



User: adronan16@gmail.com

## Robert Felix Memorial Scholarship Application

**Please note: This application is available for viewing year-round,  
but may only be submitted January 1 - April 1.**

If you have any questions, please email [dhettinger@treefund.org](mailto:dhettinger@treefund.org) or call 630-369-8300 x204.

### Applicant

Prefix	Mr.
First Name	Andrew
Last Name	Ronan

### Current Address

Mailing address	Paul Smiths College
Mailing address line 2	Student mailbox 0363
City	Paul Smiths
State/province	NY
Zip/post code	12970
Country	US
Email address	aronan@s.paulsmiths.edu
Phone number	774-309-4123

### Permanent Address (if different)

Mailing address	1 Elihu Way
-----------------	-------------

Mailing address line 2	
City	Westport
State/province	MA
Zip/post code	02790
Country	US
Email address	aronan@s.paulsmiths.edu
Phone number	508-636-3545

## Education

University/technical school	Paul Smiths College
Major(s)	Arboriculture
Minor(s)	Buisness
Year to date credits earned	15
Cumulative GPA	3.4
Will you be enrolled in the upcoming semester?	Yes
Graduation date	05/30/2018

## Scholarships and Awards

List any scholarships and awards, and the year received.

Scholarship 1	Matt T. Benoit Memorial Scholarship 2014
Scholarship 2	Westport River Watershed Alliance Scholarship Ruth Heath Merit Award 2014
Scholarship 3	Robert Kryston Memorial Scholarship 2014

Have you applied for a TREE Fund scholarship before?	Yes
--	-----

Have you received a TREE Fund scholarship before?	No
---	----

If yes, please list the year and amount of your award.

## Extracurricular Activities

### Internships

Describe any internships that you have held and note a contact person for each.

Internship 1	I have worked under a local arborist in my hometown on weekends and summers during my sophomore and junior years of high school. We did local tree felling and pruning as well as landscaping. His name is Mr. Clem Desjardins of Westport, Ma 508-636-3380
Internship 2	

### **Extracurricular Activities**

Describe any offices held in professional, community and academic organizations.

Extracurricular 1	Youth Cabinet Member of Fourth Congressional District , MA Nominated by my HS principal and arboricultural instructor to be one of two students to represent my HS, Bristol County Agricultural HS
Extracurricular 2	Senior Advisor
Extracurricular 3	Captain of my HS wrestling team Vocational State Champion, 2014

## **Essay**

Please describe your reasons for pursuing your chosen career, your goals and objectives, and why you should be chosen for this scholarship.

Have you ever had a door open up in your life that led to many hallways; providing you with a variety of different opportunities? My Arboriculture instructor in High School opened that doorway for me my sophomore year. He helped me find the diversity that life has to offer. My involvement in sports, student activities, FFA Arbor skill competitions, and student government, along with working under a local arborist during summer vacation and weekends, allowed me to connect with many people I wouldn't have otherwise had the opportunity to know. I am not only interested in becoming an arborist I am vested in becoming one. When I think back to what I learned in high school, I am amazed. I didn't just learn the material for a test; I acquired the knowledge of my instructor. I found myself falling more and more in love with the field the more I learned. After graduation, I was, and still am eager to learn as much as I can. Therefore, I decided to pursue a college degree in the field of arboriculture. Right now I am a freshman at Paul Smith's College, located amidst the Adirondack Mountains in New York. I am pursuing my goal to become an Arborist. Although my state college offers an arborist program, the multiple times I visited the Paul Smith campus something just felt right there. It is hard to explain, but I felt like I wasn't moving away from my friends and family but joining a group that cared about my goals. Any college can give you an education, but it takes a special college to make you feel comfortable, save and happy along with giving you a great education. After being here for a semester, I am glad I made that choice. My major is Arboriculture, coupled with a Bachelor in Parks, Recreation and Facilities Management along with a minor in Business. I am a person who learned to grasp at all opportunities possible in high school, and therefore I am going to work hard to obtain the most while at college.

I choose to follow my ambition to become an Arborist because of my experience at Bristol County Agricultural High School and my instructor there; who opened the doorway for me to find a career in a field I have grown to love.

Trees have become part of who I am. There is nothing like the beauty of a forest or even my own backyard while sitting in the top of a big Oak tree. I find myself looking in yards as I pass by and in the woods that surround my home with a whole different perspective than I use to. I now gaze at the beauty of a healthy tree, or find myself forming a plan for an unhealthy one. I spot an unusual ornamental or a tree I hadn't learned and find myself looking it up. Throughout high school, I learned how to identify 115 different species in their common and Latin names. We didn't learn by looking at pictures either, but by observing them on our campus and identifying each by their bark, leaves, and buds at various times throughout the year. I learned the proper way to operate a chainsaw, fell a tree or prune one, numerous climbing techniques, as well as the biology of trees, and so much more. You see, I am not a student just entering college with an interest in the field; I am a student that has been vested in our environments' most critical resource since I was fourteen.

By the time I was sixteen, I knew it was time to start investing for my future. I began by asking for only tree equipment for gifts from family. I worked full time on weekends and summers in the field and purchased more equipment. I volunteer to help thin and maintain forest land adjacent to my home in order to promote healthy growth and enable the wildlife to flourish. The land of which is part of the forestry program, sponsored by the Department of Conservation and Recreation in Massachusetts. By the summer of my junior year I was doing jobs for friends and family removing their trees, and pruning them along with working for a landscape company doing tree work.

My goal for after college is to obtain a position with a reputable tree care service. I take pride in my work and will only work for someone who does as well. It bothers me when I see trees trimmed along a road that have been not properly cut back in order to clear power lines. Looking further into my future, ten years or so, I think about using my business degree to open up my own business where I can give a young arborist like myself a place to start their career.

I believe I would be a good candidate for this scholarship because I am a person who works hard and is willing to push the extra mile to achieve my goals. I wish to learn all I can in a field that not only inspires me, but contributes to our environment and community's well-being. I am eager to learn and inspired to succeed. If I were to be chosen for this scholarship, the money would not be just going to someone's college education, but you'd be helping someone take another step towards their dream.

Please upload the following documents:

Current transcript

Proof of ISA student membership

## Letters of Recommendation

You must submit three letters of recommendation with your application, one of which must be from your academic advisor. If you have already received letters of recommendation, you may upload them below. If you would like to request letters from your recommenders, you may return to the main menu and select to add recommendation requests. This will allow you to send requests to your contacts to upload letters of recommendation.

All letters of recommendation are due April 1.

1st letter of recommendation

2nd letter of recommendation

Advisor letter of recommendation

How did you hear about this TREE Fund website scholarship?

Applications will be scored on the following scale:

- GPA (0-20)
- Essay (0-30)
- 1st letter of recommendation (0-10)
- 2nd letter of recommendation (0-10)
- Advisor letter of recommendation (0-20)
- Potential for continuing in arboriculture or urban forestry (0-10)

**Your application will not be available for editing after it has been submitted.  
Please review your application for completion before submission.**