



“Planting Seeds for the Future”

2026

ROCKWALL COUNTY MASTER GARDENER SCHOLARSHIP

***A horticulture-related scholarship administered and awarded by the
Rockwall County Master Gardener Association.***

Award amount per recipient: **Up To \$1,000.00 per Recipient**

The Texas Master Gardeners is a volunteer organization conducted by Texas A&M University AgriLife Extension Service. The purpose of the Master Gardener program is to increase the availability of horticultural information and improve the quality of life of local residents through horticultural projects and activities. The Rockwall County Master Gardeners Association is a non-profit (501c-3) tax-exempt organization.

The goal of the RCMG scholarship is to provide the opportunity for high school senior student residents of Rockwall County to study horticulture or related sciences at their chosen college or university.

I. Applicant Qualifications:

- A.** The RCMGA scholarship is open to graduating 2026 high school seniors currently residing in Rockwall County who attend a Rockwall County High School, private/ charter school, or home school program. Rockwall County senior student residents who attend a high school outside of Rockwall County are also eligible. Application is open to high school graduating senior students regardless of socio-economic level, race, color, gender, disability, or national origin.
- B.** The applicant's elected academic major must be in a horticulture/life science-related field that includes, but is not limited to horticulture, agriculture, biology, botany, agricultural chemistry, entomology, environmental science, forestry, genetics, landscape design, sustainable agriculture, urban geography, land management, plant physiology, and horticulture-related business.

II. Application and Award Procedures:

A. Applicant must complete the **Application Form entirely and **submit all documents listed below:****

1. A 300–500-word essay, clearly and concisely written by the applicant, titled “Why I Want to Study Horticulture or a Related Life Science Field”. This essay should include applicant’s reason for applying for this scholarship and career objectives.
2. A list of volunteer activities, leadership and work experience, if any, and position(s) held.
3. A list of horticulture-related projects or activities.
4. Two letters of recommendation from someone who knows applicant well, other than a relative or pastor.
5. An official copy of applicant’s academic transcript (i.e., high school and any college credits).

B. Application deadline: **11:59 pm Monday, January 19, 2026**

IMPORTANT: The application must be completed and submitted by 11:59 pm Monday, January 19, 2026. An application is not complete until all items listed above, including the letters of recommendation and transcript, are received.

Submission must be by one of the following:

- ***Via email, receipt by 11:59 pm Monday, January 19, 2026***
- ***Hand-delivered to the AgriLife Extension Office by 5:00 p.m. Monday, January 19, 2026***
- ***Via USPS, receipt at the AgriLife Extension Office by 5:00 p.m. Monday, January 19, 2026 (a postmark does not meet the deadline requirement)***

C. Finalists will be interviewed. The ultimate determination of the award will be based upon the application, submitted documents, and applicant interview.

D. All applicants will be notified of the committee’s decision regarding their application no later than April 10, 2026.