



# Scholarship

*Updated December 2019*

## Policy

Purpose: To provide guidance for the Association for education and scholarship matters.

1. The VATAT website will be utilized to post potential scholarship opportunities for VATAT members and their children, including the VATAT Scholarship.
2. The committee will review the scholarship application and guidelines and make any necessary updates and/or changes.
  - A. The Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association offers the VATAT Scholarship to members' children upon their graduation from high school. Scholarships are awarded to all eligible applicants as long as VATAT membership requirements are met and the applicant meets all scholarship requirements listed.
  - B. The applicant must be a graduating senior and the son/stepson, daughter/stepdaughter in good standing with the VATAT and meeting the following requirements.
  - C. Active Members: must have been a member for the past four consecutive years.
  - D. Associate members: before becoming an associate member they were an active member for three consecutive years and have maintained associate membership.
  - E. Retired members: Honorary Life member (a member for 25 years+ prior to retiring).
  - F. Required information to be completed Online:
    1. Application
    2. Essay: Minimum 100-word essay
  - G. Application and supporting materials must be submitted online on or before April 1. Late applications will NOT be accepted. Once you submit your application the VATAT will send a confirmation email letting you know it was received.
  - H. Proof of Enrollment: Scholarship recipients must submit a scholarship acceptance agreement form along with proof of college enrollment for the fall semester (i.e. tuition statement, schedule, etc.) via email by August 24 to the VATAT office to receive scholarship funds. Scholarship payment will be mailed to the College or Educational Institution you will be attending.
  - I. Scholarship may be used for other educational needs, if not needed for tuition.
  - J. Recipients may defer the payment of their scholarship for a maximum of two years.
3. The Association scholarship account will be invested by the Investment committee to ensure optimal return and security.
4. The VATAT will receive payment for hosting the Texas FFA Convention Dance with funds derived from registration fees based on the agreement with the Texas FFA.
5. Any scholarship activity such as the fun run, golf tournament, or archery tournament, etc., will have the funds raised put in the youth fund after expenses are paid.

6. Legacy Endowment funds may be used to supplement the Scholarship Fund depending on the decisions of the Investment Committee.
7. The Membership Services Coordinator will coordinate the acceptance of applications and distribution of scholarship funds to recipients according to scholarship guidelines.
8. Any deviations from the scholarship guidelines by the applicant will be approved by the current members of the Education and Scholarship Committee.

## Operational Protocols

1. It will be up to the discretion of this committee, in conjunction with the Budget committee, to recommend an appropriate increase the scholarship amounts based on the previous fiscal year's fundraising. Previous committees have suggested an increase in the scholarship amount from \$800 to \$1000 when the budget permits in the future.
2. A list of the current VATAT Scholarship recipients should be posted on the VATAT website.