



Stateline Farm Beginnings® Scholarship Application Instructions

Angelic Organics Learning Center (AOLC), a grassroots-based non-profit, aims to create affordable, broadly accessible programs, while at the same time, providing fair wages to our farmer instructors, mentors, speakers, and dedicated staff. We currently require grant funding to support this program--these funds allow us to only charge participants 25% of our actual staffing costs. We rely on program fees to cover other program costs and to pay farmer speakers and mentors for their support of this program.

Financial Aid for Stateline Farm Beginnings® is *limited to partial scholarships*. Each year we have 2-6 scholarships available based-on funding. This can be a competitive process. As your first option for financial support, we encourage you to consider a payment plan. If requesting funding from AOLC is necessary, we ask you to consider what would be a stretch, but not a strain, for you to invest in your education and professional development.

The guidelines that will be used to assess applicants are as follows:

- Completed application submitted
- Financial need
- Passion and capacity for farming
- Proven follow-through in your work and personal life
- Understanding of the value of community-based education
- Willingness to enrich the SFB & Upper Midwest CRAFT network

In order to be considered your scholarship application should include*:

1. **A short essay:** (Max 1.5 pages). Your essay should address:
 - a. **Financial need:** While we will look at your tax statement, please indicate personally why you need financial support.
 - b. **Your passion and capacity for farming:** This is also included in our main application, but please go into more detail here.
 - c. **A story that highlights your ability to accomplish your goals:** This does not have to be related to farming. It can be anything.
 - d. **A description of how you will enrich the SFB & UM CRAFT communities in the future:** For example: hosting farm visits, teaching classes or workshops, or volunteering at AOLC events.
2. **A completed SFB Scholarship Application Form:** Included below in this document.
3. **A copy of your most recent tax return for each applicant, if not filed jointly:** Redact your social security number. This information will only be reviewed by the scholarship committee and will be kept confidential.
Submit via Email: Scan documents into one pdf and email to goli@learnconnect.org

Be sure to double-check that you have completed all* requested information & documentation.

*Awards will be determined on a rolling basis and applications accepted no later than **November 30th, 2020**. Award notifications will be sent via email.*



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Name: I am able to pay? \$ _____
Farm Name (if applicable): I am requesting \$ _____ in scholarship funds
Contact Phone:

- 1) Do you have significant educational or medical debt? **Yes** **No** *If so, please provide details:*

- 2) Do you have significant savings or a family fund? **Yes** **No** *Please explain:*

- 3) Are you willing to ask your family and community circles for financial support? **Yes** **No** *If so, who can you imagine asking in your community?*

- 4) Describe why your current support system or circumstances allows you the time and energy to explore your farm dream:

- 5) Through the support of the USDA and Oberweiler Foundation, we have specific funding to support women, BIPOC, immigrant, and veteran aspiring and beginning farmers. Do you or your farming partner fit into any of these categories? **Yes** **No** If yes, check all that apply: **Woman** **BIPOC** **Immigrant** **Veteran**