

## MASTER GARDENER SCHOLARSHIPS

It is the intent of the Central Missouri Master Gardeners to provide one (1) \$1,500 scholarship to recognize Master Gardener Janet Illston's contributions to the Central Missouri Master Gardener Program where she was a leader in program development and instruction. The scholarship shall be known as the Illston Memorial Scholarship.

Three (3) additional \$1,500 scholarships are being offered.

All scholarships are to recognize the achievements of youth in educational programs. They are intended to encourage excellence in high school and post-secondary education.

### REQUIREMENTS:

1. Applicants must be planning to enroll in an accredited college, university, technical or trade school for the fall term of the current year. Applicants are limited to those who plan to study horticulture, agriculture, conservation or forestry.
2. Applicants must attend school in or must be residents of one of the counties of Callaway, Cole, Moniteau, Osage, Maries and Miller.
3. High school applicants should have at least a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale. Home-schooled applicants should submit verification of GED completion. College students wishing to be considered for the scholarship must have completed their freshman year with at least a GPA of 2.75 on a 4.0 scale.
4. Each scholarship must be used within nine (9) months after receiving the award.
5. The application must be typed using white 8 ½ x 11- inch paper, with 1 ½ inch margins. Use a font no small than 12 pitch and double space.

### APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

Applicants should submit the following information:

**Section 1**—Biographical Data, including name, address, telephone number, e-mail address and background information and address the issue of financial need.

**Section 2**—Leadership Experience—in essay form, limited to one page. Discuss seven leadership skills and how you learned them.

**Section 3**—Write a narrative about yourself, sharing community and citizenship experiences. For example:

- Identify personal contributions. (e.g.—Did you pick up trash in a public/park area, visit a nursing home, plan outings for senior citizens, volunteer to work with the disabled or work on a community project?)
- Share information about yourself. Emphasize personal growth and development, including experiences and career goals.
- Explain how your post-secondary education will assist you in attaining your career goals.
- Describe what your major field of study is and why you chose it.

**Section 4**—Academic Record. Attach a copy of your high school or college transcript. GPA must be identified on the transcript. Home-schooled youth should submit verification of GED completion. All applications must include ACT or SAT scores.

**SELECTION:**

The selection of the recipient will be under the direction of the Master Gardener Selection Committee. Selection will be based on achievement (50%) and career goals (50%). First consideration will be given to Central Missouri Master Gardeners and their families. If no suitable recipient is identified, equal consideration will be given to all other applicants. The recipient of the scholarship will be announced by the Central Missouri Master Gardeners.

**PAYMENT:**

The monies will be paid directly to the institution the recipient attends or to the recipient with one check written to both the institution and the applicant.

**Applications will be accepted until February 28, 2026.**

**Submit your application to: CMMG Scholarship Selection Committee**

c/o Russell Rottmann  
1409 Green Berry Rd.  
Jefferson City, MO 65101

Questions: contact Russell Rottmann at 573-619-2847 or [Russellw405@gmail.com](mailto:Russellw405@gmail.com)