



News Release

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NPC Accepting 2013 Scholarship Applications for Graduate Studies

Washington, D.C. – The National Potato Council (NPC) is currently accepting applications for a Master’s-level scholarship to be applied toward the 2013-2014 academic year. This year’s scholarship award is \$10,000, up from \$5,000 in previous years, to reflect the growing cost of post-graduate education and to continue to attract highly qualified candidates.

Each year, NPC awards one scholarship to a graduate student pursuing advanced studies that will improve the future of the potato industry. Final scholarship selection is based on academic achievement, leadership abilities, and the potential commercial value of the applicant’s academic work.

Previous scholarship recipients, including 2006 scholarship winner Sarah Rosenthal Braun, have done important work to benefit the industry. After earning a Master’s degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Rosenthal Braun worked for three years as a research assistant at the Monsanto Company. She recently returned to the academic world and is pursuing a PhD in Dr. Shelley Jansky’s lab at UW-Madison in the plant breeding and plant genetics program.

“Scholarships like these have played a critical role in providing research results and the opportunity to receive training,” said Rosenthal Braun. “Currently, I am working on a very exciting project where we have identified major quantitative trait loci (QTLs) for resistance to common scab and cold induced sweetening in potato. We are using the QTL data to pursue development of germplasm and molecular markers.”

The application deadline for NPC’s 2013 academic scholarship is June 14, and the scholarship winner will be announced in August. Application forms are available at http://www.nationalpotatocouncil.org/files/6713/6378/9859/2013-2014_NPC_Scholarship_Application.pdf.

For more information about the award and past scholarship winners, visit

<http://www.nationalpotatocouncil.org/events-and-programs/scholarship-program/>

The National Potato Council is the advocate for the economic well-being of U.S. potato growers on federal legislative, regulatory, environmental, and trade issues. NPC supports the U.S. potato industry by monitoring issues affecting the strength and viability of the potato industry, influencing regulators and legislators on issues crucial to the industry's long term success, ensuring fair market access for potatoes and potato products, and bringing the unique issues and interests of diverse growing regions in the U.S. together on a national level.

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