

2026 Southern AgCredit Scholarship Program Emery Skelton Scholarship Application Form

Applicant's Name: _____
Permanent Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____
Phone: _____ Email: _____
Parents' Names: _____

Who is the Southern AgCredit borrower?

☐ Self ☐ Spouse ☐ Parent(s) ☐ Grandparent(s)

Name of Southern AgCredit borrower (if different from self or parent): _____
Southern AgCredit Branch: _____

School Information:

Name of school currently attending: _____ GPA: _____

Current Class: ☐ High School Senior ☐ College Freshman ☐ College Sophomore ☐ College

Junior High school seniors, please provide: _____ Rank in class _____ Size of class _____

Do you plan to attend Mississippi State University in Fall 2026? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Major: _____ Career field you plan to pursue: _____
A copy of your high school or college transcript must be included with your completed application.

Qualifications:

Add additional pages, if necessary.

Leadership Experience: _____

Extracurricular Activities: _____

Essay Instructions:

Your essay will help the judges learn more about you and your future life plans. Please write an essay **no more than a page in length** and discuss **one or more** of the following topics:

- Describe how you have demonstrated leadership ability both in and out of school.
- Who in your life has been your biggest influence and why?
- What are your dreams for the future? Thirty years from now, when you look back on your life, what will it take for you to consider your life successful?
- Why have you chosen your career field and what do you hope to achieve in the next 10 years?
- What are your major accomplishments, and why do you consider them accomplishments?

Attach the essay to this application and return to alicia.ledbetter@southernagcredit.com by **March 17, 2026**.

Southern AgCredit 2026 Emery Skelton Scholarship

Promoting the further education of our youth in Mississippi and Louisiana

In honor of a former longtime Southern AgCredit board member, Mr. Emery Skelton, a \$2,500 scholarship will be awarded to one deserving student who attends or is planning to attend Mississippi State University. Applicants may be a graduating high school senior or a current MSU student majoring in agriculture or a related field (e.g., Agriculture, Ag Economics, Ag Business, Business, Marketing, etc.). Preference will be given to a student from the Mississippi Delta region because of Mr. Skelton's close ties to the Delta area. Applicants must not have won a previous Emery Skelton Scholarship.

Scholarship winners will be selected based on school and community involvement, scholastic performance, educational goals and financial needs. Winner will be announced in April 2026.

To be eligible to apply, you must be a child, grandchild or spouse of a current Southern AgCredit borrower or be a borrower yourself.

Selection Criteria

- **Scholarship:** measured by grades and transcripts (5 points)
- **Leadership:** measured by positions held in student government, civic and church groups (10 points)
- **Extracurricular activities:** measured by participation in sports, school and community organizations, as well as work experience (10 points)
- **Essay:** measured by content and message (25 points)