

USDA 1890 National Scholars Program

What is the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program?

The USDA/1890 National Scholars Program is a partnership between of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and 1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Universities. The program awards scholarships to students to attend one of 1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Universities.

What does a scholarship under the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program provide?

A scholarship under the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program provides:

- Full tuition;
- Employment with the USDA during the summer and after graduation;
- Employee benefits while employed with USDA;
- Fees;
- Books;
- Use of a laptop computer, printer, and software while on scholarship;
- Room and board for each of the 4 academic years.

What are the eligibility requirements for the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program?

Eligibility requirements for the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program are as follows: Applicants must be U.S. citizens who have a high school diploma or a G.E.D. certificate and are starting their first year of college for a bachelor's degree. (Note: Since this program is intended to increase the number of students studying agriculture, food, natural resource sciences, or other related disciplines at participating institutions, currently enrolled bachelor-level students in these institutions are not eligible to apply.) Applicant must:

- Be a U.S. citizen;
- Be an entering freshman;
- Hold a high school diploma or G.E.D. certificate;
- Have a high school GPA of 3.0 or better;
- Have a combined verbal/math score of 1,000 or more on the SAT or a composite score of 21 or more on the ACT;
- Attend one of the eighteen 1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Institutions;
- Study agriculture, food, natural resource sciences, or other related disciplines;
- Demonstrate leadership and community service;
- Apply for admission to the institution(s) of his or her choice;
- Submit an official transcript with the school seal and an authorized official's signature;
- Sign all applications (original signature only);
- All application materials must be postmarked no later than February 15 and sent to the institution(s) selected by the applicant to attend.

What are the 1890 Land-Grant Universities?

The 1890 Land Grant Universities are:

- Alabama A&M University, Normal, AL
- Alcorn State University, Lorman, MS
- Delaware State University, Dover, DE
- Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, FL
- Fort Valley State University, Fort Valley, GA
- Kentucky State University, Frankfort, KY
- Langston University, Langston, OK
- Lincoln University, Jefferson City, MO
- North Carolina A&T University, Greensboro, NC
- Prairie View A&M University, Prairie View, TX
- South Carolina State University, Orangeburg, SC
- Southern University, Baton Rouge, LA
- Tennessee State University, Nashville, TN
- Tuskegee University, Tuskegee, AL
- University of Arkansas, Pine Bluff, AR
- University of Maryland-Eastern Shore, Princess Anne, MD
- Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA
- West Virginia State University, Institute, WV

What is the application deadline for the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program?

The application deadline for the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program is January 15 of each calendar year.

When are successful USDA/1890 National Scholars Program applicants notified?

Notification procedures are as follows:

- The university acknowledges all candidate applications within two weeks of the application deadline.
- The ten finalists are notified 4-5 weeks after the university selections are made and forwarded to USDA.
- Scholarship offers are usually made within 90 days of application deadline.

Where can an application for the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program be obtained?

http://www.usda.gov/cr/doc/1890_Fillable_app.pdf

For more information, please contact the USDA National Scholars Program at:

USDA/1890 Programs
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20250 Mail Stop 9478
Telephone number: (202) 205-5692
Email Address: 1890init@usda.gov