

2026 Application for the VVU Scholarship in Agriculture

Purpose:

The VVU Scholarship encourages High School graduates from Putnam or Henry County, Ohio to initiate course work in Agriculture at any 2-year or 4-year college offering an accredited program in agriculture. Agriculture degrees related to crop production and supporting careers offer a broad range of opportunities, and this scholarship hopes to be a stimulus for students seeking academic work in those fields.

Minimum Criteria:*

- Be a resident of either Putnam or Henry County, Ohio.
- Be a U.S. Citizen or legal permanent resident of the United States.
- Be a High School graduate or a senior in High School.
- Have a minimum High School GPA of 2.5
- Show a strong interest in obtaining higher education in agriculture or related discipline.
- Have not previously earned a 4-year college degree.
- Cannot be related to the Vorst, Van Scoyoc, or Uphaus families or to a current board member.

*Exceptions may be made in certain situations. Please indicate those needed.

Application Deadline: April 15, 2026

Applicant Information: Applicants must complete all items.

High School GPA _____

_____	_____	_____	_____
First Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Date of Birth
_____		_____	_____
Home Address		City	State and Zip Code
() _____	() _____	_____	
Home Phone	Cell Phone	Email Address	

List your choice(s) of a University or Community College: (Note: All awards will be made directly to the academic unit to which the student is enrolled.)

List High School activities: clubs, sports, etc.

Write a brief essay on why you would like to attend school in an agricultural program related to crop production or related programs and state how this scholarship would be beneficial to your career goals. Please include why you are interested in a career in agriculture and what motivated your interests. (Approximately 300 words, use an additional page if necessary.)

Along with this application, please have three letters of reference which include the professional experience of the reference provider, connection to the applicant, and details supporting the application. Letters from immediate family members will not be accepted. The letters of reference should be in PDF format. Applications and letters of reference can be emailed to melissa.basinger@putnamcountyesc.org or mailed to Melissa Basinger, Putnam Educational Foundation, 124 Putnam Parkway, Ottawa, OH 45875. Questions can be directed to:
Melissa Basinger, telephone number: 419-523-5951, ext. 3046.