

Supporting Information of the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program

Privacy Act Advisory Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with this request for information. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements for the Act, please be advised:

1. The authority for the collection of these data is Executive Order 11155.
2. Furnishing the information requested is voluntary.
3. The data will be used for selection of USDA/1890 National Scholars, printing of certificates, and related activities.
4. Other routine uses of the data are for preparation of the public affairs and press releases to news media.
5. Failure to complete the form will mean that you cannot be included among those candidates being considered for designation as USDA/1890 National Scholar.

Affirmation of Candidacy and Authorization for Release of Information

I, _____, understand that I am a candidate for the honor of USDA/1890 National Scholar, have read the Privacy Act Advisory Statement, and affirm my wish to be considered. In the event I am named a National Scholar, permission is hereby given for the release of materials submitted by me for the use of the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the eighteen 1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Institutions as deemed appropriate for purposes of the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program. I further consent to the release of photographs which may be taken of me, by or for the U.S. Department of Agriculture in connection with the Program. I am **(check one) willing** _____ **unwilling** _____ to appear on radio and/or television if such arrangements can be made by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in connection with the USDA/1890 National Scholars Program.

Signature _____

Date _____

Candidate's Biographical Questionnaire

The questions that follow are designed to collect information about your background, your interests, and your plans. Your answers to these questions will be used only in connection with your application for this scholarship program and will be divulged only to qualified persons who must see them in the course of their duties.

Note: The selection of scholarship recipients will be influenced by the completeness, neatness, and legibility of replies. Please type or print, using black ink.

A. Biographical Information

Legal name in full (Please print.) _____ Sex F M
Last *First* *Middle*

Permanent home address _____
Number and street *City/Town* *State* *Zip Code*

Telephone _____ Date of Birth _____ Age _____ SSN _____

Are you a U.S. citizen? Yes No

B. Education

1. Name of high school now attending _____ Telephone _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

GPA (on a 4.0. scale) _____ ACT COMPOSITE SCORE _____ SAT COMBINED SCORE _____

2. List any other schools that you attended in the last 4 years. List the schools in order of attendance, with the one you attended most recently first.

Name of school	Location (city and state)	Dates of attendance

Section II (Student)

3. List any advanced or special program, courses or summer courses you have taken. List the most recent course or program first.

Course or program	Name of school	Location (city and state)	Dates of attendance	Hours per week

4. Name of institution _____

City _____ State _____

5. What course of study (major) will you pursue?

1st _____ 2nd _____

6. Have you made any career decisions related to agriculture, food, natural resource sciences, or other related disciplines?

Yes No If yes, explain: _____

7. Do you plan to go to graduate or professional school? _____ If yes, field of study _____

C Activities

1. List activities (prioritize) in which you have participated in or outside your school (such as academic, publications, debating, dramatics, sports, music, art, student government, and clubs).

Activity	Dates of participation	Offices held	Special awards, honors or recognition

Section II (Student)

2. List volunteer services and jobs you have held in the past 4 years (including summer employment).

Volunteer services or jobs	Name of employer or organization	Dates of service or employment	Hours per week	Special awards

Note: Be concise. Limit your answers to the space provided.

D. Leisure-Time Activities

1. What is the most stimulating book or article (other than those for school assignments) you have read in the last 6 months? Why did you find it stimulating?
2. What do you do for relaxation and fun?
3. Describe your leadership role in activities in both your school and community.
4. Please describe any characteristics of yourself or your family that have been important to your personal development.

E. Candidate's Self-Assessment

1. Describe a recent experience that has given you a sense of satisfaction or pride. Explain why you were satisfied or proud.

2. Briefly discuss why you want to study agricultural, food, natural resource sciences, or another related discipline in college.

USDA/1890 National Scholars application check list

<input type="checkbox"/> SECTION I.	I have read this section, especially those elements detailing the eligibility requirements, schools that I must attend, and the January 15 deadline in which all application materials must be postmarked.
<input type="checkbox"/> SECTION II.	I have read and filled out Section II, Student Self-Assessment section. I understand Section II must be postmarked no later than January 15, in order to meet the eligibility requirements.
<input type="checkbox"/> SECTION III.	I have given Section III to my counselor/teacher to fill out. I understand this section must be postmarked no later than January 15. Further, I have explained to my counselor/teacher the need to have all official transcripts enclosed with this response and sent to the institution's USDA Liaison Officer where I have selected to attend.
<input type="checkbox"/> SECTION IV.	I have applied for admission to each 1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Institution of interest.

