

University of Louisville
Department of Political Science
Public Trust Policy Scholarship

Public Trusts are natural and cultural resources that are preserved for public use. In the United States, wild lands, rivers, and lakes all qualify as public trusts. Today, with the increased pressures of natural resource extraction and continued threats to wilderness, Backcountry Hunters & Anglers (BHA) is taking a leadership role in advocating for the conservation of wild places. BHA is a non-partisan and non-profit organization whose mission is to be "a voice for our wild public lands, waters and wildlife." They are focused on public policy and action

The Public Trust Policy Scholarship is intended to be awarded to a political science student who aspires to one day serve in public office but who has little to no experience with hunting, angling, or the outdoors. The intent is to immerse them in the BHA community where they will forge relationships and gain experiences on our public lands and waters and walk away with a better understanding of and connection to conservationist values. This scholarship provides winners an opportunity to develop and execute a project relating to policy and public trusts, as well as networking opportunities with BHA members across the country

Sponsored by Colonel (retired) Mike and Aline Abell and Backcountry Hunters and Anglers, this scholarship is open to any undergraduate or graduate UofL Political Science student who will be graduating in Fall 2024 or later. The recipient will receive a total of \$2,500, with half awarded at the time of selection and half award upon completion of a field/policy/association experience. The project will be determined in coordination with the sponsors and expenses will be covered. The winner will also be given the honor of "BHA Scholar."

Application Deadline: April 1, 2024

Name: _____ **Student ID#:** _____

Do you have experience with the outdoors? (For example, hunting, fishing, and camping)

(Please elaborate in your cover letter.)

- A lot of experience
- Some experience
- Not much experience
- No experience at all

Please attach a 1-page letter of interest and 1–2-page resume to this application. Your cover letter should elaborate on your interest in the scholarship and your experience with the outdoors. Please submit your completed application packet to Emily.Rasmussen@louisville.edu. Have a faculty member who is familiar with you complete the attached recommendation form and send it separately.

Public Trust Policy Scholarship Application

RECOMMENDATION FORM

TO BE COMPLETED BY APPLICANT:

Applicant's name:

Name of faculty recommender:

TO BE COMPLETED BY FACULTY RECOMMENDER:

In what capacity have you known the applicant?

PLEASE COMMENT BRIEFLY ON THE FOLLOWING:

1) Applicant's academic performance:

2) Applicant's extracurricular involvement:

3) Other comments or concerns:

Recommendation:

_____ recommend with confidence

_____ recommend with reservations (please explain in #3 above.)

_____ do not recommend

Recommender's name: _____

Title: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

ALL APPLICATION MATERIALS ARE DUE BY **Monday, April 1, 2024 AT 5:00 PM.**

Please submit directly to Emily Rasmussen at Emily.Rasmussen@louisville.edu