Ventura County – California Women for Agriculture

2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Since 1976, Ventura County California Women for Agriculture has diligently worked to empower, engage and educate women in agriculture to be at the forefront of our industry. From the field to the boardroom, VC-CWA members are actively creating change in our county as we adapt to a more urban environment, ensuring we can continue tackling the needs of the world's growing demand for reliable food, fuel and fiber.

As we look to the future, VC-CWA is proud to offer scholarships to support the education and career aspirations of promising local students interested in agriculture or other related fields. By investing in the endeavors of our youth, we strive to help nurture future leaders who will contribute to the continued success and sustainability of Ventura County's agricultural community.

SCHOLARSHIP SPECIFICS:

Please select **ONE** scholarship from the options below to apply for by checking the corresponding box. *The VC-CWA Scholarship Committee retains the discretion to allocate a scholarship different from the one initially applied for by the applicant if they determine it would better align with the applicant's qualifications and aspirations.*

☐ **VC-CWA Scholarship –** $2,000

Ventura County California Women for Agriculture seeks to award one well-rounded student with a passion for agriculture and a strong commitment to their community. Applicants must demonstrate active involvement within Ventura County's agricultural industry, showcasing their dedication to the local farming or ranching communities.

This scholarship is designed to support a student who not only excels academically, but actively contributes to the agricultural sector through their extra curricular activities, volunteer work, internships, or other forms of engagement. We seek to present this scholarship to a student who is passionate about the future of agriculture and who has demonstrated leadership, innovation, and a genuine desire to make a difference.

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☐ **Elaine Cavaletto Memorial Scholarship –** $2,000

The Elaine Cavaletto Memorial Scholarship honors the legacy of Elaine Cavaletto, a cherished figure in the VC-CWA community and a dedicated citrus and avocado grower from Somis, CA. Elaine's passion for agriculture and her unwavering commitment to fostering the next generation of leaders inspired the establishment of this scholarship. By supporting future agriculturalists, Elaine's memory lives on, leaving a lasting impact on the agricultural community she loved dearly.

Before her passing, Elaine left us with one last message – "Enjoy life, laugh often, love others, and it's OK to cry. Life is too short to be miserable. Listen for opportunities to tell your story as each one is different and together we all can and will tell the world what agriculture is all about. God bless you all."

Applicants must have a minimum 2.5 GPA on a scale of 4.0. Priority will be given to students who are the first generation in their families to pursue studies beyond high school.

☐ **Topa Topa Flywheelers Scholarship –** $2,000

The Topa Topa Flywheelers Scholarship, presented by the Topa Topa Flywheelers Antique Gas Engine & Tractor Club, recognizes the rich heritage of agriculture by supporting students passionate about its preservation and advancement. This scholarship aims to foster the next generation of agricultural leaders by providing financial assistance to individuals who demonstrate a genuine interest in pursuing careers within the agricultural industry. Through this scholarship, the Topa Topa Flywheelers celebrate their commitment to honoring the history of agriculture while encouraging innovation and growth in the field.

☐ **Lucy Vanoni Memorial Scholarship –** $2,000

The Lucy Vanoni Memorial Scholarship commemorates the invaluable contributions of Lucy Vanoni, a dedicated member of VC-CWA and many other organizations across the county. This merit-based scholarship is established to honor her legacy by supporting students who demonstrate an exceptional passion for the industry. Through this scholarship, the Vanoni family aims to celebrate Lucy's commitment to excellence and inspire future generations to pursue their aspirations within the field of agriculture.

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Eligibility Requirements for all Scholarships:

Please review the specific scholarship you are applying for about any additional requirements.

- Must be a Ventura County resident (*Current college or continuing education students who graduated from a Ventura County high school may still apply*).
- Must be enrolled or planning to enroll in an accredited university, junior college, or trade school program related to agriculture.
- Must show dedication to furthering the progress of agriculture or an associated field.
- Must be under the age of 25.
- Financial need may be taken into consideration, but is not required.

Essay:

Please submit an essay that is 500 words or more, double-spaced, using Times New Roman, 12-point font.

- **ESSAY POMPT:** This scholarship supports Ventura County students who are passionate about agriculture and dedicated to its future. In a well-organized essay, explain your connection to agriculture, your experiences in the industry, and how you plan to contribute to its growth and sustainability.
  - Consider discussing:
    - Your background and involvement in agriculture, including any hands-on experience, leadership roles, or community engagement.
    - Challenges facing the agriculture industry and how you hope to address them.
    - How your education and career goals align with supporting and advancing agriculture in Ventura County.
    - The impact agriculture has had on your life and why it is important to you.
    - How this scholarship will help you achieve your goals in the agricultural field.
    - If you and your family are facing financial hardships, please elaborate on that if you feel comfortable.

Supporting Materials:

Alongside the essay, applicants must provide the following materials:

- A completed VC-CWA scholarship application.
- An official or unofficial copy of the applicant's current high school, college or trade school transcript.
- Two letters of recommendation from two non-family members.
- A copy of the applicant's resume with school, community or church activities and any awards, honors or scholarships received.

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Submission & Contact Information:

COMPLETE APPLICATIONS MUST BE EMAILED OR POSTMARKED BY APRIL 4, 2025.

Email the completed application to:

scholarships@cwaventura.com

OR mail the application to:

Ventura County CWA
ATTN: Scholarship Committee
PO Box 4494
Ventura, CA 93007

For more information, contact **scholarships@cwaventura.com**.

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APPLICANT INFORMATION

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ **Zip Code:** _____

Phone: _____ **Email:** _____

Date of birth: _____

Student occupation: _____

Employer: _____

Employment history (for the last two years)**:** _____

_____

_____

_____

Are you a related to a member of VC-CWA? ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**

If yes, please give their name. _____

Have you previously received a VC-CWA scholarship? ☐ **YES** ☐ **NO**

If yes, which one(s)? _____

FAMILY INFORMATION

Number of members within my immediate family, including myself: _____

Number of family members attending college simultaneously: _____

Father/guardian occupation: _____

Employer: _____

Mother/guardian occupation: _____

Employer: _____

ACADEMIC INFORMATION

Date of high school graduation: _____ **Rank in graduating class:** ____ **out of** ____

Current GPA (through last completed semester)**:** _____

Highest SAT and/or ACT score(s): _____

University/college/technical school applicant plans to attend OR is currently attending:

_____

Planned major field of study OR current major: _____