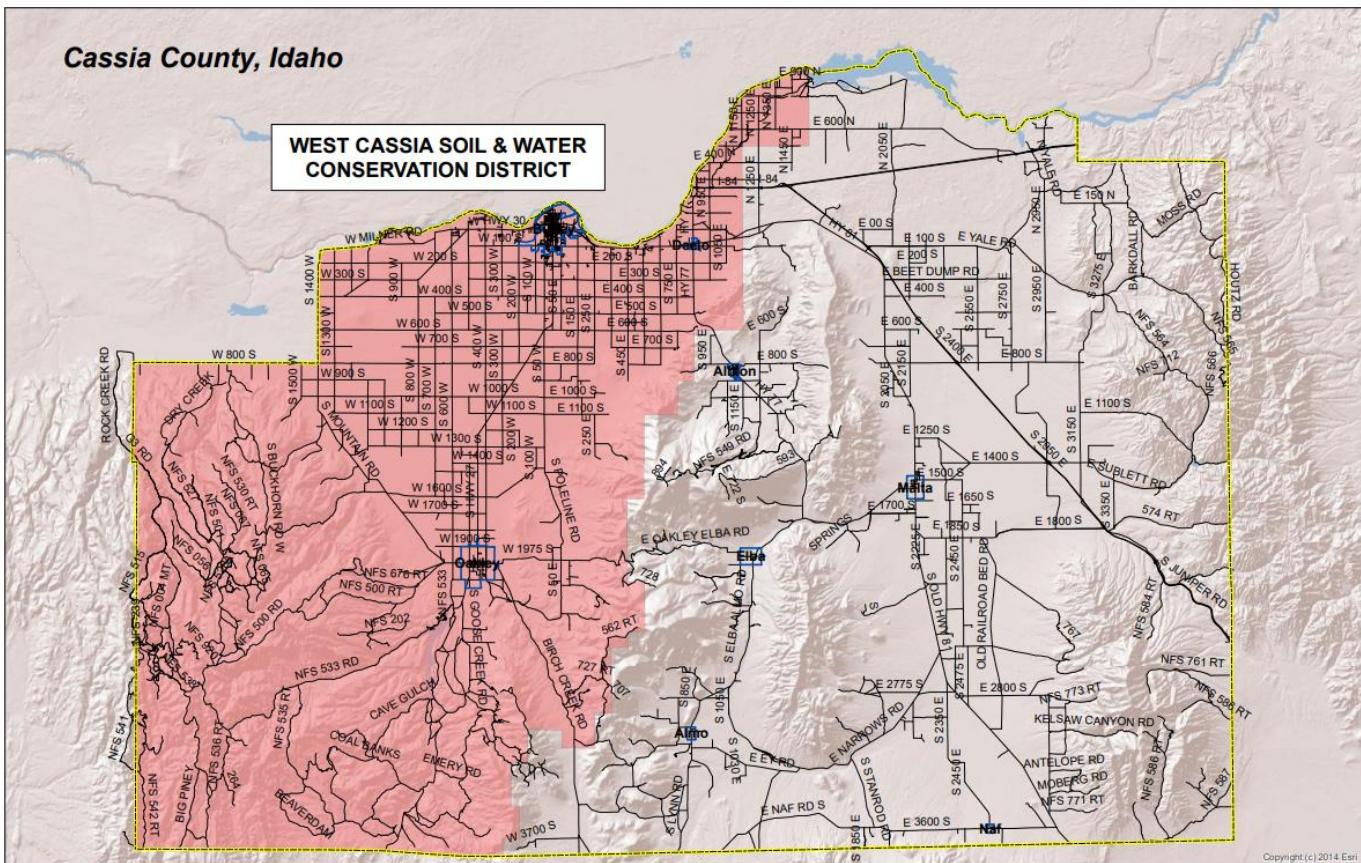


WEST CASSIA SOIL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

208-572-3375

2026 College or Trade School SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Applications Due: April 23, 2026



WEST CASSIA
SOIL & WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
2026 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

This scholarship will be considered for students planning to attend college or a trade school with a focus on an Ag related field of study. (Scholarship amounts of \$1,000 or \$500 will be awarded depending upon how scholarship requirements are met.)

