

**KWOF Scholarship Application – Fall 2023**  
**Provided by the Kentucky Woodland Owners Foundation**  
dmclaren@uky.edu

Make available (electronic or paper) the (1) *Student Information*, (2) *Personal Reflection Statement* and (3) *Letter(s) of Recommendation* to:

Doug McLaren, Immediate Past President of KWOA/KWOF  
330 Cave Run Circle  
Versailles, KY 40383  
dmclaren@uky.edu

**Fall 2023 Annual Reflection Statement for the KWOF Scholarship Award**  
**Artificial Intelligence (AI)**

During the dozen or so decades since forestry became established in America, each decade seemed to have manifested a new concern and opportunity for field foresters designing management plans. Examples being habitat loss for wildlife species, fire concerns, wood product innovations, technological advances, deforestation discussions, biodiversity issues, political influences, and forest disturbances primarily of invasive insects and plants. Most recently has been a discussion of carbon credits and how those financial rewards can alter immediate and future management decisions. Along these same lines, how has climate change influenced woodland management objectives. All these issues have provided the need for field foresters to rethink, rework, and reevaluate management possibilities. Just in the past few months Artificial Intelligence (AI) has begun to play into the discussion of forestry at all levels.

**For the KWOF 2023 Scholarship Reflection Statement**, please discuss how Artificial Intelligence (AI) can benefit or possibly become a disadvantage in the discussion of woodland management in Kentucky. How can this AI technology relate to the development of written management plans created for a woodland landowner in Kentucky? How can AI take away or add to the professional forester’s “toolbox” required for future woodland management course of action?

It will be assumed that by participating in the Kentucky Woodland Foundations 2023 Scholarship, you the participant, will not have used AI to create the formal essay submitted.

**Deadline – this application deadline is November 10th, 2023**  
**Kentucky Woodland Owners Foundation Scholarship**

*(OVER for details of the Scholarship)*

**PURPOSE:** The purpose of the Kentucky Woodlands Owners Foundation Scholarship is to provide annually an award to an outstanding student enrolled in the University of Kentucky's professional forestry degree program. The award will be granted based on leadership potential, connection with the forestry community, and insight into the forestry profession.

**ELIGIBILITY:** Applicants for the Kentucky Woodland Owners Foundation Scholarship must be a full-time University of Kentucky undergraduate student in the professional program of forestry and have a minimum ranking of junior or senior at the time of the November 10th deadline date but has not graduated. The award can only be awarded to any one person once.

**SCHOLARSHIP:** The Kentucky Woodland Owners Foundation Scholarship is in the amount of \$1000. These monies will be paid directly to the University of Kentucky for tuition fees. The award announcement will be no later than December 1st, 2023.

**AWARD SELECTION:** Scholarship recipients will be selected on a competitive basis by using a combination of criteria which include but not limited to: leadership potential, extracurricular activities, community service, and written submission as required for the award. This is not an academic scholarship.

**APPLICATIONS:** Application should be returned to the **Kentucky Woodland Owners Foundation's** Immediate Past President, Doug McLaren, 330 Cave Run Circle, Versailles, KY 40383 either by land mail or an electronic version.

If you have any questions, call, 859.881.8583 or email [dmclaren@uky.edu](mailto:dmclaren@uky.edu)

**KEY DATES:** Completed and submitted **application date will be no later than** November 10th, 2023. Scholarship awards will be announced by December 1st, 2023, for tuition payment. It is requested but not mandated that the recipient of the award attend the Kentucky Woodland Owners Association annual meeting (normally during the spring season) to be recognized for the award. Costs for attending will be defrayed.

**APPLICATION SUMMARY:** The following information and documents must be submitted to be accepted as a complete application packet by the student. If any of the information is missing on the deadline date of November 17th, 2023, the applicant will not be eligible for the award.

**First Section** (limited to one page) – **Student information:** Complete name, address, telephone number, and email address. Please make a notation of your high school. On this page will also be where you may make any statements concerning your academic performance and contributions either in school leading to your entrance into the forestry program at the University of Kentucky or contributions you have made while at the forestry program. Please feel free to list any influences that were made on your making the decision to major in forestry. This page provides you with the opportunity to discuss your interest and desire to be involved in forestry.

**Second Section – Recommendation(s):** Requested that you have at least one formal letter of recommendation from a member of the Forestry and Natural Resources Department at the University of Kentucky (teaching, research, or Cooperative Extension).

**Concluding Section – Personal Reflection Statement:** You will be asked to provide your personal reflections on an "Annual Reflection Statement" ("**Artificial Intelligence**"). It will change annually. Your remarks to this statement will be confined to 600 words. Go to [www.kwoa.net](http://www.kwoa.net) and click on top banner EVENTS for updates and listing of this scholarship.