California Garden Clubs, Inc.
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

APPLICATION DEADLINE: January 15th

Details of the Award

- Annually a minimum of two (2) CGCI Scholarships are available, each in the amount of $2,000. The number of scholarships and their amount for each academic year will be determined annually.
- One-year scholarships are available to juniors, seniors and graduate students pursuing a Master's Degree.
- Equal Opportunity shall be provided to all applicants.
- Sophomores may make application for their junior year.
- College/university must be accredited and listed on the official website of the U.S. Department of Education http://ope.ed.gov/accreditation/Search.aspx.

Applicant Eligibility

Applicants must meet **all** of the following criteria:

- Must be a US Citizen or Permanent Legal Resident of the United States.
- International or Foreign Exchange Students are not eligible.
- Doctoral program students are eligible.
- Must be attending school full-time as defined by CGCI:
  - ♦ Undergraduate students must be enrolled for a minimum of 12 graded hours of classes.
  - ♦ Graduate students must be enrolled for a minimum of 9 graded hours of classes.
- Study abroad on fellowships or internships are not eligible; funds may be applied to studies overseas provided that the study is a condition of the recipient's degree plan and that payment continues to be made to the accredited U.S. college or university.
- Must have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.25 (on a 4.0 scale).
- Must be planning a career related to gardening, landscape design, environmental issues, floral design or horticulture
- Must be **majoring** in one of the following fields of study:

▪ Agronomy	▪ Plant Pathology/Science
▪ Agriculture Education	▪ City (Rural & Urban) Planning
▪ Floriculture	▪ Habitat or Forest/Systems Ecology
▪ Horticulture	▪ Environmental Concerns (Management: Environmental, Horticulture Resource/Environmental Behavior)
▪ Landscape Design	
▪ Botany, Biology	▪ Environmental Conservation (inc. Engineering, etc.)
▪ Forestry	▪ Land Management and/or other related or allied subjects
▪ Wildlife Science	▪ Landscape Architect

Selection Criteria

- All applications received by the CGCI Scholarship Chairman will be judged by that Chairman and committee in order to choose **two** winning applications.

- The following Sample Scale of Points may be used for the evaluation of each application:

Academic Record	**40%**
Applicant's Letter	**25%**
Listing of Honors/Extracurricular Activities/Work Experience	**13%**
Financial Need	**15%**
Recommendations	**5%**
Conformance	**2%**

- Applications are evaluated and winners chosen by the California Garden Clubs Scholarship Committee, which consists of the CGCI Scholarship Chairman and members of the Board of Trustees.

Winners are announced during the CGCI Winter Board Meeting. The CGCI Scholarship Chairman will notify all applicants in writing of the committee's decisions immediately following the NGC Convention.

Description of Funds

- Checks for the winning applicant's scholarship will be mailed upon receipt of Current Enrollment Verification Certificate (or its equivalent) by the CGCI Scholarship Chairman from CGCI to the Financial Aid Office of the institution at which the student is enrolled. No funds will be sent directly to the student.
- All funds will be distributed by the Financial Aid Office according to the particular school's term-system, unless the student has only one term remaining before the completion of the degree.
- In the event of a change in a student's major to one other than those listed above, or if the student withdraws from school; the balance of the funds must be returned to California Garden Clubs.
- The student and Financial Aid Officer will determine how the money is to be spent: tuition, food, housing, books, etc.

Application Procedure

- The following documents must be submitted: (front side only)
    1. CGCI Scholarship Application Form
    2. Financial Aid Form
    3. Complete official academic transcripts
    4. Letter from applicant (set fonts, header, and margins for one (1) page - Front side only)
    5. List of extracurricular activities, honors, recognitions received within the last three years (Front Side Only)
    6. Three letters of recommendation (Front Side Only)
- All of the documents must be mailed by the applicant **in one large envelope**. Do not place the documents in page protectors, in any sort of permanent binder, or staple the pages.(NO STAPLES)
- Applications must be mailed to the California Garden Clubs Scholarship Chairman for California **in which the applicant is a legal resident,** even if the student is attending an out-of-state school.
  DEADLINE: Received by January 15th

- When a student reapplies for a scholarship (whether the applicant is or is not a previous winner), a complete new and updated application must be submitted.

Instructions for Filling out Application

- All forms preferred to be **typed or computer generated**. **(Front side only --- do not staple)**
- **Set fonts and margins, in order to comply with page limits**

Application Form		- CGCI Application Form <u>must</u> be used - **All** fields completed
Financial Aid Form		- Must be complete with all questions answered - Signed by **both** student & Financial Aid Officer - If Financial Aid information is not available before the application deadline, information from the previous academic year may be used with the notation that it is an estimate based on the previous year.
Transcripts		- **Official** academic transcripts - Transcripts must include the latest grading period. - Graduate students must include undergraduate transcripts
Letter	Limit - 1 page	- Discuss background, future goals, financial need, future career goals
List of Activities	Limit – 2 pages	- List to include only items for the **last 3 years** - Students returning to school after an absence can list work experience and activities
Letters of Recommendation	Limit – 3 letters Limit – 1 page each	- Discuss scholastic ability, personal character, work-related experience