

Moultrie County Farm Bureau Charles B. Shuman Memorial Scholarship

The Charles B. Shuman Memorial Scholarship was established in January of 2000 by the Moultrie County Farm Bureau to honor the achievements and life of a Moultrie County farmer and Farm Bureau leader. Shuman had confidence in the common man, believing that a good education, a positive attitude, and moral discipline allow an individual to achieve his full potential in a free society. He was a champion of individual freedom and responsibility.

Charles B. Shuman (1907-1999)

Charles B. Shuman was born on a farm in East Nelson Township. He attended a one-room country school and graduated from Sullivan High School in 1924. He received his BS and MS degrees in agricultural economics and agronomy from the University of Illinois. It was a rare accomplishment for farm boys of his day, which would foreshadow his many achievements.

When he started farming in 1929, at the beginning of the Great Depression, he saw the many needs of farmers. He helped organize the Coles-Moultrie Electric Cooperative, Moultrie Grain Association, and the first consolidated school district in the county. He was an early hybrid seed corn producer, a breeder of Duroc hogs and Angus cattle, and became involved in local livestock marketing and production credit cooperatives. He served as President of the Moultrie County Farm Bureau from 1936 to 1945.

Shuman was elected President of the Illinois Farm Bureau (IAA) in 1945 and of the American Farm Bureau Federation in 1954. As a respected leader and spokesman for the nearly two million farmer members of the nation's largest farm organization, he fought hard and successfully to steer government agricultural policy towards a free market system and away from the socialistic production and price controls of the previous thirty years.

After retiring from his 34 years of Farm Bureau leadership in 1970, he continued his public service on religious, corporate, and higher education boards. He was in demand as a public speaker, and wrote frequent letters to editors and a column for the local weekly newspaper. He was devoted to his family and church, teaching Sunday school for almost 65 years at the Sullivan First United Methodist Church.

Charles B. Shuman demonstrated good moral character as a farmer, leader, and in his personal life. His humble approach and genuine demeanor made him effective with world leaders, U.S. Presidents, and his farmer neighbors alike. With this \$500 scholarship, the Moultrie County Farm Bureau honors the life of Charles B. Shuman by assisting outstanding students from his home county to achieve their full potential.

Purpose of Farm Bureau

In 1955 Shuman said, "Farm Bureau is a free, independent, non-governmental, voluntary organization of farm and ranch families united for the purpose of analyzing their problems and formulating action to achieve educational improvement, economic opportunity and social achievement, thereby promoting the national welfare. Farm Bureau is local, national and international in its scope and influence; and is non-partisan, non-sectarian, and non-secret in character."¹

¹ One of the first actions of Shuman as president of the AFBF in 1955, was to direct the formulation of this statement of purpose

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Charles B. Shuman Memorial Scholarship which was established by the Moultrie County Farm Bureau in January 2000. A scholarship of \$500 will be awarded annually to a qualified applicant. To be eligible for consideration, an applicant must meet the following standards:

1. Live in Moultrie County, Illinois.
2. Be a High School graduate or a freshman, sophomore, or junior, in a post-secondary school.
3. Exhibit potential for successful completion of course of study.
4. Study agriculture or related fields.
5. Be of good moral character.

The scholarship will be awarded based on the applicant's academic performance, rank in class, past scholastic honors, extracurricular activities and community involvement.

A completed application consists of several parts: This application, High School Transcript, and/or College Transcript, an essay of 200 words or more, and two letters of recommendation—one from a teacher or professor and one from a character reference.

Applications must be received by March 18, 2022.

Mail to:

Moultrie County Farm Bureau
1102 W. Jackson St
Sullivan, IL 61951

Again, we thank you for your interest in the Charles B. Shuman Memorial Scholarship.

Sincerely,

Andy Bolsen

Andy Bolsen, President
Moultrie County Farm Bureau

Charles B. Shuman Memorial Scholarship Application

Part I: General Information

1. Full Name:

2. Male ____ Female ____ Date of birth _____

3. Address:

4. Telephone Number:

5. Email Address:

6. Name of High School:

7. Address and Telephone Number of High School:

8. Father's Full Name:

9. Mother's Full Name:

10. Are your parents engaged in farming and/or agribusiness?

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Part II: Academic Information

A. High School

1. GPA _____ (Provide official transcript)
2. Class Rank _____ Number in Graduating Class _____
3. Academic Awards/Honors:

B. University or Junior College

1. Name of school you plan to attend:
2. Major & Minor:
3. GPA _____ (Provide most recent transcript)
4. Academic Awards/Honors:

CHARLES B. SHUMAN MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Part III: Activities

1. List extracurricular activities in which you participated in high school and/or college. Indicate offices and positions of leadership you held as well as any honors you received based on your participation.

2. List community activities (not directly connected with high school and/or college) in which you have participated. Indicate offices and positions of leadership you have held as well as any honors you have received based on your participation.

3. Describe any employment experiences you have had.

- ## Charles B. Shuman Memorial Scholarship Application

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Part V: General Information

The following information will help the Scholarship Review Committee in its deliberations. This information is strictly confidential and only the Scholarship Review Committee will see it.

1. Will you work during the school year to support your education? If so, please describe the type of work you will be doing, where you will be working, approximately how many hours per week you will work, and how much you expect to earn.

2. Do you intend to work during the summer? If so please describe the type of work you will be doing, where you will be working, approximately how many hours per week you will work, and how much you expect to earn.

3. Do you have a scholarship or tuition waiver? Do you receive financial aid? If so, please list below.

Name of Assistance

Value

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4. Marital Status:

Single ____

Married ____

Number of dependents:

Ages:

Name of spouse:

Occupation:

5. Will your parents help to pay for your education expenses? If so, how much?

6. Parents occupation:

7. Do you reside with your parents? If not, with whom?

Charles B. Shuman Memorial Scholarship

Application of _____

Instructor's Recommendation

(To be completed by an instructor who has had the applicant in class)

1. Instructor's name and address:

2. How do you know the applicant?

3. Describe the applicant's academic performances and working habits.

4. Why do you believe this applicant will succeed in his or her chosen course of study?

Signature _____

Date _____

Upon completion, please return to applicant in a sealed envelope.

Charles B. Shuman Memorial Scholarship

Application of _____

Character Reference

1. Name and address of person making this recommendation:
2. How do you know the applicant?
3. Describe the character traits of this applicant that you have observed:
4. Why do you believe this applicant should be awarded this scholarship?

Signature _____

Date _____

Upon completion, please return to applicant in a sealed envelope.

Charles B. Shuman Memorial Scholarship

Application Checklist

A completed application consists of the following:

- ☐ This application
- ☐ High school and/or college transcript
- ☐ Essay
- ☐ Teacher or professor's letter of recommendation
- ☐ Letter of recommendation from a character reference

Final Instructions

The recommendation letters should be submitted with the rest of this application. You should request that persons writing recommendations return them to you in sealed envelopes.

Please do not submit this application until it is complete. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Application Deadline, March 18, 2022