



**TREE FUND**  
Cultivating Innovation

## REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS 2018 TREE FUND SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications Accepted: January 17 through March 15, 2018  
Scholarship Values: \$2,000 to \$5,000 each

### INTRODUCTION

As part of its charitable mission, Tree Research and Education Endowment Fund (TREE Fund) offers scholarships to students pursuing degrees and careers in arboriculture, urban forestry and related disciplines. In 2018, TREE Fund will be offering scholarships within the following programs; please visit [treefund.org/scholarships](http://treefund.org/scholarships) to learn more about the industry pioneers and leaders whose names and work inspired these programs:

- **Robert Felix Memorial Scholarships (\$5,000):** National program for current college students pursuing a career in commercial arboriculture, entering the second year of a two-year program or entering the third or fourth year of a four-year program at an accredited undergraduate institution, 3.0 GPA minimum, current student member of the International Society of Arboriculture.
- **Bonnie Appleton Memorial Scholarships (\$5,000):** National program for current college students pursuing a career in urban forestry, arboriculture, horticulture, or nursery management, enrolled as a junior or senior throughout the scholarship award year at an accredited undergraduate institution in the United States or entering the second year of a two-year program, 3.0 GPA minimum, Current student member of the International Society of Arboriculture.
- **Horace M. Thayer Scholarships (\$3,000):** Program for residents of Pennsylvania or Delaware (may be attending school elsewhere) who are returning to the second year of a two- or four-year program at an accredited college or university and be currently enrolled in a major, minor, option, or program of arboriculture, horticulture, forestry, or urban forestry, 2.5 GPA minimum.
- **Fran Ward Women in Arboriculture Scholarships (\$3,000):** Program for residents of Pennsylvania or Delaware (may be attending school elsewhere) who are female, returning to the second year of a two- or four-year program at an accredited college or university and be currently enrolled in a major, minor, option, or program of arboriculture, horticulture, forestry, or urban forestry, 2.5 GPA minimum.

- **John Wright Memorial Scholarship (\$2,000):** National program for high school or college students pursuing a career in the commercial arboriculture industry, entering or returning student at an accredited undergraduate institution in the United States, 3.0 GPA minimum, United States citizen, employed at least part-time.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

TREE Fund will accept applications only between January 17 and March 15, 2018. To apply, send an email containing a *brief* (no more than 100 words) introduction of yourself (e.g. name, school, year, expected graduation date, and applicable work information) to [treefund@treefund.org](mailto:treefund@treefund.org). TREE Fund staff will confirm eligibility for consideration, and if you qualify, will send you a numbered application form for your use. You may apply for more than one TREE Fund Scholarship on a single application form, indicating the scholarship programs for which you qualify.

Upon completion of this application form, you will save a Word version for your records, then create a PDF version of the completed document with title in the format “Your Surname, Scholarship Program, Application Number” (e.g. “Smith, Felix, #17-023”), and email it as an attachment to [treefund@treefund.org](mailto:treefund@treefund.org) with a PDF of your reference letters (two required), and your academic transcript. Staff will confirm receipt of your application at that time.

Applicants will need the following information to complete the form. (**Note well that word count limits are firm and absolute.** Exceeding word counts may result in your application being rejected before review. Applicants should compose their text in Word or related systems that allow counts to be confirmed before they are placed in the application form.)

- Educational standing and enrollment status
- History of scholarships and extracurricular activities
- Essay describing your reasons for pursuing your chosen career, your goals and objectives, and why you should be chosen for this scholarship (maximum 1000 words)
- Current transcript
- Proof of student membership in the International Society of Arboriculture
- Two letters of recommendation or contact information for people who will provide them (one must be from your academic advisor)

## CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

TREE Fund is particularly interested in having its scholarship recipients begin and remain in careers in arboriculture, urban forestry, or related green industries. Applicant essays should provide TREE Fund with a sense of the student’s career aspirations and plans within these industries, and academic, work and extracurricular activities should reflect commitment toward this goal.

Applications will be evaluated by TREE Fund’s Education Committee. Members of this committee will rate applications using the following rubric:

- Cumulative GPA: 20 points
- Essay: 30 points
- Advisor Letter of Recommendation: 20 points
- Second Letter of Recommendation: 15 points
- Potential for continuing career in arboriculture, urban forestry, or related fields: 15 points
- **Total Maximum Possible Score: 100 points.**

Recommendations on scholarship awards will be presented to the TREE Fund Board of Trustees in May 2018 and will be announced within two weeks of their decision.

TREE Fund does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, gender, sexual orientation, disability or national or ethnic origin. Current trustees of TREE Fund or any member of the family of any such trustee are ineligible to receive scholarships from TREE Fund.

### **AWARD NOTIFICATION AND FUND DISTRIBUTION**

Recipients will be notified within two weeks of the TREE Fund Board of Trustees' award decision. The award letter will include instructions on submitting acceptance information for the scholarship award. Upon TREE Fund's receipt of the acceptance information, payment will be provided to the institution.

### **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Visit TREE Fund's website at [treefund.org](http://treefund.org) for more information about these scholarship programs and the organization at large, including an archive of past scholarship recipients. Should you have additional questions not covered at the website, please contact TREE Fund Operations and Grants Manager Barbara Duke at [bduke@treefund.org](mailto:bduke@treefund.org) (preferred) or via phone at (630) 369-8300, x200.