

## FAQs

- 1) Question: When will the 1890 USDA National Scholars Program application close?

Answer: The application will close exactly at 11:59 p.m. Pacific Time, and even if you are in it, you will be unable to submit your application

- 2) Question: Can I print my application?

Answer: The application portal is only for entry and will not allow printing.

- 3) Question: Should I email [1890init@usda.gov](mailto:1890init@usda.gov) if I have questions about my application even after I have submitted it?

Answer: Yes, you should send all questions about your application to [1890init@usda.gov](mailto:1890init@usda.gov).

- 4) Question: Will I receive a receipt or confirmation that I have submitted my application?

Answer: Yes, applicants will receive a confirmation number when they complete and submit the application. Reference your confirmation number on all communications sent to [1890init@usda.gov](mailto:1890init@usda.gov).

- 5) Question: Will the application portal time-out if there is no activity?

Answer: If the application is open, you are allowed unlimited time to complete it before 11:59 pm PT March 15, 2025.

- 6) Question: Can I go back to the previous page and edit my answers?

Answer: Yes, but only while in the application, not after submitting it and receiving a confirmation number.

- 7) Question: Will I be able to see a summary page to review all my answers before submitting my application?

Answer: No, the application does not produce a summary page, so you must review your application before submitting it.

- 8) Question: Can I upload my essay?

Answer: No, essays are entered into the application by typing or cutting and pasting

information from MS Word or a similar application. Official transcripts and test scores are the only required documents that must be scanned and uploaded.

- 9) Question: Will the application notify me if I am selected or not for the scholarship and when?

Answer: No, a USDA agency representative will send you an email extending an offer if selected.

- 10) Question: What is the maximum number of 1890 Land-Grant Universities I can select for the application?

Answer: Applicants may select up to five 1890 Land-Grant Universities in their scholarship application. This does not, however, preclude individuals to applying to as many institutions as they may choose.

- 11) Question: How many fields of study will the application allow an applicant to select?

Answer: Applicants may select one field of study per university.

- 12) Question: How do I sign my application?

Answer: The application does not require signatures, but you must agree to and check the "Application Review" and "Certification" boxes.

- 13) Question: Do I need to list my preferences in top rank order for questions whose answers are in multi-select checkboxes to show my top choices?

Answer: Yes, make your selections according to your first preference, second preference, etc.

- 14) Question: Can I submit my application without completing the demographic information?

Answer: Yes, you can submit your application without completing the demographic information. The questions are optional, and the information will have no bearing on the review of your application.

- 15) Question: Do I have to submit an official transcript and have a third party upload it to my application?

Answer: Yes, you must submit an official transcript, which you may scan and upload to your application. A third party is not needed. Official transcripts contain the school's seal, stamp, or signature that indicates the transcript came from the registrar's office.

16) Question: Do I have to remove all my personally identifiable information (PII), such as my birthdate, gender, race, self-photo, and social security number, from my required documents, or will the application allow redaction after uploading?

Answer: Yes, all uploaded documents should be free from any PII. You may redact by using a black marker or your PDF or PC editing applications before scanning.