

Adopt a High School Application Form

Yes, I want to adopt a high school and help bring green industry opportunity alive for young people.

Date

Your name

Company name

Address

City

Province

Postal code

Telephone

Fax

Email

Your Landscape Ontario chapter

High school information

Name of the high school you wish to adopt

City

Province

Postal code

Name of principal or other contact

Telephone

Scholarship information

\$

Scholarship amount to be pledged annually

You will receive a tax receipt for your scholarship donation.

Form continued on next panel

Scholarship criteria

Please outline any special criteria for your company's scholarship or send a letter if you need more space. Contact us if you need assistance developing criteria, we can send a draft for you to adapt.

Please make your cheque payable to
ONTARIO HORTICULTURAL TRADES FOUNDATION
and mail to:

**Landscape Ontario,
Education and Labour
Development Department**
7856 Fifth Line South, RR 4, Milton, ON L9T 2X8
1-800-265-5656, ext. 309
Fax 905-875-3942
E-mail: kathleenp@landscapeontario.com

HORTICULTURAL TRADES ASSOCIATION
landscapeontario.com



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7856 Fifth Line South, RR #4
Milton, ON L9T 2X8

www.landscapeontario.com

Adopt a High School

Connecting the landscape
industry with high school



HORTICULTURAL TRADES ASSOCIATION
landscapeontario.com

Green for Life!

Adopt a High School: Connect high school students with the green industry!

The green industry continues to be challenged with a labour shortage.

We face competition from more 150 registered trades, and the many career paths served by college and university programs.

Attracting young people to the landscape/nursery business is an important challenge.

Getting into Ontario's high schools is one step towards a solution — we need to let young people know about the exciting and rewarding career opportunities we offer.

Volunteer leaders in the Ontario Horticultural Trades Foundation have come up with an innovative idea to reach the students in Ontario's 800 high schools while they are making decisions about their future: the Adopt a High School Program. It allows you to personally take on a challenge, and enjoy the benefits of making a difference. It also helps market and promote our industry to the public.

How Adopt a High School works

This program is designed to allow landscape and nursery businesses to connect with young people by adopting a local high school. Its purpose is to inform high school students and educators about career opportunities in the landscape business and let them know that the green industry offers many challenging, full-time, prosperous career paths.

By adopting a high school and connecting with the principal, counselors and teachers, you can bring our industry into the classroom. You can attend career talks, participate in job and apprenticeship fairs and give a young person a break by offering a scholarship. Your industry knowledge and experience can open the door to great careers!



Take these steps to participate

1. Locate a suitable high school close to your place of business.
2. Call Landscape Ontario to discuss the process and answer questions.
3. Call the principal to explain the program and set up a meeting date.
4. Schedule a meeting with the Principal, co-op teacher, guidance teacher, horticultural teacher and other school officials.
5. Invite an LO staff person to accompany you, if possible.
6. Explain the purpose of the Program, and the benefits to the school, the community and the industry.
7. Send in your application form and scholarship amount to LO.

Your involvement

The time you spend is up to you. You can visit the school a couple of times each year and participate in career events as required. In most cases, it will only take a few hours each school year, but there is no limit to what you can put into — and get out of — the program. Landscape Ontario's Adopt a High School Committee will be there to assist you. Take a high school under your wing, create opportunities for young people and build new relationships — what better opportunity to give back to your community!

Benefits to the high school

1. Experienced industry mentor available to link your school to the industry
2. Source of advice on projects or material sourcing
3. Speaker contact and information for career classes, job fairs and career fairs for the student's career path
4. A unique scholarship available to your school for post-secondary horticultural education
5. Landscape project partnership assistance
6. Co-op placement potential to interested students
7. Direct link to HOSTA, Horticultural Ontario Secondary Teachers Association

Benefits to the LO member

1. Local community visibility and linkage
2. Co-op placement labour assistance
3. Potential for future employees
4. Potential for new landscaping business
5. Green industry promotion and social responsibility in your local area

Scholarship details

- You select the high school to adopt and determine the scholarship amount. Most firms will specify \$500 per year, but the amount is your choice.
- You set the scholarship criteria. Suggested guidelines include a two-page essay outlining why an applicant wants to pursue a career in landscaping, reasons for applying and financial need.
- You decide any special requirements. Examples include whether candidates must enter an apprenticeship program or post secondary horticulture program.
- Your firm receives the exclusive opportunity to promote the program at your selected high school.

Act today!

Registration form is on the back page

This is your invitation to make a difference for young people, as you help relieve our trades' labour shortage