

## **8<sup>th</sup> DISTRICT MINNESOTA STATE HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION**

A minimum of four 8<sup>th</sup> District scholarships ranging from \$400 to \$700 will be awarded to students residing in the Minnesota State Horticultural Society 8<sup>th</sup> District (their “home” address must be in the 8<sup>th</sup> District) The 8<sup>th</sup> District includes the counties of Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake, north and south St. Louis.

The scholarship will be presented to the student upon proof of course registration (proof must show their name, college/school, class schedule and a fee statement, even if paid). It can be a screen shot, a download or photocopy of their confirmation and it can be printed out and mailed to our treasurer. Checks are payable to the student and can be used for ANY expense the student has while attending classes.

### **ELIGIBILITY:**

- \*Applicant must be a graduating senior from the MSHS 8<sup>th</sup> District who will be attending a college or technical school within one calendar year (August 15, 2026 to August 15, 2027) after being chosen as a recipient; no restriction as to course or school:
- \***OR** a non-traditional student (a home schooled student must have a signed statement that they have completed their studies that are comparable to a regular school student), college student, second-time winner, etc. from the MSHS 8<sup>th</sup> District The applicant must be attending a college (or technical school) within one calendar year (August 15, 2026 to August 15, 2027) after being chosen as a recipient; no restriction as to course or school.
- \*The applicant must provide evidence of an interest and participation in horticultural/gardening activities. Examples: home garden, school activities, organized groups such as 4-H, Scouts, church, community gardens, etc.

### **PROCESS FOR APPLYING:**

- \*Fill out one-page application that will provide instructions; information requested. This will become the cover page.
- \*On a separate sheet of paper, describe in a short essay (no less than 200 words) your involvement/experiences in horticultural/gardening activities. Please **DO NOT** include any photos or support materials. We will request your photo if you are selected as a recipient of a scholarship. Examples of types of information to include:
  - how long you have been gardening;
  - what type(s) of gardening you have been involved with (vegetable, flower, indoor, fruit, lawn, etc.);
  - any community gardening activity/service, ie. working in a community garden; teaching others; donating extra produce/flowers to soup kitchens, shut-ins, others; doing lawn care for others, etc.;
  - sharing your gardening skills by exhibiting at fairs/flower shows; doing demonstrations talks or speeches; helping younger (or older) gardeners;
  - work experience at local greenhouses, farms, etc.; your plans after graduation;
  - how do you expect to use your gardening skills in the future.

### **NOTIFICATION:**

- Applicants will be notified of selection or non-selection at least two (2) weeks before the 8<sup>th</sup> District Spring meeting in the Spring of 2026, Scholarship recipients will be invited to attend the 2026 Spring meeting; attendance is requested but not required.
- Completed application and essay must be received by **MARCH 15, 2026.**

