



Jess McClelland <jess@brwia.org>

Betsy Lawson Willis Education Scholarship Application

Google Forms <forms-receipts-noreply@google.com>
To: jess@brwia.org

Fri, Oct 13, 2023 at 11:01 AM

Thanks for filling out [Betsy Lawson Willis Education Scholarship Application](#)

Here's what was received.

Betsy Lawson Willis Education Scholarship Application

Thank you for your interest in applying to Blue Ridge Women in Agriculture's Betsy Lawson Willis Education scholarship! The application will open on **May 1st**, and continue accepting applications on a rolling basis until funding is spent. Scholarships will be awarded on a first come first serve basis, based on eligibility and application strength, at the discretion of the scholarship committee.

Please carefully review our [eligibility and application guidelines](#) before beginning your application. You may also view our [rubric for evaluation](#).

Once your application is submitted, you will not be able to edit it. We strongly recommend typing your answers to the questions into another document and pasting them in when you are ready to submit- **your progress may not be saved if you navigate away from this page before submitting.**

After submission, you will receive a confirmation email including the answers to your questions for your review. We will be in contact about your submission within two weeks of receiving it. Thank you for your patience.

Contact jess@brwia.org with any questions.

Email *

jess@brwia.org

First name *

Jane

Last name *

Doe

Phone *

888-888-8888

Address *

321 Farm Lane

City *

Boone

Zip code *

28607

County *

Watauga

- Avery
- Ashe
- Mitchell
- Yancy
- Caldwell
- Wilkes
- Johnson, TN
- Other:

I identify as the following: *

- Woman
- LGBTQIA+
- Black, Indigenous or Person of Color
- Military Veteran
- New or beginning farmer or rancher (new to farming or ranching, or, has operated a farm or ranch for less than 10-consecutive years)
- First generation farmer
- Disabled
- Other:

I identify as the following: *

- Farm worker
- Farm intern/apprentice
- Farm owner

- Farm co-owner
- Student
- Aspiring farmer
- Homesteader
- Gardener
- Other:

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, [Gross Cash Farm Income \(GCFI\)](#) is a farm's annual income before expenses. It is the sum of cash receipts, farm-related cash income (including agritourism activities), and Government direct farm program payments.

Based on your Gross Cash Farm Income (GCFI), are you a small (less than \$350,000 GCFI), medium (\$350,000-\$999,999 GCFI), or large (more than 1,000,000 GCFI) farm?

*

- I do not own or operate my own farm
- Small farm
- Medium farm
- Large farm

Have you received a scholarship from BRWIA within the last 12 months?

*

- Yes
- No

Have you received this scholarship in the past? If yes, please list the event name, date, and amount awarded to attend.

Name of training, class, workshop, conference, or educational opportunity you would like to attend: *

ASAP Business of Farming Conference

Link to website: *

<https://asapconnections.org/farmer-resources/business-of-farming-conference/>

Date, time, and address of event: *

February 11th, 2023

Cost of tuition: *

\$75

Additional costs associated with attendance and justification:

Please provide as much detail as possible.

*

Transportation: \$109.2

I'll be traveling to and from my home to the conference, held at A-B Tech Conference Center in Asheville, at [340 Victoria Rd., Asheville, NC](#). This trip is 168 miles round trip, and I am requesting \$109.2 to cover my travel costs, based on the federal mileage rate of 65 cents per mile.

Please tell us about your background, and why you are pursuing a career in agriculture. *

I am passionate about sustainable agriculture and pursuing my dreams of owning and operating my own farm, in order to provide our community with healthy, sustainably grown and raised vegetables and meats. I became interested in agriculture as a student, when I began attending a local farmers market and taking advantage of their Double Up Food Bucks program. I majored in Sustainable Agriculture, which provided me with the technical skills to pursue a career. I have worked on various area farms for the past three years, where I have learned about sheep and goat husbandry, diversified vegetable production, and marketing skills.

Not only am I passionate about sustainable agriculture and food systems because of their community importance, but I value the lifestyle that farming provides. Spending time outside, connecting with nature, and having a high-activity job is critical to my mental and physical health. I feel a spiritual connection to growing food and connecting with the ancestral practice of cultivating the land.

Total funding request (maximum request is \$500): *

\$184.2

Please explain why you are interested in attending this event, and how it will help further your career in agriculture and/or support your business goals.

If attending a conference, please list the sessions you plan to attend.

*

I have gaps in my knowledge regarding business management and land acquisition, despite my education and experience in farming. This conference provides valuable information about these aspects of farming that are more difficult to learn about through working on a farm, especially on farms that offer production oriented rather than education oriented workplaces. I plan to attend the following sessions to bridge these gaps in my knowledge, and connect with mentors in the farming community.

Bookkeeping for Beginning Farmers

Land Access for Beginning Farmers

Accessing Capital and Grants for Small Farms

How will this receiving this scholarship make a difference for you, your business and your career? *

Receiving this scholarship will make a difference to myself and career, and my future business, in that I will be able to learn the skills I need to run a successful business, acquire land, and fund my vision. Networking with other agriculture professionals will help me create a network of support, connect me with potential market channels, and hopefully help me find leads on land

to purchase. At the conference, I will also have the opportunity to meet other beginning farmers and learn from their experiences, and build community necessary to support myself on a more personal level as well.

If I am selected for the BLW Education Scholarship, I agree to provide a short summary report and photos detailing my experience at the educational event I attend. I give permission for BRWIA to share my name, details from my report, and any photos I submit, on their website, social media, or other outlets. *

I agree

I disagree

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