



ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDER ORGANIZATION

2010 Scholarship Information and Guidelines

The Asian Pacific Islander Organization (APIO) was established as a Professional Society of Natural Resources Conservation Service Employees. APIO promotes the belief that Asian Pacific Americans can play an invaluable role in filling a critical need for committed natural resource professionals to address the protection of our nation's natural resources, as well as provide leadership in the wise use of our agricultural and recreational private lands. APIO was created to assist the United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA-NRCS) with its delivery of Program Information and Program Benefits to all communities. APIO plans to showcase the value that Asian Pacific Americans bring to the USDA-NRCS and to demonstrate the role of Asian Pacific Americans in a diverse, multicultural workforce. APIO serves as the primary link between the USDA-NRCS and the diverse Asian Pacific American communities.

Each year, APIO awards up to 5 scholarships worth \$1000 each, to deserving Asian or Pacific Islander students who are enrolled in an accredited 4 year or 2 year institution of higher learning and who have at least 15 semester-hours of credit towards a degree in one of the natural resources fields (such as Agricultural Business, Agronomy, Botany, Environmental Science, Forestry, Geology, Horticulture, Plant Science, Rangeland Management, Soil Science, and Agricultural, Civil, or Environmental Engineering). Only Asian or Pacific Islander students, who are U.S. citizens, are eligible for the scholarship. One of the goals of the APIO scholarship is to introduce students to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and get them to consider NRCS as a potential employer. For more information about NRCS or APIO, please visit the following websites www.nrcs.usda.gov or www.apio.org.

The APIO Scholarship is selected on the basis of academic achievement, personal strengths, leadership abilities, career goals, and work experiences. The application period is from **January 15, 2010 through February 16, 2010.**

We encourage all Asian and Pacific Islander students, who meet the above criteria, to apply for the 2010 scholarship. The application and associated information can be accessed via the web at www.apio.org.

If you have any questions regarding the APIO Scholarship, please contact Dave Fischer, Scholarship Chair, at david.fischer@hi.usda.gov.