

Application Guidelines and Selection Criteria

2026

The Dr. Karl C. Ivarson Agricultural Scholarship was established in 2013 to provide financial support to students from the province of Alberta in their university studies in agriculture or a related discipline. The scholarship is administered by the CFFAE through its Education and Scholarships Committee.

In 2026, there will be one (1) Master of Science scholarship of \$10,000 and one (1) PhD scholarship of \$17,000.

Application Deadline is Sunday, October 18, 2026.

Eligibility:

- Candidates must hold Canadian Citizenship or Permanent Resident status.
- Candidates must be registered full-time in a masters or doctorate program in the area of agriculture or related discipline.
- Candidates must be enrolled in their graduate program until at least one semester beyond the application deadline.
- Previous recipients of this scholarship are not eligible for subsequent awards.
- **Candidates must be from the province of Alberta by meeting at least one of the following criteria.** ("From the province of Alberta" is a qualifying criterion only and is not used as a scoring element in the selection of award recipients):
 1. An applicant with a permanent residence in Alberta, Canada for a minimum of 12 months prior to the application deadline.
 2. A student studying agriculture or a related discipline at an Alberta university.
 3. A graduate of an Alberta high school or post-secondary institution but studying at a non-Alberta institution.
 4. An applicant born in Alberta.
 5. Significant knowledge of and attachment to Alberta, as demonstrated through a series of short-term residences including some primary or secondary schooling in Alberta.

Selection Criteria:

Selection of scholarship recipients will be based solely on information provided as part of the application. No restrictions are placed on scholarship applicants holding other grants or awards or receiving assistance or income from other sources.

Scholarships are awarded using the following criteria, not listed in order of importance: 1) Academic Achievement, 2) Areas of Study, 3) Community Involvement, 4) Career Interests, and 5) Letters of Recommendation.

Scoring of Selection Criteria (100 points total):

Part 1: Academic Achievements (25 points total)

- Academic Score: Average grade of most recent Undergraduate/Graduate courses (minimum 20 graded courses)
- Percent Average x 15 = number of points (15 points maximum)
- Honours/Achievements: Honours or achievements reported (10 points maximum)

Part 2: Areas of Study (25 points total)

- Course Relevance: Undergraduate and graduate courses directly related to agricultural sciences (20 points maximum)
- Scholarship Relevance: Applicant demonstrates awareness of and shows relevance of application to scholarship objectives (5 points maximum)
- Research Focus: Succinct description of research focus and objectives. (No points, for information purposes only)

Part 3: Community Involvement (20 points total)

- Personal Development: How applicant sees their experience, attitude, and importance of community service in their personal development and future career interests. 2 points for each different role/community service experience reported (8 points maximum)
- Scholarship Relevance: Additional points credited if different leadership roles/community service are directly related to the agricultural community (8 points maximum)
- Leadership: Additional points credited if role is as project leader; 0.5 additional points credited if role is as project organizer or project assistant (4 points maximum)

Part 4: Career Interests (20 points total)

- Work Experience: Work experience directly related to agriculture (5 points maximum)
- Goals Developed: Stated goals the Applicant has developed as part of the career experience (3 points maximum)
- Goals Achieved: Achieving the stated goals and for describing the level of achievement on the stated goals (4.5 points maximum)
- Skills Developed: Stated skills the Applicant has developed as part of the career experience (3 points maximum)
- Future Goals: Complete description of the Applicant's future personal, educational and career goals for the next ten years (4.5 points maximum)

Part 5: Other (10 points total)

- Communication Skills: Application is well organized, clearly written, concise and addresses selection criteria (2 points maximum)
- Recommendations: Letters of reference (up to 3) provided (8 points maximum)

How to Apply:

Submit a complete Ivarson Agricultural Scholarship application in full (form provided on the CFFAE website) and provide all documentation requested by **Sunday, October 18, 2026. Late entries will not be accepted.**

Application Package and Required Documentation:

- A completed and signed Ivarson Agricultural Scholarship application form.
- Official Transcripts from all post-secondary institutions. NOTE: Only PDF scans of Official Transcripts will be accepted and must be included as part of the application and received by the deadline.
- A letter from your university confirming enrolment in your current Masters or PhD program.
- Compile all parts of your application (except reference letters) into one pdf document before submission. Please name your application file as IvarsonAG2025_yourlastname.
- Your completed application package must be submitted electronically by the deadline to manager@cffae.ca, subject line: Ivarson AG Application for LastName
- Up to three (3) letters of reference using the form provided on the CFFAE website must be submitted directly by your referees to the CFFAE at manager@cffae.ca by the application deadline.

Application deadline is 11:59 pm, MDT Sunday, October 18, 2026