



January 4, 2016

To: Department Heads / Faculty / Eligible Students

Subject: Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Application

The 2016 Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Applications are now available. Recognizing your position within the university system, we know you can play an important role in helping us achieve our goal of promoting the availability of the Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund scholarship awards.

Enclosed you will find application information for the 2016 Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Awards. The deadline for application is May 27, 2016. The Scholarship Selection Committee will make its selections by July 6, 2016 and recipients will be notified soon thereafter. Awards will be made on August 31, in Athens, Georgia, during [SNA 2016](#). Time and location for the award presentations will be announced at a later date.

Please advise all eligible students of the availability of this scholarship award. This information is also currently available as an Acrobat PDF file from the Fund's website (www.sbmsef.org).

Last year, the Fund awarded a total of \$18,000 to twelve students. This year, we expect to award at approximately twelve \$1,500 scholarships. We are very proud of our accomplishment in building the Fund over the past 26 years. Since its inception, we have awarded over \$474,000 in scholarships and today the Fund's balance is approximately \$800,000. We would like to express our appreciation to you for supporting the Fund's growth and development and your willingness to help us spread the word about this beneficial scholarship.

Sincerely,

Danny Summers
Executive Vice President

Enclosures: Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Award Eligibility
Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Application
Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Referral Form

Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund

P.O. Box 801513, Acworth, GA 30101 • Ph: 678.813.1880, Fax: 678.813.1881 • Email: info@sbmsef.org • Website: www.sbmsef.org



AWARD ELIGIBILITY

Purpose: The Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund was created in 1989 by the Southern Nursery Association to aid students from sixteen southeastern states seeking a career in horticulture. The Scholarship is dedicated to one of the most honored horticultural leaders, the late Sidney B. Meadows.

Mr. Meadows, having been described as one of the industry's great humanitarians, considered student scholarships the most important commitment for the horticultural industry to insure the growth and development of our markets. During early planning sessions for the program, Mr. Meadows stated, "Investing in our students is the best investment we can make in our future".

Eligibility:

1. Student must be enrolled in an accredited undergraduate or graduate ornamental horticulture program or related discipline at a four-year institution, must be currently enrolled in good standing and must carry a full-time complement of courses at time of application and during the semester the scholarship is granted.
2. Also, student must be in a junior or senior standing at time of application in a four-year curriculum (having completed the first two years and at least two horticulture courses) or a graduate student standing in a horticultural masters or doctoral program.
3. Student must be a resident of one of the 16 SNA states (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maryland, Mississippi, Missouri, North Carolina, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Virginia and West Virginia) although attendance at an institution within these states is not mandatory. The student must be a citizen of the U.S.
4. For the most recent two years (four years for graduate students), a minimum grade point average of 2.75, based on a scale of 4.0, is required for undergraduate students or 3.0 on a scale of 4.0 for graduate students.
5. Preference will be given to those applicants who plan to work in any aspect of the industry (including owning their own business) following graduation and those in financial need.
6. Previous scholarship recipients may reapply; however, each is limited to a maximum of 2 scholarship awards.

Organizational Structure: In December of 1990, a corporation was formed for operating the scholarship program. It was named the Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund, and in May of 1991, the corporation received I.R.S. approval to operate as a 501 (c) 3 corporation. Contributions or gifts to the Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund are tax deductible as charitable contributions.

The Sidney B. Meadows Scholarship Endowment Fund does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, sex, age, handicap or military status.

Application submissions: Applications and supporting documents are accepted via email attachment, fax or mail. See address below.

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APPLICATION

(Deadline: May 27, 2016)

Student's Full Name: _____

Institution: _____ City: _____ St: _____

Student's Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Student's Ph: _____

Student Cell Ph: _____ Email: _____

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Home Ph: _____

Major (curriculum): _____

Class standing for the coming fall semester (check one): ☐ Junior ☐ Senior ☐ Graduate Student

Are you presently receiving any financial aid (including scholarships)? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If yes, what type and amount? _____

Do you work? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, how many hours per week? _____ What kind of job? _____

What percentage of your educational expense (i.e. tuition, books, etc.) is not covered by financial aid? Please explain: _____

Return the following along with this application via email attachments, fax or mail to address at bottom of this page.

1. Provide a cover letter of not more than two pages, which should include:

- a) Experiences or factors that stimulated your interest in your present major
- b) Your plans following graduation
- c) How the scholarship would benefit your education and career goals
- d) Examples of personal experiences or events that will help you attain your career goals

2. Include a one-page resume describing your background, employment history and education.

3. IMPORTANT - Attach all official transcripts from the registrar's office (graduate students, please include any undergraduate transcripts). If different institutions are involved, please include all institutions' transcripts.

4. Provide TWO letters of recommendation (see Referral Form). At least one letter should be from department faculty member who is familiar with the student. One letter can be from a horticulture industry employer of the student. (Letters must be sent directly from the faculty member or employer.) Form is provided.

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REFERRAL FORM

(To be completed by faculty advisor, instructor or previous horticultural employer)

Deadline: May 27, 2016

Please complete the following and use the space at the bottom of this page to comment on the applicant's significant contributions to the nursery industry, recent academic qualifications and current financial needs. If additional space is needed, use reverse side of form or additional pages (be sure to indicate student name on each page).

This form must be sent directly from person giving the referral.

Student Applicant's Name: _____

Institution or Firm: _____

Faculty Member or Employer: _____ Title: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Email: _____

Signature of Faculty Member/Employer: _____ Date: _____

Email completed referral form to info@sbmsef.org or fax to 678-813-1881.

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