Berta Lee White

Berta Lee White, or “Bert” as she was best known, served as chair of the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation Women’s Committee for 47 years and chair of the American Farm Bureau Federation Women’s Committee for 12 years. White traveled the world promoting agriculture. She received the 1992 MFBF Distinguished Service Award and the 1993 AFBF Distinguished Service Award. In addition to her Farm Bureau work, White served in the Mississippi Legislature, where she was a member of the House and the Senate. She was always a loving, giving, spunky, fiercely intelligent woman who was never afraid of anything.

For more information, contact your county Farm Bureau office or Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation Women’s Department 1-800-227-8244 (ext. 4245 or 4854).

State Women’s Committee

Betty Mills, Chair
Shelby Williams, Vice Chair
Deniese Swindoll, District 1 Chair
Carla Taylor, District 2 Chair
Peggy McKey, District 3 Chair
Joanie Word, District 4 Chair
Betty Edwards, District 5 Chair
Marlo Beason, District 6 Chair
Renee Keith, District 7 Chair
Wanda Hill, District 8 Chair
Clara Bilbo, Women’s Programs & AITC Coordinator
Pam Jones, Women’s Programs Specialist

Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation Women’s Program offers four $3,000 college scholarships to eligible women enrolled in the field of agriculture.
Berta Lee White Scholarship

Four scholarships will be awarded to female students attending any Mississippi university or community college. Scholarships are through the Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation Women’s Program and Berta Lee White Scholarship Fund, and each scholarship is in the amount of $3,000.

Eligibility

- Recipient must be a Mississippi Farm Bureau member or a member of a Mississippi Farm Bureau family with current membership for at least 60 days prior to applying.
- She must enroll or already be enrolled in an agriculture-related course of study at a Mississippi university or community college.
- She must have completed at least one full year of college courses.
- Student must maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average out of a possible 4.0.
- Recipients from the immediately preceding year are not eligible to receive the scholarship. There must be a one year break before a recipient can reapply for the Berta Lee White Scholarship.

General Information

- Payment of each scholarship will be made in two equal installments during the two semesters of the school year.
- Payment will be made directly to the university or community college in the student’s name upon notification of the student’s enrollment in an agriculture-related course of study.
- Again, to be eligible to receive the second payment, student must be enrolled in an agriculture-related course of study and must have maintained at least a 2.5 grade point average out of a possible 4.0 during the first semester. A letter from the university or community college documenting these two requirements must be received.

Selection Process

A panel of judges will review all applications and make the selection of the recipients using the following criteria:

- Scholarship Performance 20%
- School and Community Activities 10%
- Leadership Qualities 10%
- Letters of Recommendation 10%
- Essays 10%
- Financial Need 40%

General Requirements

The following information and material must be submitted with the scholarship application:

- Certified Transcript or official letter containing college grades.
- List of extracurricular school activities signed by a school official or advisor.
- Two letters of recommendation on citizenship and leadership qualities from a school official and a local citizen from your county.
- Church and/or community activities.
- Two Essays:
  1. 300 words or less on the topic: “What will my contribution be to the field of agriculture?”
  2. 200 words or less on the topic: “Why do I need a scholarship?”

Recipient must submit completed application and supporting materials to:

Mississippi Farm Bureau Federation
Attn: Women’s Program
Post Office Box 1972
Jackson, MS 39215

Application and essays must be in the Farm Bureau Federation Office by Deadline June 1