

SC FARM BUREAU YOUTH AMBASSADOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM APPLICATION



SPONSORED BY THE SC FARM BUREAU WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

2011 Essay Topic: "Technology has become essential for American agriculture.
How can social media and technology affect the family farm?"

SC FARM BUREAU YOUTH AMBASSADOR SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

PURPOSE: The purpose of the South Carolina Farm Bureau Youth Ambassador Scholarship Program, which is sponsored by the SC Farm Bureau Women's Leadership Committee, is for the organization to surface young leaders who can use the advantages of their youth to *tell the farm story* to audiences who may not otherwise hear it. It is also designed to display to the public that interest in agriculture, as a career, is alive and well. The SCFB Youth Ambassadors will receive a college scholarship fund in the amount of \$2,000.00, exposure to state agricultural and government leaders, and leadership training opportunities. Ambassadors will make selected appearances (at SCFB's expense) on behalf of agriculture and Farm Bureau, coordinated by the SCFB Promotion and Education Division.

ELIGIBILITY: Any unmarried male or female between the ages of 16 and 21 (can not reach their 22nd birthday before the SCFB Annual Meeting) who reside in a Farm Bureau member home are eligible to compete. The contestants must compete in or represent the county in which they or their family or guardian has a current Farm Bureau membership. Children or stepchildren who reside in the home of an employee of the SCFB Federation or its affiliates are ineligible to compete. Past state winners are ineligible to compete for a second time in the contest. County winners may not compete for two consecutive years.

In order to ensure eligibility of county winners of the state contest, it is suggested that county eligibility rules be compared with the state eligibility rules prior to the county contest.

SELECTION: A panel of independent judges will score each contestant's written essay and application prior to the state competition and will also score contestants on their one-on-one interviews during the SCFB Annual Meeting. Applications and essays will be scored on knowledge of agriculture, interview(s) of farmer(s) or agribusiness person(s), community and organizational activities, proper grammar, and overall neatness. The applicant will be scored on confidence, poise, appearance, positive image and knowledge of agriculture and Farm Bureau. The scores of the written essay, application, and one-on-one interview will be combined to determine the six semi-finalists, three male and three female.

Each of the semi-finalists will give an oral three-minute interpretation based on their prepared essay during the SC Annual Meeting. After the presentation, each semi-finalist will be asked questions offered by the judges. The presentation portion of the contest will be scored on content, composure, delivery, voice control of presentation and response to questions offered by the judges.

The presentation scores of the semi-finalists will be added to their previous scores made up of written application, essay, and one-on-one interview to determine the winners. The male and female contestants with the overall high score will be named the SCFB Youth Ambassadors.

Judging will be on the following basis:

| | |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 50 points | Application & Essay |
| 50 points | Interview |
| 100 points | Presentation & Response to Judges' Questions |

ATTIRE: Business attire will be appropriate for both the interview and the presentation.

TO ENTER: Contestants must be selected by their respective county Farm Bureau. Each county Farm Bureau may select one male and/or female Ambassador contestant to represent them at the state level. It is the responsibility of the county Farm Bureau to cover travel and hotel expenses for the Ambassador contestants representing their county during the SCFB Annual Meeting.

Written applications and essays must be postmarked on or before October 1 and mailed along with a current color photograph (a school photo is fine) to the following address:

SC Farm Bureau Federation
Attn: Women's Program Coordinator
PO Box 754
Columbia, SC 29202

AMBASSADOR SCHOLARSHIP RULES:

- In order to receive the SCFB Youth Ambassador Scholarship in the amount of \$2,000.00, each Ambassador must:
 - Give full priority to the SCFB during the year which he or she serves;
 - Follow the Code of Conduct during the year of reign as Ambassador;
 - Represent SCFB at a minimum of 6 official state functions;
 - Have received their high school diploma; and
 - Use the scholarship within two years of being awarded, or if still in high school, within the first two years of post high school education.
- SCFB will provide a \$1,000.00 check payable to the school for the first semester upon certification of acceptance and enrollment.
- SCFB will provide another \$1,000.00 check, payable to the school, upon certification of satisfactory completion of the first semester and continued enrollment of the second semester.

SCFB AMBASSADOR CODE OF CONDUCT:

- The male and female selected shall serve as SCFB Youth Ambassadors during official public appearances and shall abide by the following guidelines:
 - Clear any and all appearances with the Women's Coordinator or a designated representative;
 - Attend planned functions of the host relating to Farm Bureau and shall not use the title of SCFB Youth Ambassador out of context for personal gain;
 - Promote the SCFB, the farmers of SC, and their products;
 - Maintain professional conduct, dress, poise, and personality when representing the SCFB; and
 - Not consume any alcoholic beverages or use illegal substances while representing the SCFB.
- In the event that an Ambassador marries during his or her year of reign, he or she shall forfeit their title and scholarship eligibility to the first runner-up.

If for any reason SCFB Youth Ambassadors cannot uphold the above standards, he or she will be required to forfeit his or her title and scholarship eligibility upon notification by the SCFB Women's Coordinator.

SCFB YOUTH AMBASSADOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Full Name: _____ Name called by: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Age: _____ Male Female

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS PLEASE COMPLETE

I am currently a high school: Junior Senior Name of School: _____

Current grade point average: _____ on a _____ scale

School activities: _____

Community/Organizational Activities: _____

Honors/Awards/Achievements: _____

Plans for the future: _____

COLLEGE STUDENTS PLEASE COMPLETE

I am currently a: Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

Name of Institution: _____

Major: _____ Current Grade Point Average: _____ on a _____ scale

School Address: _____

School activities: _____

High School attended: _____ City: _____ State: _____

Community/Organizational activities: _____

Honors/Awards/Achievements: _____

Plans for the future: _____

ALL APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE

Briefly describe your and/or your family's involvement in Farm Bureau: _____

Write a short paragraph (using only the space provided) telling why you think you would make a good SCFB Youth Ambassador:

Please attach a color photo of yourself and a 500 word or less essay on **“Technology has become essential for American agriculture. How can social media and technology affect the family farm?”** *It is required that you interview at least one farmer or agribusiness person on the essay subject and include a portion of the interview in your essay.*

CONTESTANT CONSENT

I have reviewed the guidelines for the SCFB Youth Ambassador Scholarship Program. If I am selected I will make predetermined appearances on behalf of agriculture and South Carolina Farm Bureau. These appearances will include the SCFB Women's Day at the Statehouse, the SCFB Youth Leadership Conference, SCFB Women's Conference, agricultural promotions, leadership trainings, and other events deemed appropriate. I will also attend and assist with the next year's contest to be held at the SCFB Annual Convention. Expenses will be paid for approved appearances.

Honor Code: I have not received assistance on this application and essay.

Contestant's signature _____ Date: _____

PARENTAL CONSENT

Name of parents or guardian _____

Address _____

I approve my son or daughter participating in the South Carolina Farm Bureau Youth Ambassador competition and I understand that if selected, he or she will be expected to participate in events and promotions around the state as the South Carolina Farm Bureau Youth Ambassador.

Parent or Guardian signature: _____ Date: _____

County Farm Bureau: _____

Membership is carried as follows:

Name: _____ Membership #: _____

Signed: _____
(County Farm Bureau Officer or Office Secretary)