details for items 2, 3, and 4 here*).

(continued on next page)



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3. Provide a list of awards and honors received. Emphasis will be placed upon those received at the university level.
4. Provide a list of extracurricular activities that demonstrate intellectual growth, interests, talents, and leadership qualities. **Also, provide a list of other scholarships the applicant has received or been selected to receive.**
5. Include a letter of recommendation signed by a faculty member or employer.
6. Enclose official or unofficial transcript copies of all university work, or, in the case of entering freshmen, a high school transcript. Highlight your cumulative GPA. Applicants must have a grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4-point scale. If cumulative GPA is not automatically printed on transcript, please self-calculate, and have a faculty member initial.