

**Beekeepers of the Northern Shenandoah
Jim Winget Youth Beekeeping Scholarship Program
Application/Agreement**



Objective:

1. To educate youth in the art of beekeeping and to promote a better understanding of the value of honeybees in our environment and to the food chain.
2. To provide an opportunity for youth to experience the responsibility and enjoyment found in beekeeping
3. To provide an avenue for youth to engage in an avocation and gain potential knowledge to pursue beekeeping as a sideline or full-time vocation.

The Award:

1. A one-year membership in the Beekeepers of the Northern Shenandoah (BONS) Association and the Virginia State Beekeepers Association (VSBA).
2. Full tuition paid for the BONS Beginning Beekeeping class, including the full textbook package, for the student and the parent/guardian.
3. Two complete sets of woodenware for a beehive; each consisting of four unassembled hive bodies with associated unassembled frames and foundations, a screened bottom board, an inner cover, a telescoping cover, a top feeder and associated minor equipment for operation and assembly of the hive and frames.
4. Mentoring services provided by an approved BONS member from FEBRUARY of the current year to APRIL of the following year.
5. BONS assistance in extracting the first honey crop, expected to occur in a new beekeeper's second year.
6. The monetary value of the Scholarship is approximately \$525.

Recipients Financial Responsibilities:

1. The purchase of two nucs (nucleus) colonies or packages of bees complete with queens for each hive. (Estimated cost ~\$200-\$300)
2. The purchase of Beekeeping gear; a hat/veil/jacket, hive tool, gloves, and bee smoker. (Cost varies by supplier)

Eligibility:

1. The applicant must be between the ages of 12 and 16 by December 1st of the current year.
2. The applicant must be a resident of one of the following Virginia counties: Frederick, Clarke, Shenandoah, or Warren, or the City of Winchester.
3. The applicant must be currently enrolled in public, private, or home-schooled.
4. The applicant must have permission and agreement from a parent or guardian.
5. The applicant must be submitted to BONS no later than November 1st of the current year.
6. The Program Committee or its representative must judge the proposed locations for the hives to be suitable for the successful maintenance of bee colonies.

Program Committee:

1. The BONS Scholarship Program Committee will select the finalists.
2. The Program Committee will arrange an interview with the finalists and their parents/guardians.
3. The scholarship will be awarded to the applicant selected by the Program Committee and presented at the BONS January meeting held on the second Thursday of the month.

Application:

Name: _____ Date of Birth _____(MM/DD/YY)

Street Address: _____

City/State: _____ County: _____

Zip Code: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Name of Parents/Guardians: _____

Do you know a beekeeper? Y/N, if so, what is their relationship to you? _____

List your other interests: _____

Write a brief paragraph on why you are interested in bees and beekeeping and what you hope to accomplish if you are chosen for this scholarship. (Add additional pages if needed):

Parents/Guardians:

Do you believe your child/ward can benefit from this program? Please provide reason(s):

What support and encouragement do you plan to give you child/ward in their project?

How did you learn about the BONS Scholarship Program?

Please attach any letters of recommendation to this application (Teachers, 4-H, FFA, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.)

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF AGREEMENT

The recipient of this scholarship will receive the materials and services as provided in the Award section:

- Successful attendance (100%) and completion of the Beginners Beekeeping Class held for eight weeks between February and March.
- The award recipient will be expected to attend at least 50% of the BONS meetings from February (after the award) to April the following year. (Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month, except July and December, at 7:00pm in the Blandy Arboretum Library).
- The award recipient will notify the current president or their mentor when he or she is unable to attend the monthly BONS meeting.
- At each meeting attended, the Award recipient will be required to present a short (5 minute) progress report of the activities to date.
- The award recipient will keep a written record complete with dates, photos (optional), and other data to sustain all progress reports.
- A final report (15 to 20 minutes) will be presented at the APRIL meeting of the following year to report on the wintering experience and lessons learned.
- A Certificate of Completion and full ownership of the colony and all equipment will be presented at that April meeting *IF* the award recipient has met all requirements.

Signature of Applicant

Date

Signature and relationship of Parent/Guardian

Date

WAIVER

I, _____ (please print), am the applicant’s parent or guardian (circle one). By signing this waiver, I acknowledge that my child/ward has no known allergies to honey bee stings or any bee byproducts and has my consent to accept this scholarship, if chosen.

I understand that by allowing my child/ward to accept this scholarship, she or she may have pictures or his/her name may appear in local media outlets, the Beekeepers of the Northern Shenandoah (BONS) website, etc. Any and all forms of media containing images or naming of the scholarship winner will ONLY by used t promote BONS, beekeepers in Virginia, and/or the BONS Beekeeping Scholarship.

I agree that by signing this waiver I am relieving Beekeepers of the Northern Shenandoah (BONS) and its members of any or all liability for any accidents, mishaps, or unforeseen occurrences to my child/ward that might take place in the pursuit of this project.

I also understand the bee colony and the equipment remain property of BONS and cannot be sold, given away, transferred in any manner, or destroyed during the qualifying period without written consent from BONS. In the event that the applicant loses interest or can no longer pursue the beekeeping project, authorized members of BONS shall be notified and all equipment, woodenware, and the colony of bees will be returned to BONS.

Upon successful completion of the qualifying terms (to the satisfaction of the Scholarship Committee) and all previously agreed upon conditions have been met, the applicant will be presented a Certificate of Completion for the beekeeping project and ownership of the bee colony, woodenware, and related equipment will be transferred to his or her ownership.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Please mail this application to: Branson McKay, P.O. Box 468, Berryville, VA 22611, or bring application to a BONS meeting - the second Thursday of each month (except July and December), at 6:45pm in the Library at Blandy Arboretum, located about one mile east of the intersection of Highway 50 and 340 at 400 Blandy Farm Lane, Boyce, VA 22620.

For more information; see the BONS website at www.valleybees.org