



RUTH DENISON

Environmental Conservation Scholarship Scholarship Guidelines and Application

2020-2021 Academic Year

Presented by Morongo Basin Conservation Association

MBCA awarded the first of five annual scholarships in 2017 through a generous bequest from Ruth Denison, a long-time supporter of the association. Ruth Denison was the first Buddhist teacher in the United States to lead an all-women's retreat for Buddhist meditation and instruction. Her center, Dhamma Dena Desert Vipassana Center is located in Joshua Tree, California. This bequest fulfills one of MBCA's long standing goals to increase the organization's support of environmental education for local students who plan to attend a university or college and prepare for employment in careers related to environmental or conservation work.

This year, the third Ruth Denison Environmental Conservation Scholarship of \$500.00 will be presented by MBCA to one qualified student to be applied to tuition and fees for the 2020-2021 academic year.

Please review the following Ruth Denison Environmental Conservation Scholarship guidelines thoroughly before completing this application.

Applicants who do not meet the minimum eligibility requirements at the time of application will not be considered. Applications that are incomplete or received after the postmark deadline also will not be considered.

Scholarship Guidelines

Criteria for scholarship award selection:

- Scholastic achievement;
- Demonstrated motivation to pursue education and a professional career with emphasis on environmental conservation or in a similar field;
- The quality of the student's essay; and
- Commitment to full-time enrollment at an accredited university or college.

Eligibility and application requirements:

- Applicants must be a senior enrolled in a certified high school program and living within the Morongo Basin in the 2019-2020 academic year.
- Applicants must be planning to attend an accredited post-secondary institution with a declared major in a field that can lead to a career in environmental conservation or a similar field.
- Applicants must submit at least **two current letters of recommendation**; one must be from a teacher and the second may be from a teacher, counselor, or school administrator.
- Applicants must submit a **personal letter of recommendation** from someone outside of their family.

To Receive Scholarship funds:

- The student must have received a high school diploma with a GPA of at least 3.25;
- The student must show proof of **full-time enrollment** (12 semester units or 16 quarter units).

Disbursement of Scholarship

Upon proof of full-time enrollment for fall term 2020, a check for \$500.00 will be disbursed to the student.

After filling out the 3-page Application (attached) and providing the requested essay, please sign the last page confirming your understanding of these guidelines before mailing your application to MBCA as directed.

RUTH DENISON

Environmental Conservation Scholarship

Application 2020-2021 Academic Year

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT ALL ENTRIES

1.	Last Name	First Name	Middle Name	
2.	Home Address	City	State	Zip
3.	Mailing Address <i>(if different)</i>	City	State	Zip
4.	Are you a California resident of the Morongo Basin? (check one)		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
5.	If selected for this scholarship, will you be enrolled full-time for the entire 2020-2021 academic year?		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
6.	From which certified high school program will you receive your diploma?			
7.	Please list the college or university you will be attending for the 2020-2021 academic year and its location.			
8.	Please indicate your declared major and the degree you plan to complete, <i>and attach a copy of the requirements.</i>			
9.	Please indicate your anticipated graduation date.			

EMPLOYMENT, ACTIVITIES & AWARDS: Please provide brief written answers to the following questions.

- Describe any past or current employment or volunteer work directly related to your planned field of study, including the average number of hours worked per week.

11. **List any extracurricular activities or general community volunteering experience, within the past 2 years.**

12. **List any awards, honors, or other recognition you have received, including the dates received.**

13. **List any groups related to environmental conservation of which you are a member, including any offices held.**

ESSAY: Applicants must attach to this application an essay of no more than 500 words. If possible, please provide a typed essay formatted in 12-point font, double spaced, and include a cover page with the title of your essay and your name. Your name should be on the cover page only.

In your essay submission, please address each of the following topics:

- Describe your educational goals and how they relate to environmental conservation.
- Describe your career goals and what motivates you to pursue a career in environmental conservation or a similar field.

- What are some of the issues that you would address through your future career, if given the opportunity?

FINAL CHECKLIST: Did you remember to...

- Sign the scholarship guidelines and enclose with the application?
- Complete all sections of the application (questions 1-13)?
- Attach the academic requirements for your major (question 8)?
- Format your one- to two-page essay in 12-point font, double spaced, with a cover page (if you have access to a computer)?
- Address all three of the essay topics?
- Submit the required letters of recommendation?
- Read the acknowledgement below and sign your application?

I certify that I have read and understand the Ruth Denison Environmental Scholarship guidelines.

Applicant's Signature (handwritten signatures only)

Date

I certify that the information contained in this application and attachments is accurate and correct. If this application leads to a scholarship, I understand that false or misleading information on my application may result in the disqualification of the scholarship. I certify that any information submitted on my behalf is authentic, including letters of recommendation, academic transcripts and certifications. If I receive the scholarship, I understand that scholarship funds may only be applied to tuitions and fees and that if circumstances change so that I become ineligible for the award, the scholarship may be rescinded.

Signature (handwritten signatures only)

Date

Applicant's printed name

Email (if you have one)

<p>Please return completed application to: Morongo Basin Conservation Association P.O. Box 24 Joshua Tree, CA 92252</p>	<p>Applications must be postmarked by Saturday, April 4, 2020</p>
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