MASSACHUSETTS ARBORISTS ASSOCIATION
Gordon & Frances King Scholarship

An opportunity for incoming UMass & Stockbridge students
Deadline: June 3

PURPOSE

Trees are one of our most valuable natural resources and caring for them is essential to our environment. A career in professional tree care offers an unique opportunity to be an environmental steward - to possess the critical knowledge that helps our urban forests to flourish and stay healthy.

Professional tree care is a booming industry in Massachusetts. Instructors at UMass and the Stockbridge School of Agriculture report 100% job placement for graduates - one of the highest percentages at the university. The industry offers a challenging career with good salaries, benefits, and opportunities for advancement.

The most critical issues facing the Massachusetts tree care industry today is an ongoing need for well-trained arborists. To that end, the Massachusetts Arborists Association (MAA) created four annual scholarships to help recruit and educate commercial arborists at the University of Massachusetts and the Stockbridge School of Agriculture. Approved candidates who successfully complete their first semester of study with a GPA of 2.0 or better will be awarded a $2500.00 scholarship. There are four MAA $2500.00 scholarships available per calendar year.

The MAA’s scholarship is named for Gordon King, an enthusiastic, well-loved, and now retired professor of arboriculture who taught at UMass for over 25 years - and his late wife, Frances, whose care and support of her husband’s arboriculture students earned her the endearing nickname of “Ma” King.

The MAA is an active and involved trade association that serves the commercial arboriculture industry. We advance the goals of our members through education, research support, certification and promotion of the value of proper tree care to the public. Membership in the MAA includes over 650 of the state’s leading arborists.

The MAA considers student scholarships the most important commitment the arboriculture community can make to ensure the growth and development of the commercial tree care industry.
ELIGIBILITY

1. Applicant must be an incoming student enrolling full-time in the four-year Urban Forestry program at UMass, or in the two-year Arboriculture and Park Management program at the Stockbridge School of Agriculture.

2. Approved applicant must successfully complete his/her first semester work with a grade point average of 2.0, or better, based on a scale of 4.0.

3. Preference will be given to residents of Massachusetts who plan to work in the Massachusetts commercial tree care industry. Preference will also be given to an applicant who demonstrates financial need.

4. Previous MAA scholarship award winners are not eligible for additional funding.

For more information:

Massachusetts Arborists Association
King Scholarship Committee
8-D Pleasant Street South
Natick, MA 01760
(508) 653-3320
FAX: (508) 653-4112
E-Mail: Kristen@MassArbor.org
http://www.MassArbor.org
MASSACHUSETTS ARBORISTS ASSOCIATION  
Gordon & Frances King Scholarship  
Deadline: June 3  
Application Form

Student’s Name___________________________________Date___________________________
Student’s Address____________________________________________________________________________
City_____________________________State___________________Zip____________________
Home Phone____________________Cell Phone____________________________________________________________________
Fax______________________E-Mail_________________________________________
Social Security Number____________________________________________________________
Intended Major:___________________________________________________________________________________________
    _____ University of Massachusetts    _____ Stockbridge School of Agriculture
Are you presently receiving any financial aid (including scholarships)?     ____ Yes  ____ No
If yes, what kind and amount?________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________________________________________
What percentage of educational expenses (i.e. tuition, board, etc.) are you currently providing?______%

In addition to this application, candidate must also provide the following:

1. Cover letter of not more than two pages which should include:
   A. Experiences or factors that stimulate your interest in the tree care industry
   B. Employment history and personal accomplishments
   C. Your plans after graduation
   D. How the scholarship will benefit your education and career goals

2. Transcript Release Form (Attached). If approved, official transcript of first semester grades from Registrar’s Office, when available.

3. Two letters of recommendation from faculty member, high school guidance teacher, current or past employer. Letters must be sent directly to the MAA by person providing reference, under separate cover. Reference forms are provided.

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Reference Form

This form is to be completed by person (faculty member, employer, guidance counselor) who is serving as a reference for student’s application to receive the MAA’s $2500.00 Gordon & Frances King Scholarship award. Please complete the following and attach a separate sheet commenting on:

• The applicant’s potential to make significant contributions to the Massachusetts commercial tree care industry
• The applicant’s academic qualifications, if known
• The applicant’s work experience, if known
• The applicant’s financial need, if known

Date____________________________________________________________

Student’s Name____________________________________________________

Your Name_________________________________________________________

Company/Institution_________________________________________________

Address__________________________________________________________

City_________________________ State___________ Zip__________

Phone_________________________ Fax_________________________

E-mail Address:____________________________________________________

Relationship to Applicant: _____ Teacher/Instructor
_____ Guidance Counselor
_____ Employer (current or past)
_____ Other (please specify) __________________

Please return completed form and letter of recommendation to:

MAA’s King Scholarship • 8-D Pleasant Street South• Natick, MA  01760