Please review this form to make sure you have answered all questions completely. Proofread your responses.

I certify that I completed this application and that all statements made are true and accurate to the best of my knowledge. (A false statement could eliminate me from consideration for this scholarship.)

Signature _____ Date _____

This form must be returned to each 1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Institution(s) of your choice.
MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 15

USDA/1890 National Scholars application check list

- SECTION I. I have read this section, especially those elements detailing the eligibility requirements, schools that I must attend, and the January 15 deadline in which all applications materials must be postmarked.

- SECTION II. I have read and filled out Section II, Student Self-Assessment section. I understand Section II must be postmarked no later than January 15, in order to meet the eligibility requirements.

- SECTION III. I have given Section III to my counselor/teacher to fill out. I understand this section must be post marked no later than January 15. Further, I have explained to my counselor/teacher the need to have all transcripts enclosed with this response and sent to the college/university's USDA Liaison Officer's office, I have selected to attend.

1890 Institutions

USDA Liaison Officer
Alabama A&M University
School of Agricultural & Environmental
Sciences
Room 300, Dawson Bldg. or
P.O. Box 1477
Normal, AL 35762

USDA Liaison Officer
Alcorn State University
1000 ASU Drive, #1139
104 Agriculture Science Bldg.
Lorman, MS 39096

USDA Liaison Officer
Delaware State University
Dept. of Agriculture & Natural Resources
1200 N. Dupont Highway
Dover, DE 19901

USDA Liaison Officer
Florida A&M University
P.O. Box 338
Tallahassee, FL 32307-4100

USDA Liaison Officer
Fort Valley State University
Agricultural Research Station
1005 State College Drive
Fort Valley, GA 31030-3298

USDA Liaison Officer
Kentucky State University
Atwood Research Facility
Frankfort, KY 40601

USDA Liaison Officer
Lincoln University
820 Chestnut Street
111 Allen Hall
Jefferson City, MO 65101-0029

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North Carolina A&T State University
107 B.C. Webb Hall
Greensboro, NC 27411

USDA Liaison Officer
Langston University
Calvin Hall Small Business
Development Center - Room 102
Langston, OK 73050

USDA Liaison Officer
Prairie View A&M University
P.O. Box 2736
Prairie View, TX 77446-2736

USDA Liaison Officer
South Carolina State University
P.O. Box 7246
Orangeburg, SC 29117-0001

USDA Liaison Officer
Southern University
P.O. Box 54051
Baton Rouge, LA 70892

USDA Liaison Officer
Tennessee State University
3500 John Merritt Blvd.
Nashville, TN 37209-1561

USDA Liaison Officer
Tuskegee University
College of Ag., Environ. & Natural Sciences
Campbell Hall, Room 103
Tuskegee, AL 36088

USDA Liaison Officer
University of Arkansas Pine-Bluff
P.O. Box 4806, UAPB
1200 North University
Pine Bluff, AR 71601-2799

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University of Maryland-Eastern Shore
1139 Trigg Hall
Princess Anne, MD 21853

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P.O. Box 9081
Owens Hall, Room 1 00
Petersburg, VA 23806

USDA Liaison Officer
West Virginia State University
835 Sullivan Hall, East
P.O. Box 1000
Institute, WV - 25112 -1000

USDA/1890 National Scholars Program Secondary School Report

Legal name of student _____

Please type or print using black ink

Last

First

Middle

To comply with the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, a school must obtain signed authorization before it can release student information for use in this scholarship program.

Permission is hereby given to school officials to release school record and other requested information for consideration in the scholarship program named above.

Student's signature _____ Date _____

Parent's or legal guardian's signature _____ Date _____

If you have attended this school less than 2 years, you may copy this form and ask someone from your former school to also complete a copy for you.

