

SCHOLARSHIP

The Sports Turf Association Robert W. Sheard Scholarship

Promoting Sports Turf Careers

The Sports Turf Association (STA) is a professional association dedicated to the promotion of better, safer sports turf through innovation, education and professional programs. In order to further this goal and to encourage, support and provide leadership to those considering a career in the sports turf industry, the STA established a scholarship program in 1993 and has since awarded 27 scholarships. The STA Robert W. Sheard Scholarship (\$1,000) may be awarded annually. The scholarship program is funded through STA membership fees. The award is intended to assist students with the cost of tuition, books and related expenses.

We encourage you to apply for the STA Robert W. Sheard Scholarship if you:

- Are a Canadian citizen or landed immigrant.
- Are currently enrolled in and have completed two semesters of education in a post-secondary program in turf management at a recognized college or university in Canada; or, have completed the University of Guelph's Turf Managers' Short Course, or equivalent, in the current year.
- Have a desire to pursue a career in the sports turf industry.

SCHOLARSHIP POLICIES

- Scholarships are non-renewable.
- Candidates will be judged on the basis of the information contained in their scholarship application form and support material.
- Applications must be received by May 1st for consideration.
- Incomplete applications will not be considered.
- Presentation to the scholarship recipient will be made at the Association's Annual Field Day.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must submit:

- A completed STA Scholarship Application Form.
- An official transcript of their grades for the previous two semesters in the required program of study.
- A letter of recommendation from their current and/or previous employer and from their academic advisor, course instructor or equivalent.
- A typed essay, 1,200-1,500 words in length, on a sports turf-related topic of their choice.

DR. ROBERT W. SHEARD

The STA Scholarship established in 1993, was renamed the STA Robert W. Sheard Scholarship in 2007 in recognition of Dr. Sheard's immeasurable contribution and support provided to the STA over two decades. Bob's involvement with the fledgling organization began in 1990 upon his retirement as a Professor of Soil Science at the University of Guelph. He became the STA's first Executive Secretary and has played a role in most, if not all, association initiatives since that time. He was editor and a major contributor to the *Sports Turf Newsletter*, now the *Sports Turf Manager*. He edited and produced *An Athletic Field Managers' Guide* and penned the *Constructing the Sports Field* brochure and the text *Understanding Turf Management*, transferring ownership and donating all proceeds to the association. For the *Athletic Field Construction Manual* he took on the role of Editor-in-Chief. He has served on the boards of the International Turfgrass Society, the Guelph Turfgrass Institute and the Ontario Turfgrass Symposium, among others.



A list of previous recipients is available at www.sportsturfassociation.com

For more information, contact Lee at the Sports Turf Association office at 519-763-9431, info@sportsturfassociation.com.

Robert W. Sheard Scholarship Application Form

Full Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Mailing Address (if different from above)

Address: _____

City: _____ Province: _____

Postal Code: _____ Telephone: _____

What certificate, diploma or degree are you working toward or have you completed?

At what college/university? _____

The information provided in this Scholarship Application Form is accurate and true to the best of my knowledge.

Applicant Name (please print): _____

Applicant Signature: _____

Date: _____

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Note: If selected as the recipient of the Sports Turf Association Robert W. Sheard Scholarship, you will be asked to provide a photograph of yourself for publication in the *Sports Turf Manager*.



PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING ON A SEPARATE SHEET OF PAPER:

1. List any honours, awards or scholarships which you have received.
2. List any activities in which you have participated in your college or university, employment, and/or residential community. Please include volunteer work, special achievements and awards.
3. List professional, college or university associations to which you belong, including offices to which you have been elected or appointed.
4. List current and/or previous employment, including employer, dates of employment, job title and description, hours per week.
5. What stimulated your interest in the turfgrass industry?
6. Are you interested in becoming a Sports Turf Manager?
7. Why do you believe you would be a good candidate to receive this award?

AND SUBMIT WITH YOUR COMPLETED SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION FORM:

1. An official transcript of your grades for the previous two semesters in the required program of study.
2. A letter of recommendation from your current and/or previous employer; and, from your academic advisor, course instructor or equivalent.
3. A typed essay, 1,200-1,500 words in length, on a sports turf related topic of your choice.

Submit your completed Scholarship Application Form to:

The Sports Turf Association, Scholarship Committee, 328 Victoria Rd. South, RR 2, Guelph, Ontario N1H 6H8