Scholarship

Mr. William C. “Bill” Bailsey
2016 “Sumpin’ Big” Scholarship Opportunity

William C. “Bill” Baisley has been a key leader throughout his career in Georgia agriculture and will always hold a place of prominence in the economic success of our state’s $25.2 billion poultry industry. He has been an active member of the Georgia Agribusiness Council for more than 30 years serving in every leadership position possible. Bill helped lay the foundation, secure the roof, and strengthen the load bearing walls of our organization by insisting on sound management based on the fundamentals of service and a love for people.

In 1991, facing a number of challenges, GAC leaders conducted a strategic planning retreat in Macon. Simply, Bill challenged the group to dream big. Bill said, “Fellows, we need sumpin big.” The challenge yielded a commitment to study providing worker’s compensation insurance to the agribusiness industry in Georgia. As a result, AgriTrust of Georgia serves over 600 agribusinesses and provides self-funded direction to this vital component of business insurance covering over 16,000 food and fiber industry employees. Bill was a founding trustee and remains active today. Many people played an important role in the formation of AgriTrust, but Bill’s original challenge set the journey in motion.

**Purpose:** To provide financial aid to a qualified college student or incoming college student majoring in any agriculture-related subject in an accredited college or university in Georgia. Graduating High School Seniors through graduate level students majoring in agriculture related fields are eligible to apply.

**Funds:** Proceeds are derived from the Georgia Agribusiness Council and donations from other agricultural businesses.

**Award:** Two scholarships of 1,000; non-renewable. Scholarship recipients to be awarded (2) tickets to the Harvest Celebration and recognized on Friday, Nov. 18, 2016.

**Judging:** The selection of the scholarship winners is made by the Scholarship Committee of the Georgia Agribusiness Council and is based on the criteria listed in the application.

The Georgia Agribusiness Council (GAC) is a chamber-like organization comprised of more than 1000 member businesses throughout the state of Georgia. Founded in 1966, GAC provides economic services, legislative representation, and agricultural communications to the state’s $76 billion industry. You can learn more about GAC by visiting us online at [www.ga-agribusiness.org](http://www.ga-agribusiness.org) or follow us on Twitter @Gaagribusiness. You can also find us in Facebook. We are proud to support the future of agriculture through this program, which is paramount to our mission:

“To Advance The Business of Agriculture Through Economic Development, Environmental Stewardship & Education To Improve The Quality of Life For All Georgians.”
2016 William C. “Bill” Baisley “Sumpin Big” Scholarship Application

Please type or print: ____________________________ Date: ____________________________

Name in Full: ________________________________________________________________

Home Address: ______________________________________________________________

School Address: ______________________________________________________________

Home Telephone No.: ____________________________ School Telephone No.: __________

E-mail: ________________________________________________________________

Present Status: HS Senior___ Coll. Freshman___ Sophomore___ Jr. ___ Sr. ___ Grad. Student___

Major Subject: ____________________________________________ Cumulative GPA: ______

Projected Graduation Date: ________________ (Month & Year)

Is official copy of most recent transcript enclosed? ________

List or attach additional sheet of scholarships, prizes and awards received: __________

Please also provide one letter of recommendation from a teacher or supervisor along with your application.

All applications should be sent in one envelope including this form, essay answers, one letter of recommendation, and your most recent official transcript.

Essay Questions - Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet of paper in 250 words or less each.

What is the greatest challenge facing agriculture today?

What is your occupational objective after graduation?

Why do you qualify for the scholarship? (Include statement of financial need.)

Applications are due postmarked by October 14, 2016. Please submit to:

Georgia Agribusiness Council
Attn: Anna Strickland
P.O. Box 119
Commerce, GA 30529
800/726-2474
astrickland@ga-agribusiness.org