

**MASSACHUSETTS ARBORISTS ASSOCIATION
Gordon & Frances King Scholarship**

**An opportunity for incoming UMass & Stockbridge students
Deadline: June 15**

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 stay healthy and flourish.

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 three 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 \$1000.00 scholarship.

The MAA's scholarship is named for the late Gordon King, an enthusiastic and well-loved professor of arboriculture who taught at UMass for more 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 more than 700 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.

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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 Community Forestry program at the Stockbridge School of Agriculture.
2. Approved applicant must successfully complete their 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
67 West Street
Medfield, MA 02052
(508) 653-3320
info@MassArbor.org

MASSACHUSETTS ARBORISTS ASSOCIATION
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Application Form

Student's Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ FAX _____

E-Mail _____

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. How the scholarship will benefit your education and career goals
2. A letter of recommendation from faculty member, high school guidance teacher, current or past employer. Letter must be sent directly to the MAA by person providing reference, under separate cover. Reference forms are provided.
3. If approved, official transcript of first semester grades from Registrar's Office, when available.

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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 \$1000.00 Gordon & Frances King Scholarship award. Please complete the following and attach a separate sheet commenting on:

- The applicant's potential to make 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_____ EMail_____

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 • 67 West Street • Medfield, MA 02052
info@MassArbor.org**