

Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts

2011 GEORGE MCKIBBEN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

SPONSOR:

Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts

PURPOSE:

This scholarship has been established by the Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation District (AISWCD) to assist outstanding agriculture students in the completion of their education at any Illinois state college (University of Illinois, Eastern, Western, Southern and Illinois State). The student awarded the scholarship should demonstrate superior agriculture academic achievement, commitment to soil and water conservation and potential for innovation and/or leadership ability. The AISWCD Scholarship is awarded in the fall semester of the academic year. The Fall 2011 award will be \$500.00.

HISTORY:

In the early 1960s no-till agriculture was not widely supported among farmers and agriculture specialists in the United States. George Elvert McKibben, however, made no-till the accepted farming technique that it is today. For thirty-seven years George McKibben was an agronomist for the University of Illinois. This work has been called the single most important contribution to corn production since the development and adaptation of hybrid seed corn.

In 1966 McKibben planted plots on which to conduct these experiments at Dixon Springs, Illinois. The plots are now named after George McKibben and are the oldest of their kind not only in Illinois, but also in the world. McKibben was recognized and given many awards during his lifetime. The best recognition he received was the fact that by 1985 more than one million acres of farmland in Illinois were using no-till as a way of farming.

McKibben died February 1, 1988, but the contributions that he made to no-till continue to be beneficial to this state as well as to the nation. He was a man dedicated to what seemed to many an impossible cause. However, McKibben believed in no-till and proved to the state, as well as the nation, that it was a success.

ELIGIBILITY:

Any student who will be a junior or senior for the 2011-2012 academic year enrolled at any state college in Illinois; in an agriculture degree program is eligible for nomination by their local soil and water conservation district.

CRITERIA

1. Demonstrated academic ability and achievement
2. Commitment to soil and water conservation
3. Potential for innovation and leadership ability

NOMINATION PROCESS:

Applications will be accepted from students until May 16, 2011. Updated: June 1, 2011. Applications must be complete and accompanied by the correct biographical information, transcript and a statement of educational and career goals.

SELECTION PROCESS:

A committee shall review all nominations and select the student to be awarded the George McKibben Memorial Scholarship.

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Sponsored by: AISWCD Foundation

2011 APPLICATION FORM

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

To be eligible a student must:

1. Be a full-time (minimum of 12 credit hours) junior or senior student enrolled in agriculture degree program at any Illinois state college.
2. Have a grade point average of 3.2 on a 4.0 scale or a 4.0 on 5.0 scale.
3. Submit copy of latest transcript.

Please type:

Full legal name: _____

Social Security number: _____

Permanent address: _____

City/ST/Zip: _____

Date of birth: _____

Phone number: _____

High School from which you graduated: _____

Year of graduation: _____

Date you expect to graduate from college: _____

Current grade point average: _____ Scale used: _____

Name of parent, guardian or spouse: _____

Address, City/ST/Zip: _____

Phone number: _____

(McKibben Scholarship continued)

Have you applied for or received any form of financial aid? Please list below:

List all college extra curricular or community activities, including offices held.

Briefly state your educational plans and careers objectives for the next 5 years.

Briefly describe your interest and experience in soil and water conservation activities.

Character References: List three (3) people who are well acquainted with your education and abilities, providing names, mailing address and telephone number.

(McKibben Scholarship continued)

I hereby authorize the Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts to release any or all of the preceding information, including copies of my transcript.

Signature of Applicant: _____

It is the responsibility of the student to obtain and submit a copy of their transcript.

Return completed application and transcripts to:

**AISWCD
Attn: George McKibben Scholarship
4285 North Walnut Street Rd.
Springfield, IL 62707**

DEADLINE: May 16, 2011-Updated to: June 1, 2011