

IOWA TURFGRASS SCHOLARSHIP - INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

DEADLINE: November 1, 2026

GENERAL

The Iowa Turfgrass Institute (ITI), as well as its allied associations - the Iowa Golf Course Superintendents Association (Iowa GCSA) and the Iowa Sports Field Management Association (ISFMA) - provide scholarship grants to advance education and science in the field of turfgrass management. The goal is to identify and recognize outstanding students who plan careers in golf course management, sports field management, or related field.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

- Appropriate career preparation
- Potential to make an outstanding professional contribution
- Essay/short answer question evaluation
- Academic excellence
- Community involvement and volunteer activities
- Reports from Academic Adviser and previous employer(s)
- Completeness of this form

ELIGIBILITY (undergraduates only)

All applicants for scholarship grants shall be currently enrolled in turfgrass management or related curriculums at an Iowa university/college, an Iowa area technical school, an Iowa community college, or a graduating high school senior who must attach a collegiate letter or acceptance of intent. Applicants for Iowa GCSA and ISFMA scholarships must be a member of each respective association.

HOW TO APPLY

Students must complete the following scholarship application form and provide recommendations from collegiate advisers and former employers using the supplemental forms included with the application, as well as a transcript from the school you're currently attending. All forms and application materials must be followed and completed exactly as instructed. Substitutions of other materials in lieu of application forms will result in ineligibility of applicant. Each association's scholarship committee will review applications soon after the entry deadline. Applications are based on the criteria above without regard to race, sex, creed, age, or national origin.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR APPLICANTS

- All portions of this form must be typed, using the prepared, fillable form.
- Do NOT staple the completed materials. Please use a paper clip to secure all scholarship materials.
- The deadline for applicants is November 1. All materials in this form, including Academic Adviser and previous employer reports, must be received at the Iowa Turfgrass Office on or before this date.
- Contact the Iowa Turfgrass Office at 515-635-0306 if you have any questions.

SUBMITTED APPLICATIONS SHOULD INCLUDE

- Typed application form
- Academic adviser and previous employer report(s)
- Transcript from the school you're currently attending
- Additional letters of recommendation are encouraged, but not required

All applications must be received at the Iowa Turfgrass Office no later than November 1, 2026.

Mail applications to: Iowa Turfgrass Office, 8050 Golf House Drive, Des Moines, IA 50211

Email applications to: matt@iowaturfgrass.org

IOWA TURFGRASS SCHOLARSHIP - STUDENT APPLICATION

DEADLINE: November 1, 2026

FILLABLE FORM TIP

Click inside each box and type. Longer answers can continue beyond the visible area - keep typing; the field will scroll.
Save the completed PDF before emailing it so your typed answers remain in the application.

CHECK THE SCHOLARSHIP(S) YOU ARE APPLYING FOR

☐ Iowa Turfgrass Institute ☐ Iowa Golf Course Superintendents Association ☐ Iowa Sports Field Management Association

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Name of Applicant: _____ Date of Birth: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Campus Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

Are you a member of the following associations? (Please check the correct box, if applicable)

☐ Iowa Golf Course Superintendents Association ☐ Iowa Sports Field Management Association

Do any of your family members (i.e. parents, stepparents, and/or grandparents) work in the turfgrass industry?

_____	_____	_____
Name	Relationship	Employer

_____	_____	_____
Name	Relationship	Employer

SCHOOL INFORMATION

School You Are Attending: _____ Grade: _____

How many credits have you earned at your current school: _____

Current Major: _____ Grade Point Average: _____

Expected Graduation Date: _____ Expected Degree: _____

List any previous degrees or universities: _____

List clubs you are involved in, years active, and offices held in each:

_____	_____	_____
Club	Years Active	Office (If applicable)

_____	_____	_____
Club	Years Active	Office (If applicable)

_____	_____	_____
Club	Years Active	Office (If applicable)

List any honors you have earned (college and/or high school):

List employment you have held in the past four years. Please include military experience:

Employer	Position	Supervisor	Dates
Employer	Position	Supervisor	Dates
Employer	Position	Supervisor	Dates
Employer	Position	Supervisor	Dates
Employer	Position	Supervisor	Dates

In what ways have you contributed to your financial support while in school?

While in college, are you contributing toward anyone else’s support?

List any other scholarships you have previously been awarded:

Scholarship	Sponsor	Date	Amount
Scholarship	Sponsor	Date	Amount
Scholarship	Sponsor	Date	Amount
Scholarship	Sponsor	Date	Amount
Scholarship	Sponsor	Date	Amount

SHORT ANSWER QUESTIONS

Why did you choose your current major?

What are your plans for the upcoming summer?

Where do you see yourself and your career five years from now?

What is one skill of turfgrass management that you feel you excel at and why?

Name one skill of turfgrass management that you feel you need to improve and why?

What are some challenges facing the turfgrass industry in the future?

I certify the information in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief. I understand the committee's decision will be final.

Full Name of Applicant

Signature

BEFORE YOU SUBMIT

1. Save the completed application as a PDF.
2. Close and reopen the saved PDF to confirm your answers are still there.
3. Email the completed PDF and required supporting materials to matt@iowaturfgrass.org.

Your typed responses are saved in the PDF and can be viewed by the scholarship committee.