

# Glenn F. Carson, II Memorial Conservation Scholarship



## Considering a Career in Conservation?

The purpose of the Carson Conservation Scholarship is to assist young people from Cherokee, Clay and Graham counties who want to pursue higher education in natural resource conservation fields.

## Minimum Scholarship Requirements

Applicants must be high school seniors who are residents of Cherokee, Clay or Graham counties in North Carolina. Recipients must prove acceptance to an accredited college or university and plan to pursue a degree in an approved field of study (listed below). There is no minimum GPA requirement for applicants; however, recipients of the top award must maintain a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher (4.0 scale) and assist with promotion of the scholarship program to remain eligible for annual renewal. Selections are based on application responses, without discrimination to race, sex, religion, color, sexual orientation, or national origin. Prior approval must be obtained for an unlisted major.

- Agronomy
- Agriculture
- Biology (non-medical)
- Botany
- Chemistry (environmental)
- Civil Engineering (emphasis sanitary/environmental, biological, or hydraulic)
- Ecology
- Environmental Health/Science/Education
- Fisheries
- Forestry
- Geography (environmental, planning, or mapping)
- Geology
- Natural Resource Conservation/Mgmt
- Outdoor Leadership (emphasis Env. Education)
- Science Education
- Soil Science
- Sustainable Development
- Wildlife Biology/Mgmt

## Scholarship Basics

The Carson Conservation Scholarship Committee typically grants three awards annually to one senior in each of the three counties. The top award is \$2,000 (or 100% of cost for one year, whichever is lower) and is renewable at \$1,000/year for up to four years, based on continued eligibility. Additional non-renewable awards of \$500 are made in each of the other two counties, if qualifying applications are received.

**Scholarship Deadline:**  
**April 10, 2026**



# How Do I Apply?

**Step 1** Fill out all fields of the First-time Scholarship Application Form located on the following website:  
<https://mountaintrue.org/carson-conservation-scholarship/>

The application includes the following questions that require more forethought than others. Applicants are encouraged to draft a response and then copy & paste it into the form.

## 1. Educational Plans & Career Choice

Explain how your field of study and career path relate to natural resource conservation. Why do you want to pursue them? (150-200 words)

## 2. Involvement/Leadership

List your top three school or community activities/ organizations and tell why they are important to you. Please also describe your accomplishments in leadership roles. (150-200 words)

## 3. Essay (1 page)

Describe an important natural resource conservation issue that you feel will affect your generation's adult life.

**Step 2** Collect the following additional materials.

- At least one letter of recommendation from an adult leader or teacher associated with one of the activities or organizations described in #2 above. (Applicants may submit up to three letters.)
- Most recent transcript. It does not need to be official.
- Proof of enrollment and verification of major at the accredited college or university you have selected (if available). If an acceptance letter is not yet available, please provide verification that the approved field of study is offered. (Proof of enrollment will be required before any funds are released.)

**Step 3** Submit all parts of the application on or before **April 10, 2026**.

Electronically (Preferred): [callie@mountaintrue.org](mailto:callie@mountaintrue.org)

Mail or hand delivery: Carson Conservation Scholarship  
(Additional materials only) MountainTrue West  
90 Tennessee Street, Ste. D  
Murphy, NC 28906



**Glenn F. Carson, II**

The Glenn F. Carson, II Memorial Conservation Scholarship was created by the Hiwassee River Watershed Coalition board of directors in May of 2014, following Glenn's tragic death in an automobile accident at age 43. At the time of his death, Glenn was the District Conservationist for Cherokee, Clay and Graham counties with the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service. For many years prior, he also worked for the US Forest Service. Glenn held a degree in Natural Resource Management with a water quality emphasis from Western Carolina University. He was an avid beagler and also enjoyed hunting, fishing and grafting heirloom apple trees. Glenn was also very passionate about helping young people pursue their dreams.