**2024 Scholarship Application**





Thank you for your interest in the Ag Communicators Network’s Scholarship Program!

Agricultural Communicators Network (ACN) is the premier professional organization for communicators across the spectrum of agricultural media – from editors, writers and photojournalists to designers and public relations professionals.

This year, thanks to a grant from ACN’s Professional Improvement Foundation and an endowment from Lyle Orwig, ACN is offering two scholarships to undergraduate students pursuing careers in agricultural communications: the **Dr. James Evans Scholarship ($3,000)** and the **Past Presidents’ Scholarship ($1,500)**.

To be eligible for these scholarships, applicants must be members of the National ACT organization. If a local ACT chapter is not available for a student to join, the student may become an individual member of National ACT by emailing nact.treasurer@gmail.com and nact.president@gmail.com expressing interest in becoming a member. National annual dues are $17.

**How It Works:** The committee will review applications and select two finalists to interview for the top award, the Dr. James Evans Scholarship, during the Ag Media Summit, Aug. 4-7, 2024, in Kansas City, Missouri. Finalists will receive travel stipends of up to $1,000 each to attend AMS. Finalists must attend AMS to be eligible for the top scholarship, named for Dr. James Evans, who has had a tremendous impact on the establishment and growth of ag communications programs.

**Deadline:** All required materials should be submitted to Courtney Girgis, ACN Future Ag Communicators Committee chair, at cllgirgis@gmail.com on or before April 15, 2024.

**Required Materials:**

1. Completed **application form**.
2. **Cover letter** explaining why you are pursuing a career in agricultural communications and how this scholarship will help you achieve that goal.
3. **Resume** highlighting educational, leadership and career experiences.
4. An **unofficial transcript** showing GPA and coursework completed.
5. One (1) **writing sample**. This sample should demonstrate your ability to write about agricultural topics. It may be published or unpublished.
6. One (1) **professional reference**.
	1. Note: You (the student applicant) will NOT submit the reference letter directly. Instead, you will provide the reference form to an individual who can serve as a professional and/or character reference. The reference should email their letter directly to cllgirgis@gmail.com.
	2. Please do not use ACT advisers.

**What We’re Looking For:**

Applications will be judged based on:

* Internships and career-related experiences (25%)
* Writing skills, as demonstrated through a sample (25%)
* Leadership activities (15%)
* Academic achievements (15%)
* Reference recommendation (15%)
* General neatness and completion of application (5%)

**All materials, including reference letters, must be received via email by Courtney Girgis,** **cllgirgis@gmail.com****, on or before Monday, April 15, 2024.**

Direct questions to and email applications and reference letters to:

Courtney Girgis

ACN Future Ag Communicators Committee Chair

cllgirgis@gmail.com