

- The IOIA Organic Community Initiative Scholarship (OCIS) Award provides full tuition for an IOIA Basic Inspector Training Course.
- The scholarship is awarded on the basis of candidate potential to effect change in their organic community and financial need as judged by the IOIA Scholarship Committee.
- The scholarship pays for tuition, room and board **but does not include transportation or other expenses.**
- **Note: This scholarship is available only to those residing outside of the United States and Canada and is limited to attendance in an IOIA sponsored Basic Farm or Processing Trainings (not advanced trainings) in the year the scholarship is awarded.**

Instructions for preparing and submitting an OCIS application

The following are required for you to be considered as a candidate for the Organic Community Initiative Scholarship. Failure to provide all information will disqualify you immediately for consideration.

A **complete** application consists of:

- An “Application Form”, “Cover Letter” and “Current Resumé” (submitted by the applicant).
- “Three References” (submitted directly by the people giving the references).
- Letter from each reference to further explain their recommendation.

All the above materials must be filled out completely and received no later than October 1 in order to be considered.

1. Application Form:

- Question #1: This question asks you to evaluate yourself in terms of the listed attributes. It is important that you be objective and honest with yourself when you select the level that best describes your competence. Your references are asked to evaluate you for the same qualities.
- Question #2: “Please describe how you anticipate the training will enhance your ability to further the goals of the organic community.”
Your response will help us to evaluate your interest in working within the organic community.
- Question #3: “Describe your available time for accomplishing your identified organic community goals following the training.”
Examine your resources, any known personal limitations and commitments and your motivation for the work you plan to do. Keep in mind that your answer should be relative to the training you will receive and the added expertise gained from the training.
- Question #4: “Do you have any present, past, or known future involvement that could be perceived by a reasonable person as being in conflict of interest if you pursue this career?”
The IOIA Code of Ethics requires that members “shall avoid situations of conflict of interest”. One cannot permit herself/himself, either unwittingly or intentionally, to participate in an interest conflict.
- Question #5: “Can you afford to pay the tuition for an IOIA Inspector Training Course?”

IOIA ORGANIC COMMUNITY INITIATIVE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

Your need, financially, is a significant consideration when making application for the scholarship. You would not be applying for the scholarship if you could afford the training without some hardship. Be considerate in your response and qualify the level of hardship as best you can.

- Question #6: “If you don’t receive this scholarship will you still attend an IOIA training, now or in the future?”

Your response here will help us evaluate your interest in working within the organic community.

- Question #7: “Are you currently or have you ever been a member of IOIA?”

There is no requirement for scholarship applicants to be IOIA members. IOIA is a member-based association that can only be as strong as its membership.

2. Cover Letter:

In your cover letter, include the following information (type or print clearly):

- Please explain your reasons for applying with a brief history as it relates to organics.
- What are your goals over the next 5 years and how do these goals fit your vision of serving your community?
- How would the training help you to achieve these goals?
- What is your relationship with the organic movement and industry?
- What experience would you bring to the organic community?
- Provide examples, if any, of your accomplishments, particularly with reference to organics.

3. Current Resume:

Your resume should reflect your education and work experience. You can use the same one you would use in a job search.

4. References:

Please have each of the three people providing your references use the supplied form.

The references should be submitted to IOIA directly.

Preferably, one reference should be from a local organization or group involved in fostering organic agriculture or some type of community initiative.

If you have a sponsor, a reference letter from this entity would also be appropriate.

Completed Application with Cover Letter, Resume and three References should be emailed to:

scholarship@ioia.net

You can also mail hardcopies to: IOIA, P.O. Box 6, Broadus, MT, USA 59317, attn Scholarship.

Deadline for receipt is October 1. Applicants will be notified by December 15.



IOIA ORGANIC COMMUNITY INITIATIVE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

For Year _____

Note: This scholarship is available only to those residing outside of the United States and Canada and is limited to attendance in Basic Farm and Processing Trainings, not advanced trainings.

Name of Applicant _____ Date _____
Address _____
State/Province _____ Postal/Zip Code _____ Country _____
Home Phone No. _____ Business Phone No. _____ Fax _____
E-mail address: _____ Citizenship _____

Type of Training Course You are Applying For: Basic Farm Basic Process

Language(s) Fluent In _____

In what language(s) do you prefer/plan to conduct your community initiative work?

Sponsor (if have one) _____ Assisting with cost for training? Yes No

Sponsor Address _____

State/Province _____ Zip/ Postal Code _____ Country _____

Business Phone No. _____ Fax No. _____ email _____

Note: Three references are required. One of the references, if possible, should be from a local organization or group involved in fostering organic agriculture or some type of community initiative.

The reference forms must be returned to IOIA by October 1.

Name of Reference (may not be a family member)	Reference Phone #	Reference email
1.		
2.		
3.		

Have you had Organic Inspector Trainings? Yes No

Type and Location of Training Taken	Year of Training	Type and Location Training Taken	Year of Training
1.		3.	
2.		4.	

Have you performed organic inspections? Yes No



IOIA ORGANIC COMMUNITY INITIATIVE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

APPLICANT NAME _____ FOR YEAR _____

QUESTIONS (Use a separate sheet if necessary)

1. Please assess your abilities as objectively and honestly as you can.

Check box for excellent, good, average or poor:

Ability	Excellent	Good	Average	Poor
Intellectual	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Self Confidence	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Leadership Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Organizational Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Imagination/creativity	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Facilitation Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Writing Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Verbal Skills	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. Please describe how you anticipate the training will enhance your ability to further the goals of the organic community. _____

3. Describe your available time to accomplish your identified organic community goals following the training. _____

4. Do you have any present, past, or known future involvement that could be perceived by a reasonable person as being in conflict of interest if you pursue this career? Yes No

If yes, please explain _____

5. Can you afford to pay the tuition for an IOIA Inspector Training Course? The tuition, lodging and meals for an IOIA inspector course are about \$600-800US per session? Yes No Please explain.



IOIA ORGANIC COMMUNITY INITIATIVE SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION

6. If you don't receive this scholarship will you still attend an IOIA training, now or in the future? Yes No

7. Are you currently or have you ever been a member of IOIA? No; Current; Past, if you have let your IOIA membership lapse, why? _____

The information given in this application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Signature (required) _____ **Date** _____

Please read the instructions (on page 1 & 2) before preparing the application.