

GEORGIA RECYCLING COALITION 2021 CONNIE BURNS SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATION AND INSTRUCTIONS



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The Georgia Recycling Coalition (GRC) is the 501 c 3 state recycling organization in Georgia, celebrating its 30th anniversary in 2021. Its mission is to promote & enhance waste reduction and recycling programs & activities in the state. It is comprised of members representing all sectors of the recycling industry. GRC was awarded the Recycling Coalition of the Year for 2008 by the National Recycling Coalition. Atlanta Magazine recognized the Georgia Recycling Coalition and its EcoVille website in the Best of Atlanta December 2009 issue for best Eco Service in its "Thrive" category. In March 2012 the organization was honored with the Green Reach Award by the Atlanta Business Chronicle in its 2012 Environmental Awards. GRC was featured in the August 2013 issue of Georgia Trend Magazine in an article entitled "Treasure, Not Trash", in the March 2015 issue of Resource Recycling magazine for its Measure Georgia campaign, and in a Delta Sky magazine April 2017 issue ad for economic development in Georgia. In 2020, GRC launched a multi media #RecycleRight campaign for the state; the resources are available on its web site for all to use in outreach efforts.

***GRC--Promoting and enhancing waste reduction
& recycling in Georgia since 1991***

GEORGIA RECYCLING COALITION
CONNIE BURNS SCHOLARSHIP

2021 APPLICATION

1. Applicant's Full Name: _____
2. Home Mailing Address: _____

3. E-mail Address: _____
4. Telephone: _____
5. College/University: _____
6. College/University Mailing Address: _____

7. Faculty Advisor: _____
8. Please include a complete transcript (an unofficial transcript is acceptable) with your application submission.
9. Current Grade Point Average: _____
10. Major (intended if undecided)? _____
11. Please answer essay questions on page 5 discussing your views on recycling and waste reduction; what it is; who participates; what are the current issues facing the industry; and your thoughts on its future direction? **(minimum 250 words per question).**
12. Please submit a short statement regarding any other scholarships or educational funding awarded to date for the coming year in context with estimated tuition and related expenses.

Signature of Applicant: _____ Date: _____

**GEORGIA RECYCLING COALITION
CONNIE BURNS SCHOLARSHIP 2021 APPLICATION**

**ESSAY QUESTIONS
(Minimum 250 words per question)**

1. How will you use your current course of study to benefit a potential career in the recycling industry or in a sustainability-related field?
2. Why do you think recycling is important?
3. Describe how recycling fits into the larger sustainability picture?
4. What do you see as the major issues facing increasing recycling rates and participation in recycling/waste reduction programs in the United States?
5. Where do you see the recycling industry headed in the future?
6. Is there anything else you would like to add about your interest in recycling and sustainability that makes you the best candidate for this scholarship?

Example: If you have you volunteered or held an intern/assistantship position at a recycling event, recycling facility, or within the recycling/sustainability field, please describe the experience.

**GEORGIA RECYCLING COALITION
CONNIE BURNS SCHOLARSHIP 2021**

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

DEADLINES

- **September 15, 2021** – All completed application forms and back-up documentation must be received by Georgia Recycling Coalition
- **October 4, 2021** – Announcement of scholarship winner
- **October 26, 2021** – Scholarship awarded at GRC Annual Conference

PURPOSE

Connie Burns, of Effingham County, GA, was an active Georgia Recycling Coalition (GRC) member for several years and was renowned for her spirit, love of life and adventure, and her true understanding of and dedication to effective waste reduction and recycling practices. The solid waste and recycling community lost Connie to an unexpected death in August 2012. Connie was active in the Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA), serving as director of the group's communication, education and marketing division. That role just scratched the surface of all the work she did in the Effingham County community, including serving as director of Keep Effingham Beautiful and coordinator for Rivers Alive Effingham. She was also on the Governor's Task Force on Litter Abatement and Prevention and the advisory board for the Effingham United Way. As a way to remember her and honor her life and work, GRC, in partnership with SWANA Georgia Chapter, established the **Connie Burns Scholarship Program** dedicated to assisting and mentoring Georgia college and university students interested in a career path in recycling, composting, environmental practices, and sustainability.

APPLICATION CRITERIA

- A. Applicant must be enrolled at least part-time in a Georgia college or university
- B. Applicant should be available, if possible, to attend the GRC Annual Conference, October 24-27, 2021 at King & Prince on St. Simons Island, GA. (lodging, some meals, and conference registration will be provided through the GRC Connie Burns Scholarship Fund)

SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

- A. **Eligibility:** Candidates must be currently enrolled part-time college or university students who are under-graduate or graduate students pursuing a degree in environmental science, engineering or other suitable major related to recycling, waste reduction, or environmental sustainability. The Georgia Recycling Coalition pledges to uphold the policy that all persons shall have equal access to this program, regardless of race, color, age, sex, marital or veteran status, creed, religion, or disability.
- B. **Awards:** Scholarship(s) will be awarded annually, based on funds available, to one or more recipients, not to exceed \$1,000 per individual.
- C. **Award Renewal:** Candidates are eligible to reapply each year the scholarship is offered. Consecutive annual scholarship awards are possible but not guaranteed if applicant is a previous scholarship recipient.

CRITERIA FOR AWARD SELECTION

Category	Description	Weighting
Academic Achievement	GPA, etc.	30%
Extra-Curricular Involvement	Research, Internship, Community Volunteer Work	20%
Relevance to Purpose	Field of Study per Purpose Description	50%

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING THE APPLICATION

1. Each applicant will be required to submit the completed application form and all back-up documentation to GRC by **September 15, 2021 (via email or US mail per info provided on the cover page)**.
2. All applicants must complete the entire form. Illegible applications or applications without proper signatures will not be accepted. If more space is required to document current or completed courses, research efforts or intern/assistantships, these forms may be copied.
3. The following back-up documentation should be sent to GRC accompanying the application:
 - a. Current grade point average, and
 - b. College/university transcripts (unofficial OK)
4. Any of the above information provided by the applicant will be considered invalid except in extreme cases where written permission is granted in advance by GRC.
5. Applicants have the responsibility for verifying that their back-up documentation has been received by GRC. A telephone number has been provided so you may verify that your materials have been received. Please leave sufficient time for the institution to process and mail your request. Be aware that if you miss the deadline (**Sept. 15, 2021**) for submittal of your application and back-up documentation, you will be disqualified.

SUMMARY

With this document, GRC has attempted to outline the application requirements for the Scholarship Awards Program. We realize, however, that there may be questions that cannot be answered on paper. If any questions or problems should arise, please feel free to call Gloria Hardegree at 404-634-3095 (office); 404-285-4001 (mobile) or contact her by e-mail at garecycles@mindspring.com.

GRC feels that the education of both students and the general public is an important component in eliminating some of our biggest resource management, recycling and composting issues. Through the scholarship program, we hope to address providing a higher level of education for you, the student, in the hopes of producing knowledgeable and responsible resource management professionals for the future. We wish you the best and appreciate your completion of the application and participation in the program.