



Scholarships for Underserved Arborists to become International Society of Arboriculture (ISA) Certified Arborist

The Minnesota Society of Arboriculture and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources recognize that there are significant challenges to becoming eligible to take the exam, and we hope to reduce the financial barrier when it comes to becoming and ISA Certified Arborist.

Scholarship funds can cover:

- Exam fee,
- Computer-based testing administrative fee,
- and the Arborists' Certification Study Guide.

Scholarship funds cannot cover a membership fee.

Scholarships will be offered on a first-come first-serve basis. You will only receive reimbursement once you submit receipts for your expenses and:

- Submission proof of having passed the exam will lead to a full reimbursement.
- Submission proof of a failed exam will lead to a reimbursement of only the study guide.

Please note that you must separately apply to ISA in order to be eligible to take the exam. You must also register for the exam on your own in advance. This form only has the potential to make you eligible for reimbursement of costs to study for and take the exam.

To be eligible for this scholarship you must check all of the boxes in this section:

I am a Minnesota resident.

I am a qualifying underserved arborist as defined below.

I have read the [ISA Certified Arborist Application Guide](#), understand the process, and have applied the process as required for obtaining an arborist certification. This includes applying to and have been approved by ISA to take the exam.

I understand that I must take and provide proof of passing the exam to ISA standards of 76% correct exam answers in order to receive reimbursement for the exam.

I understand that I must provide proof of having taken the exam in order to receive reimbursement for the Arborist Certification Study Guide.

I understand that I will only be reimbursed for eligible expenses that I submit a receipt for.

Name (required, this is who the check will be made out to)

Mailing address (required)

This scholarship is made possible through a grant from the USDA Forest Service.



Phone number (required)

Email address (required)

Organization of employment (optional)

Please select any qualifying underserved populations you fit within: (optional)

We understand that this may be sensitive information. The only people who will have access to this information in connection with your name is Danielle Tessmer (MSA Staff) and Valerie McClannahan (DNR). We will not require you to provide it and not providing it will not affect your access to this scholarship. However, we do strongly encourage it as this how we will be able to justify future funding of this scholarship. If you have any questions in regards to this, please do not hesitate to contact Valerie McClannahan at valerie.mcclannahan@state.mn.us.

Black, Indigenous, Person of Color

LGBTQI

Disability status

Veteran

Low-income (annual household income is less than \$24,858)

Woman

Living outside of the 7-county metro

What to expect

- Please note that you must separately apply to ISA in order to be eligible to take the exam. You must also register for the exam on your own in advance. This form only has the potential to make you eligible for reimbursement of costs to study for and take the exam.
- Applications received within a calendar month will be reviewed on a first-come first-serve basis.
- Confirmation emails to approved and disapproved applicants will be sent between by the 15th of the following month. For example, an application received September 2022, will receive a confirmation email by October 15, 2022.
- If approved, and once you have taken and passed the exam, you will need to submit all necessary paperwork for reimbursement. Reimbursement paperwork must include:
 - Receipts for any purchases requested in the reimbursement
 - Proof of passing ISA Certified Arborist exam
 - Reimbursement applications submitted by the 15th of a month will be reviewed and the MSA Financial Manager will mail reimbursement checks to approved applicants within 6-8 weeks.

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