

Frank Genovese Memorial Scholarship Application

Mr. Genovese served as a board member of the Oakland County Farm Bureau for over 20 years. He owned the Candy Cane CHRISTmas Tree Farm in Oxford, Michigan. Frank loved his trees, but more than anything, he loved his vegetable garden. His greatest love was sharing his gardening knowledge with others, from young children to senior citizens. He inspired hundreds of people to plant their own gardens through classes he taught which were sponsored by Oakland County Farm Bureau.

Additionally, he taught volunteers from St. Anne Church in Ortonville in his own garden with the assistance of the Knights of Columbus, of which he was a member. The end purpose was to learn and then take the produce they raised and donate any funds and/or vegetables to OCEF, the local food pantry.

While his degree and day job were in the criminal justice field, he enjoyed farming even more, reaching out to share his knowledge at every opportunity. With that knowledge and love of gardening he led several neighborhood vegetable gardening clubs, including some in the city of Detroit.

Frank's mission in life was always helping others and spreading the love of God. When he sold his trees, he educated the buyers on planting methods. As a board member of the Michigan Christmas Tree Association, he mentored other growers. On the Brandon Twp. Library Board, he served to help spread knowledge.

His wife and sons continue to serve in the agriculture community,
hoping to spread Frank's enthusiasm and example.

Mr. Genovese passed away in November 2018. He would be proud to know you
are interested in a phase of agriculture, whatever that may be.

Please read the application before answering questions. Please limit your answers to the guidelines provided. All applications must be completed by filling in the application below in the space provided. Completed applications must be emailed to oaklandcounty@ctyfb.com. Handwritten applications will not be accepted.

Application Due Date: April 30, 2026

Email address: oaklandcounty@ctyfb.com.

Any questions can be directed to the OCFB office at (248) 889-6100.

This \$1000 scholarship will be offered to five students this year. Requirements: recipients must have parents or guardians who are Oakland County Farm Bureau members. If applicant is over 21 years of age, they must have their own membership. While they must have an Oakland County Farm Bureau membership, it is not required that they live in Oakland County.

Applicant must be a graduating senior or post-secondary student who is enrolling or is currently enrolled in an agriculture, natural resource or veterinary program.

This year, winners of the Frank Genovese Memorial Scholarship will be announced during the Oakland County Fair.

Winners will be notified to appear at the Farm Bureau Day at the Fair, Monday July 13 to receive the scholarship. Once proof of enrollment in a college or trade school in an agricultural field is provided, the funds will be released to the winner.

SECTION ONE | Demographics

Name: _____
first, middle, last

Age as of December 31, 2026 _____ Birth date (00/00/0000 format): _____

Name of current school: _____

Date of graduation: _____ High school GPA (college GPA if attending college): _____

Street address: _____

City, state & ZIP: _____

Phone number: _____

Your school address: _____

City, state & ZIP: _____

School phone number: _____

Are your parents or guardians members of Oakland County Farm Bureau? Yes No

If "no", are you a member? Yes No

Name on membership: _____

Would you consider yourself a teen or young adult leader? Yes No

Explain why? *Limit answer to 50 words.*

Have you participated in 4-H, FFA or other agricultural programs? Yes No

How many years? _____ In which county: _____

What field of study are you interested in pursuing?:

What post-secondary school will you be attending?:

Have you been accepted to this school?: Yes No

What date were you accepted? (00/00/000 format): _____

Scholarships cannot be accepted without an acceptance date.

SECTION TWO | Essay Questions

Questions must be completed in the space provided using no more than the specified number of words per answer.

1) Have you done anything in the past two years to further your education and prepare for the financial responsibility? *Limit answer to 150 words.*

2) If you have been involved in an agricultural or community organization (FFA, 4-H, church, sports, student government, etc.), describe any leadership roles you have held. Share one leadership experience that helped shape you as a leader. How have you contributed to your agricultural or rural community, and what does servant leadership mean to you? *Limit answer to 150 words.*

3) If you have been a member of 4-H, FFA, or other agricultural-related groups, describe the organizations, number of years involved, and any leadership positions or awards you have received. How has this involvement influenced your decision to pursue higher education, and how do you plan to use your education to promote agriculture in the future? *Limit answer to 150 words.*

4) Who has been a role model for you? Why? *Limit answer to 150 words.*

5) What do you consider your greatest “personal” strength and achievement that you have not covered above? *Limit answer to 150 words.*

6) What do you consider your greatest stumbling blocks and how are you turning them into opportunities for growth? *Limit answer to 150 words.*

7) What are your hobbies and interests outside of work and school? *Limit answer to 50 words.*

8) Agriculture is Michigan's second largest industry. List as many agriculture related careers you can think of. *Limit answer to 75 words*

9) Talk to a Farm Bureau member about what their membership means to them and tell us what you have learned ? *Limit answer to 75 words.*

10) What are 10 ways agriculture or Farm Bureau touches the average persons life in Oakland County?
Limit answer to 100 words.

11) What does agriculture in Oakland County look like to you and what do you think it will look like in the near future? *Limit 100 words..*

12) What agricultural challenge have you witnessed first hand and how was the problem corrected? *Limit 75 words*

SECTION THREE | Affirmation

I have personally prepared this application and believe it to be correct:

Applicant's Signature

Date (00/00/0000 format)

I have personally reviewed this application and believe it to be accurate:

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date (00/00/0000 format)