Applications will be accepted from students who have not previously been awarded this scholarship. Applicants who attend either Burley High School or Oakley High School, or who reside in West Cassia SWCD boundaries will get first consideration. This scholarship is to be used the fall term following receipt of the award.

Applications must be received by Thursday, April 23, 2026 by:

** Email to ewcswcd@gmail.com,*

** Postal mail to: East Cassia Soil & Water Conservation District*

1361 East 16th Street, Burley, ID 83318

** or Hand delivered to the NRCS office at 1361 East 16th Street in Burley*

CURRENT SCHOOL YEAR 2025-2026

(Type or print clearly)

Applicant's Name _____

Home Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Email _____

Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Parent's/Guardian's Name _____

Parent's phone _____

School currently attending _____

Name of institution you plan to attend this fall: _____

(Date)

(Applicant's Signature)

(Date)

(Guardian's Signature)

West Cassia Soil & Water Conservation District

SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS:

- Applicant must be planning to attend college in the fall with a major in an Agriculture related field OR planning to attend a trade school, and must have never received this award before.
- Attach school transcript.
- Attach a photo of yourself.
- List 3 personal references with phone numbers. (Do not include a letter of reference.) Tell why they are a good reference for you.

(a) _____

(b) _____

(c) _____

- What do you plan to study and explain the reason for your choice: _____

- List your Community and Service Activities: _____

- List your School or Community Club Memberships (including FFA or 4-H) and any leadership positions held: _____

- List any farming experience you have had: _____

- List any association you have had with the Soil & Water Conservation District or their Supervisors:

- **Attend a Board Meeting** that is open to the public for a Soil & Water Conservation District, an Irrigation District, a Planning and Zoning Commission, or a Road or Highway Board.

**Note: You are not expected to speak or participate in the meeting you attend. (For meeting suggestions, contact one of the names at the bottom of the page.)*

During the meeting, take notes and attach a written report of no more than 150 words answering the following 4 questions:

1. Which meeting did you attend and why?
2. Who led or directed the meeting?
3. Who participated in the meeting that was not an elected official?
4. What did you observe or find interesting about the meeting?

- **Meet with a Farmer, a Rancher, or someone working in an agricultural related field.**

Request 10 minutes of their time and show up to the appointment on time, appropriately dressed, and ready to take notes. *If they ask why you want to meet, tell them you are doing the interview for a scholarship application and want to learn more about agricultural careers.*

Ask them the following 6 questions:

1. Why did you choose to work in agriculture?
2. What duties do you normally perform?
3. If a farmer or a rancher, what crops (or animals) are you currently growing (or raising), and why did you choose them?
4. What sustainable practices do you implement on your farm or that you encourage through your job?
5. What training or education would be helpful for someone wanting to pursue this same career path?
6. What are the biggest challenges you face in farming (or ranching) today?

Submit a written report of no more than 150 words summarizing your visit and their responses as well as anything else you observed during the interview that you found interesting.

- **Write (and submit) a letter** to an Idaho State Legislator about a current Ag related issue. Advocate a position beneficial to agriculture in Southern Idaho. Submit a copy of your letter with this scholarship application and include which legislator you contacted.

Note: If selected as a finalist, you will be asked to attend an interview where you will share your experiences with this application and explain your letter to a legislator.



Scholarships will be judged on:

Quality of Completed Application	25
Agricultural Involvement	10
Evaluation of Meeting Attended	15
Interview	15
Written Letter	10
Interview & Presentation on Letter	25

If you need help or suggestions, please call one of the following individuals:

*Doreen McMurray 208-312-5556
Rachelle Osterhout 208-312-0146*