School _____

Name

City

State

Zip code

Telephone Number

Sections III and IV of this report should be completed and signed by the counselor and teacher.

Note for the counselor:

The student named above is a candidate for the honor of United States Department of Agriculture/1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Institutions National Scholars Program. To process this application, we need the following: a carefully considered character and ability assessment by a teacher who knows the student well, a summary of teachers' judgments of the student, and an **official transcript** of the **student's secondary school record**. Thorough responses will greatly enhance your student's candidacy. This information will be used only in connection with the selection of Scholars and will be seen only by qualified persons involved in the selection process.

This form must be returned **POSTMARKED NO LATER THAN JANUARY 15.**

Section III (Counselor)

Please be concise. Limit your response to the space provided.

A.

Name of Counselor _____
Please type or print using black ink *Last* *First* *Middle*

B.

Are you confident that the student will receive a high school diploma during the current academic year? Yes No

If no, please explain. _____

C.

Student's class rank _____ How many students in the class? _____

D.

Student's cumulative grade point average _____

E.

ACT Composite Score _____ SAT Combined Score _____

F.

Secondary School Record

The student's SAT and/or ACT scores, along with an **official secondary school transcript** (with seal and signature), including grades 9 through 12 must be attached. If the official transcript is not provided, the candidate will not be considered for the scholarship.

Counselor's signature _____ Date _____

This form and the candidate's transcript must be returned to each 1890 Historically Black Land-Grant Institution of interest. (See address list.) **MUST BE POSTMARKED BY JANUARY 15.**

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West Virginia State University
835 Sullivan Hall, East
P.O. Box 1000
Institute, WV - 25112 -1000

Section IV (Teacher)

In items C-G, please be concise. Limit your response to the space provided.

A.

Name of teacher _____
Please type or print using black ink *Last* *First* *Middle*

B.

Length of relationship _____

C.

Considering this student's interests, work habits, and life goals, what is your assessment of the chances that the student will be motivated to take advantage of the opportunities available in college? Please give reasons for your assessment.

D.

What special features are a part of your school's curriculum (e.g., AP and honors courses, college study, independent study)? Has the student taken advantage of the most challenging opportunities your school has to offer?

E.

Describe this student's strengths and weaknesses.

Strengths:

Weaknesses:

F.

Has the student shown exceptional talent or originality in agriculture, food, natural resource sciences and/or other related disciplines?

Yes No Please explain:

G.

Sometimes special circumstances should be considered when evaluating a student's achievement records and test scores. If, in your opinion, this student may have been disadvantaged by any such circumstances, please specify.

H

In the spaces below, please summarize comments made by teachers about the student:

1. **Participation in discussion**
 - always involved, often initiates discussion
 - occasionally participates
 - seldom participates
 - not applicable
2. **Involvement in classroom activities**
 - active, usually shows genuine interest
 - mild, politely attentive
 - languid, attention often wanders
 - vacillates greatly
 - poor understanding
3. **Pursuit of independent study**
 - considerable study and major project(s)
 - some study and minor project(s)
 - no evidence of independent study
 - not applicable
4. **Evenness of performance**
 - even, varies no more than one mark
 - slightly uneven, often varies one mark
 - uneven, often varies two marks
 - erratic, performance fluctuates greatly
 - inadequate opportunity to observe
5. **Critical and questioning attitude**
 - often challenges
 - occasionally probes
 - rarely questions
 - not applicable
6. **Depth of understanding**
 - excellent insight
 - good understanding
 - some insight
 - little insight
 - not applicable
7. **Personal responsibility**
 - always accepts fully
 - usually accepts fully
 - sometimes refuses
 - often refuses
8. **Consideration for others**
 - always considerate of others' rights and feelings
 - usually considerate
 - sometimes inconsiderate
 - often inconsiderate
9. **Population of the community in which your school is located**
 - less than 500
 - 500 - 1,500
 - 1,500 - 5,000
 - 5,000 - 25,000
 - 25,000 - 100,000
 - over 100,000
10. **What economic or social conditions characterize your community and most of the parents of the children in your school.**
 - rural farming area
 - industrial small town or city
 - large, metropolitan area
 - other

Teacher's signature _____ Date _____

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