

Putnam County Master Gardener Association

Scholarship Application for College Students

Putnam County Master Gardeners are committed to sustainable gardening, soil health, environmental soundness, and community involvement. We support education and outreach to local growers of food, flowers, shrubs, and trees. In offering this scholarship, we hope to further the education of young people who share our values.

This \$1,500 scholarship is available to a Putnam County resident college student, an upcoming sophomore, junior, or senior, who will be enrolled in post-secondary education in the fall of 2026. To qualify, the student must:

- Be enrolled for the fall of 2026 in an accredited two- or four-year college or university;
- Have a college grade point average of 2.5 or higher;
- Be majoring in horticulture, agriculture, plant science, botany, forestry, landscape architecture/design, or another gardening-related field;
- Include a letter of recommendation from a college professor or instructor who has taught this student within the last two years;
- Include a college transcript listing courses taken and grades received.

This application must be postmarked or emailed on or before April 1, 2026.

Mail or email the signed application along with the transcript and the letter of recommendation to:

Purdue Extension – Putnam County
Attn. MG Scholarship
12 Central Square
Greencastle, IN 46135

Questions can be addressed to smith535@purdue.edu.

The Putnam County Master Gardener Association reserves the right not to award a scholarship to individuals who do not meet the stated qualifications.

If you need an interpreter or translator, please contact Jenna Nees prior to the deadline at 765-653-8411 or smith535@purdue.edu by March 18, 2026.

Purdue University prohibits discrimination against any member of the University community on the basis of race, religion, color, sex, age, national origin or ancestry, genetic information, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, disability, or status as a veteran.

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Name _____

Address _____

Telephone number _____

Email _____

College or university attending _____

Address of the bursar of the college/university you attend

Your college GPA _____ (transcript required)

Name of professor/instructor who has written your letter of recommendation

Work telephone _____

Email _____

Name of the class/classes this professor/instructor has taught you

Name any gardening- or agriculture-related clubs or organizations to which you belong and describe activities or events in which you have participated. (These may be college related or independent of college.)

Name any gardening- or agriculture-related awards you have received.

Name any gardening- or agriculture-related classes you have taken or are now taking in college.

On separate paper, answer these three questions. Please type your answers and include your name on all sheets.

1. What degree are you pursuing, and why have you chosen this field of study? What sort of work would you like to do in the future?
2. Describe any work experience you have had with agriculture, gardening, landscape, etc. You may include either paid work or unpaid volunteer work. Also describe any relevant training, workshops, or classes outside of college.
3. What do you perceive to be a major challenge to American agriculture or gardening today, and how does this challenge affect the future of your community?

Signature

Date