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**YUMA COUNTY CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**247 N Clay Street**  
**Wray, CO 80758**  
**970-332-3107 ext. 9002**  
**yccd77@gmail.com**  
**www.ycconservation.com**

## **2026 Chester & Marcia Zwirn Conservation Scholarship**

### **Scholarship Overview**

The Chester & Marcia Zwirn Conservation Scholarship was established in 2025 while Chester Zwirn was serving as a member of the Yuma County Conservation District Board of Supervisors, a position he began in 1997. This scholarship was created to support students pursuing post-secondary education in fields related to conservation, natural resources, and agriculture.

Eligible fields of study include, but are not limited to: agriculture, natural resources, conservation, wildlife management, and closely related disciplines.

### **Eligibility Requirements**

Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Applicant must reside within the Yuma County Conservation District or have parents/guardians who own property within the District.
- Applicant must have a minimum high school GPA of 2.0.
- Scholarship recipients must maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA while enrolled as a full-time college student.
- Students must remain enrolled in a conservation-, natural resource- or agriculture-related major to remain eligible.

### **Scholarship Award**

- A maximum of \$5,000 may be awarded per recipient.
- The scholarship will be prorated based on the academic program the student attends.
- Payments will be made in \$500 increments per semester, for up to ten semesters.
- To receive each payment, recipients must submit an official transcript at the end of each semester to the Yuma County Conservation District.
- If a student changes majors to a non-eligible field, future scholarship payments will be forfeited.

Recipients will be selected by the Scholarship Selection Committee.

### **Application Deadline**

**May 1, 2026 by 4:00pm**

Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.





List Any Unusual Expenses and Explain Below:

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Parent or Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
(if applicant is under 18 years of age)

Applicant Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

### Required Application Materials

1. Completed scholarship application form
2. High school transcript, including class rank (if available)
3. ACT or SAT scores (if available)
4. Essay (maximum 500 words) addressing:
  - The applicant's interest in conservation
  - Conservation-related activities or experiences
  - How the applicant's chosen field of study relates to conservation
5. Three (3) letters of reference:
  - One from school personnel
  - Two from community members
  - References may not be relatives
6. Any additional materials requested by the Selection Committee

### Submission Instructions

Applications must be completed by the student and submitted to:

Yuma County Conservation District

Attn: Tanya Fell, District Manager

247 N. Clay Street

Wray, CO 80758

Email submissions accepted: [yccd77@gmail.com](mailto:yccd77@gmail.com)

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