



How to Apply Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute

If you have previously applied for the Golden Opportunity Scholars Program, please note that the Greenfield Scholars program makes it a bit different.

Go to goldenopportunitiescholars.org/awards to enter. If you are currently or have been a member of ASA, CSSA, or SSSA, sign in with your log in credentials. If you have never been a member you will be prompted to create an account. Note: Membership is not required to apply for Golden Opportunity Scholars.

This is a self-nomination, so you will be both the nominator and the nominee.

Your self-nomination must be complete by April 3, 2014 at 11:59pm.

You will be prompted to enter the email address of the person who is writing your reference letter. (It is a good idea to ask them first.) They will be sent an email explaining how to submit their letter of reference.

The letter of reference must be submitted by April 10, 2014 at 11:59pm. Note: this is less than a week after the nomination is due. Completing both parts early is highly recommended.

After your reference letter has been submitted, **you will need to log into the system once more and submit** the entire application. You may still make changes until you submit. You must complete this step by April 10 or your application will not be considered.

If you have any questions about the process, contact Emily Fuger at efuger@sciencesocieties.org or (608)268-4949.

Benefits of being chosen as a Golden Opportunity Scholar

Benefits of the traditional program

- Become part of a network of current students and alum who stand out in the fields of Agronomy, Crop, Soil, and Environmental Science.
- You are paired with a Mentor in your field of interest to help guide you through your education and beyond
- Expenses paid to attend the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Annual Meetings
- Sessions at the Annual Meetings designed specially for the GO Scholars
- One free year of membership in the Societies

Benefits of being chosen as a Greenfield Scholar

- Greenfield scholars enjoy all the benefits listed to the left as Golden Opportunity Scholars
- Their mentor will be a working professional and CCA from their geographic region
- They will also attend a local meeting or conference of professional interest with their mentor

The Greenfield program is designed for students with little to no interest in going to graduate school and would like to prepare themselves to enter the ag workforce upon completion of their associate's or bachelor's degree. If that does not describe you, you will only want to apply for the traditional Golden Opportunity program. If that does describe you, you will want to apply for Greenfield Scholars or both programs.

If you would like to be considered for both programs, you must apply to both programs. You are welcome to directly copy and paste your answers from one application to the other. The selection committees are completely separate and will only see one of your applications.

Information required by the Golden Opportunity Scholar application:

Consider your responses carefully. All the required information is listed below.

1. Current Advisor and email address
2. Citizenship country
3. Current School
4. Mailing Address
5. Major
6. Minor
Enter "none" if no minor.
7. Expected Graduation Date
8. Credit Hours Completed
Please include credit hours currently in progress.
9. GPA
10. Scholar Biographical Information
Include honors, awards, and scholarships received community and campus activities, research and employment experience, and membership in ASA, CSSA and SSSA, or other societies. (Character Limit, including spaces: 3000)
11. Career Goals
Please outline the possible career(s) you wish to pursue. (Character Limit, including spaces: 3000)
12. Educational Plans
Outline your educational plans including any intention you may have to attend graduate school. (Character Limit, including spaces: 3000)
13. Research Interests
List the research areas that appeal to you, why they interest you, and how you intend to pursue them. (Character Limit, including spaces: 3000)
14. Employment Interests
What types of careers interest you? (Character Limit, including spaces: 3000)
15. What are your primary reasons for seeking a mentor?
16. Detail the type of Mentoring Relationship you desire
17. Is there any additional information you wish to share with your mentor or the committee?
18. Mentor Criteria:
To help the Selection Committee match you with the best mentor, you should indicate the importance of the following mentor criteria:
 - Located In Your Geographical Location
 - Located in Your State
 - Located At Your School
 - Has a Career Background Similar to Your Educational Plans
 - Can Provide Help in Learning About Graduate School
 - Can Provide Help in Learning About Employment Opportunities
19. **Reference** - Provide a letter of support from your Academic Advisor, Club Advisor, or Department Head.

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