

Quality Deer Management Association's Conservation Scholarship Program



Return postmarked application *no later than April 1st* to:

Branch Name: WEST CENTRAL ILLINOIS QDMA

Contact Name: Jackie Burns

Mailing Address: 576 300TH St.

City: North Henderson **State:** ILLINOIS **Zip:** 61466

Contact Number: (309) 368-6028

1. Read the applicant information sheet carefully to determine eligibility before completing application.
2. Include your full name on the upper left corner of all pages, including attachments.
3. Make sure all portions of the application are complete and include all requested enclosures. **Incomplete applications will not be considered.**
4. Applicant and school guidance counselor/principal must sign application.

5. Return this application to West Central Illinois QDMA no later than **April 1st**. Applications sent directly to QDMA National headquarters **will not be** considered.

Instructions

PART I: Applicant Information

Please type or print.

Today's Date: _____

Name: _____

Permanent Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____

Zip Code: _____

Telephone No. (_____) _____ Email address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Name of Parent/Guardian with whom you reside: _____

Current QDMA Membership Number: _____ (See part VI if you are not a current member)

PART II: Extracurricular Activities

Securely attach additional sheets if necessary.

List membership in school-related organizations (i.e. Honor Society, FFA, Beta Club, Science Club, Ecology Club, Student Council, etc.):

List elected leadership positions held in high school:

List any activity that demonstrates community leadership and /or involvement (i.e. Scouts, 4-H, civic group or club, volunteer work, etc.):

List any awards received for school or community involvement:

List job experience (i.e. after school, summer, etc.):

How did you learn about the QDMA's Academic Scholarship Program?

PART III: School Information

High School: _____ Expected Graduation Date: _____

College Preference: _____

Major Study Area: _____

PART IV: Essay

Write a brief essay describing your commitment to conservation and preserving our hunting heritage. Essay must be typewritten, double-spaced and should not exceed three pages. Essay must include:

- why you will be a good investment if you are awarded this conservation scholarship
- any experiences and background that demonstrate your dedication to conservation and the preservation of our hunting heritage
- why hunting is important to you and your family

• PART V: Letter of Reference

Include a letter of reference from teachers, counselors, community leaders or clergy (do not include relatives).

PART VI: Required Enclosures

Complete applications must include:

- official, sealed transcripts

Current Cumulative Grade Point Average (unweighted) _____

*If your school does not use a 4.0 scale, please calculate and convert GPA to a 4.0 scale.

Applicant’s rank in graduation class: _____ out of _____ (total number in class)

***Official, sealed transcripts are required.**

Signature of Guidance Counselor or Principal Date

PART VII: Counselor or Principal Signature and Stats

To be completed by counselor or principal

PART VIII: Signature

By signing this form, I hereby grant the Quality Deer Management Association the unconditional right to use my name, photograph and essay in connection with press releases and/or publications. I also certify that I have read and meet the eligibility requirements for the QDMA scholarship.

Signature of Applicant Date

Applicant Name _____

Before mailing this application please check for the following:

- I have completed the APPLICANT INFORMATION section
- I have completed the EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES section
- I have completed the SCHOOL INFORMATION section and acquired the signature of my guidance counselor or principal
- I have enclosed my ESSAY
- I have enclosed a LETTER OF REFERENCE
- I have enclosed official, sealed transcripts

- I have signed my application
- I have read the Applicant/School information sheet
- Return this application to your **West Central Illinois QDMA** no later than April 1st. Applications sent to QDMA National headquarters **will not be considered**.

Eligibility:

1. Students must be pursuing a degree at an accredited institution of higher education (i.e. Junior College, Community College, Technical College, College or University).
-Priority will be given to applicants pursuing a degree or certification in wildlife management, biology, forestry, or other conservation related fields.
2. Students must be involved in school activities (i.e. FFA, Ecology Club, Science Club, Beta Club, Student Council, etc.).
3. Students must demonstrate ability as a leader among his or her peers.
4. Students must demonstrate community leadership and/or involvement (i.e. Scouting, 4-H, civic group or club, volunteer work).
5. Students must submit an essay exhibiting dedication to conservation (see application).
6. A letter of recommendation must be attached to the application (i.e. teacher, counselor, community leader).
7. High schools/students must submit complete applications to the local chapter by April 1. The West Central Illinois QDMA president's name and address should appear on the application in the box provided.
8. Employees and Scholarship Committee board members of the QDMA and their family members are not eligible to participate in the program.
9. Students should be graduating seniors with a 2.5 on 4.0 scale or equivalent grade point average.
10. Student will be presented with a check at one of the branch's sanctioned events.

Selection Process:

1. High schools/students will submit applicant names and qualifications on an official QDMA scholarship application, along with required attachments, to West Central Illinois QDMA by **April 1**.
2. Successful Applicants will be notified by May 1st.
3. The award winner will be asked to attend the Annual Banquet of that year to be recognized.

Scholarship Levels:

A minimum of \$500 will be awarded to scholarship recipient(s). Total funds to be awarded to be determined by the scholarship selection committee.

Disbursement of Funds:

Students may use their scholarship at any accredited institution of higher education (i.e. Junior College, Community College, Technical College, College or University). The money must be used for tuition, books, fees and housing. The WCI QDMA will work with the student and the college financial aid officer in determining the payee when the check is issued. This will ensure the greatest benefit to the recipient and avoid violation of eligibility requirements. This is a one-time award for one year.