2016 Young Leader Scholarship Program Overview

The MACA Young Leader Scholarship Program (MACA YLSP) is designed to expose future agriculturalists to the crop protection industry and future career opportunities. Recipients will benefit from the financial compensation and exposure to and networking with MACA members. MACA members benefit by developing a talent pool of future industry leaders and through the heightened awareness of MACA within the participating universities.

Candidates
Candidates will be top-potential collegiate sophomores or juniors with an educational focus on agriculture. Candidates must be enrolled at one of the 13 Land-Grant Universities and have secured a summer internship (2016) within agriculture, preferably within the crop protection industry. Additionally, the selected recipient is expected to attend the MACA Annual Meeting September 6-8, 2016 in Bloomington, Minnesota to speak about their internship experience and participate in reception/networking with MACA members.

Selection Process
MACA will notify the 13 universities via their ag school’s career services office via email announcing the program and explaining the goals. Then a MACA representative will follow-up with the academic/placement directors within each school for help identifying candidates, encouraging participation and to raise awareness for the program. Each respective university will create a “professor committee” to review the applications submitted from qualifying students and then submit up to three applications to MACA for review. Once the applications are submitted to MACA, the Crop Production Issues Selection committee will review the applications and select one recipient for a $2,000 scholarship to be awarded to each student via the university. (MACA will work with the universities to ensure the funding is provided to the student’s account.) The decisions by MACA are final. Previous winners are not eligible. Winners will be notified in April 2016.

Participating Universities (13)
Colorado State University, Iowa State University, Kansas State, Michigan State University, Nebraska University, North Dakota State University, Ohio State University, Purdue University, South Dakota State University, University of Illinois, University of Minnesota, University of Missouri and University of Wisconsin.
Scholarship Application
Scholarship candidates will be required to submit the following:

- Brief Cover Letter stating what and where their summer Internship will be.
- Application Letter/Essay – 500 words or less stating why they believe they are worthy of this opportunity.
- Resume Included
- "Unofficial" Transcript included as well

Scholarship
Up to 13 scholarships will be awarded annually (1 per University). Each scholarship will consist of:

- $2,000 cash scholarship to be provided to the respective University for the scholarship recipient selected;
- Travel stipend to attend MACA Annual Meeting September 6-8, 2016 in Bloomington, Minnesota;
- Opportunity to be on YLSP panel at the MACA Annual Meeting;
- Participate in program, reception and networking with MACA members at Annual Meeting.

Timeline
- January 25 – nominations from universities due to MACA office by close of business.
- Early February – MACA committee to select recipients.
- Early April – Notify Universities of the recipients selected for scholarship and work with university officials to notify the recipients.
- Mid-April – Issue News release announcing scholarship recipients.
- July – Contact recipients regarding MACA Annual Meeting to coordinate travel plans and meeting details.
- September 6-8, 2016 – MACA Annual Meeting – Bloomington, Minnesota.
Application
2016 Young Leader Scholarship Program

Specific Requirements:
• Must be a sophomore or junior (60 hours completed by December 2015) with an educational focus on agriculture.
• Must have secured a summer internship (2016) within agriculture, preferably within the crop protection industry.

General Program Requirements:
• GPA – Must have a 3.0 minimum GPA while enrolled in college.
• Supply a completed application, updated resume and unofficial transcript by noon January 25, 2016 to MACA. (Submit via email as a Word or PDF document.)
• MACA Annual Meeting – Scholarship recipient must be available to attend the MACA Annual Meeting September 6-8, 2016 in Bloomington, Minnesota. (Travel and lodging expenses reimbursed by MACA.)
• Presentations – Added 2 presentations on campus to be completed once they have attended the MACA Annual Meeting and before they leave for Christmas/Winter Break. PowerPoint presentations, video clips, and handouts will be provided to them for the presentations. These presentations are meant to get more exposure for MACA, the Young Leaders Scholarship Program, and the overall Agricultural Industry.

Name: (Last, First MI) ______________________ Sex: ___ Male ___Female
Student Number: ____________ Campus e-mail address: ______________________
Local Address:
Street: ___________________________ City: ___________________________
State: ______ Zip Code: __________ Phone Number: ________________

Permanent Address:
Street: ___________________________ City: ___________________________
State: ______ Zip Code: __________ Phone Number: ________________

Number college credit hours completed by December 31, 2015: ____________
Major: __________________________________
Minor: __________________________ Expected graduation date ____________
Who is your 2016 summer internship program with?  (Be specific – company name, location for work, and details of what you will be doing.)
Why do you wish to participate in the MACA Young Leader Scholarship Program (YLSP)? (500 words or less.)
What are your top three unique qualifications you have for this program? (Be specific and provide examples)

Please indicate your immediate career goals following graduation. How do you expect Young Leader Scholarship Program participation to impact your goals?

Is there anything else you would like to share regarding your interest and/or experiences in the MACA Young Leader Scholarship Program?

Please include your resume and “Unofficial” Transcript with your application.

I agree, if selected, to participate fully and to attend the meetings as outlined above. Also, I will provide a photo as a jpeg file and agree that my name and information in the application may be used in news releases for distribution.

Student Signature________________________ Date________________

Print and return this completed form, your resume and unofficial transcript to maba@miagbiz.org, FAX 1-866-829-3786, or mail: Michigan Agri-Business Assn., 1501 North Shore Dr., Suite A., East Lansing, MI 48823. by January 15, 2016.