

For: FSA Employees

Announcing the 2004 USDA 1890 National Scholars Program

Approved by: Deputy Administrator, Management



1 Overview

A Program Announcement

Secretary Ann M. Veneman has announced that applications are being accepted for the USDA 1890 National Scholars Program for the academic year beginning September 2004.

B Purpose

This notice announces the 2004 USDA 1890 National Scholars Program.

C Program Purpose

The program is to:

- strengthen the long-term partnership between FSA and the 1890 Land-Grant Institutions
- increase the number of students studying agriculture, food, natural resource sciences, or other related disciplines
- offer career opportunities to 1890 National Scholars at FSA. Scholars who satisfactorily complete the program and meet all requirements may be appointed into a career-conditional position.

Disposal Date February 1, 2004	Distribution All FSA employees; State Offices relay to County Offices
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Notice PM-2385

1 Overview (Continued)

D Questions

For more information on the 1890 National Scholars Program, visit <http://1890Scholars.Program.USDA.gov> or contact the following.

National Program Coordinator	State Program Coordinator
C. Mondina Jolley FSA, HRD, DOB 202-418-8992	Vera Byers FSA, KC, OA, Personnel Division 816-926-1710

E Award Information

Scholarships are awarded annually which must be used at 1 of the 18 1890 Land-Grant Institutions. Each award provides full tuition, fees, books, employment and employee benefits, use of a personal computer and software for each of the 4 years they are pursuing a bachelor's degree. The institutions provide the scholarship recipients with room and board for each of the 4 academic years. Each annual scholarship renewal is contingent on satisfactory performance and normal progress toward the bachelor's degree.

Upon completion of the scholar's academic degree program, there is an obligation of 1 year of service to FSA for each year of financial support.

2 Requesting Scholars

A Number of FY 2004 Scholars

FSA expects to award 7 USDA 1890 National Scholarships in FY 2004.

B Requesting Scholars

Contact Mondina Jolley to request a scholar.

While the scholar is still a student, offices are not held accountable for Full Time Equivalent (FTE). Upon converting the student to a permanent appointment after graduation, the office shall use an FTE slot from their existing FTE ceiling.

3 Scholar Nomination Process

A Nominee Qualifications

Nominees must:

- be a U.S. citizen
- be an entering freshman
- hold a high school diploma or G.E.D. certificate
- have a high school GPA of 3.0 or better
- have a combined verbal and math score of 1,000 or more on SAT or a composite score of 21 or more on ACT
- attend 1 of the 18 1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Institutions
- study agriculture, food, natural resource sciences, or other related disciplines
- demonstrate leadership and community service
- apply for admission to the 1890 Institution(s) of his or her choice
- submit an official transcript with the school seal and an authorized official's signature
- sign all applications (original signature only).

B Eligible Scholarship Majors

FSA National Scholars are required to study the following related disciplines:

- agriculture
- agricultural business/management
- agricultural economics
- other related disciplines, such as:
 - computer science
 - business administration.

C Nomination Procedure and Deadline

Submit all application materials postmarked and sent to each of the institution(s) the applicant has selected to attend. Applications for the 2004 academic year must be received by **January 15, 2004**. Applications are available on line at **<http://1890Scholars.Program.USDA.gov>**.