



Developing the Next Generation of Rwandan Agricultural Leaders (UNL-CUSP)

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL) in the USA seeks to recruit up to 50 qualified Rwandan students to enroll in the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) for the Fall 2016 term. Students selected to participate in the CASNR Undergraduate Scholarship Program (CUSP) will pursue a Bachelor of Science degree in Integrated Science that is focused on conservation agriculture, entrepreneurship, leadership, and innovative thinking and is aligned with the areas of need as identified by the Rwandan Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources. Students will also have the opportunity to explore other areas of agriculture including: food production - animal, plant and food systems; soils, water quantity and availability, energy and environmental stewardship; nutrition, food safety, food engineering and processing; business, communication, public service and extension education; ecology, conservation biology and climate; and engineering, irrigation, mechanization and technology. Upon completion of the program, participants will return to Rwanda and commit a minimum of 5 years of their career to advancing the agricultural sector through employment at a public institution or extension effort supporting Rwanda.

Students selected to participate in the program will receive full scholarships, to include tuition, fees, living expenses, and travel costs.

Criteria for Consideration

Applicants will be considered based on a combination of meeting UNL undergraduate admission requirements, academic performance, a commitment to the goals of the scholarship program as well as a qualitative interview conducted by members of CASNR and the UNL Office of Admissions.

Application Process and Review

Students interested in the program and meeting the criteria listed below should submit admission materials no later than December 15, 2015 to:

EducationUSA/University of Nebraska at Lincoln
U.S. Embassy, Consular Entrance
2657 Avenue de la Gendarmerie
P.O. Box 28
Kigali, Rwanda

Students selected for an interview with the CUSP Selection Committee will be notified by February 5, 2016. Interviews will be held at the Serena Kigali Hotel the last week in February.

Applicant Criteria:

- High School graduate
- Transfer students are also encouraged to apply
- Preferred minimum cumulative GPA = 3.5
- Must meet UNL English proficiency requirements for full admission¹
 - TOEFL score of 70 with a written subscore of 20
 - IELTS score of 6.0 with a written subscore of 5.5
- Interest in agricultural field of study (food production - animal, plant and food systems; conservation agriculture, soils, water quantity and availability, energy and environmental stewardship; business, entrepreneurship and leadership; nutrition, food safety, food engineering and processing; communication, public service and extension education; ecology, conservation biology and climate; and engineering, irrigation, mechnization and technology)
- 500 word essay on “Why Agriculture is Important to Rwanda” as well as a personal statement reflecting your career interest in agriculture.

Application Materials:

- Complete UNL online application: <http://admissions.unl.edu/apply.aspx> (International Freshmen); <http://admissions.unl.edu/apply.aspx#admission-requirements/int-transfer> (International Transfer)
- Submit certified copies of your Secondary School transcripts including O Levels and A Levels or results from Standard 4, 5, and 6²
- Submit an official certificate or diploma confirming graduation from a secondary education institution or Rwanda Education Board national exam results²
- Submit official transfer transcript if applying as a transfer student²
- Submit official English proficiency scores¹
- Essay and personal statement
- Deadline for submission of application materials: - All interested candidates must submit the documents no later than December 15, 2015. Applications are due by 5:00 pm. Late applications will not be accepted.

Only candidates selected for an interview will be notified.

¹ An English Proficiency Exam will be offered to students selected for an interview that have not taken the TOEFL or IELTS.

² If not originally produced in English, documents should be submitted in native language with certified English translation.