



*Assists students interested in fisheries, wildlife, natural resource fields of study*

**BOTH HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE ANGLERS CAN NOW HOOK FUNDS  
WITH EXPANDED SHIMANO SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM**

**Application Deadline – May 31, 2019** – A key initiative to its ‘Varsity Program’ focusing on high school and college age anglers, Shimano will again award more than \$20,000 to both graduating high school seniors and those already enrolled in undergrad and graduate programs. The scholarships are intended to provide needed financial assistance to future leaders in conservation, fisheries and wildlife sciences and management.

Now in its third year, “the goal with our scholarships is to encourage and support young anglers to pursue a college degree in fishery management, scientific research and related natural resource professions”, said Phil Morlock, Vice President for Government Affairs/Advocacy for Shimano North American Fishing, Inc. “At Shimano, we understand the important role anglers have played as conservation leaders for well over a century. As B.A.S.S. members, we know these students have a first-hand appreciation for environmentally sustainable use and science-based management of natural resources. Where fishing happens, conservation happens.”

The Shimano/B.A.S.S. scholarship partnership is also intended to increase angler awareness of the critical decline in resource management professionals who fish within state, regional, provincial and federal agencies. The future of fishing will continue to rely on the combination of education, training and practical experience which this partnership encourages.

Shimano's Varsity Program also helps young anglers learn about fishing tackle and techniques, provides industry networking opportunities at Shimano 'Career Seminar' events, and stresses the role anglers have in fishing conservation and advocacy.

For their studies beginning in fall 2019, Shimano will award up to 11 (eleven) \$2,000 scholarships to U.S. and Canadian high school seniors, college undergraduate and graduate students who are members of B.A.S.S., and majoring in biology, fisheries, wildlife or a natural resource related field. Application deadline is May 31 – and is available [here](#).

Successful applicants will be notified by July 1. The award is made directly to the student winner and can be used as needed for tuition, textbooks or living expenses.

For more information about on the 'Shimano Varsity' program, visit: <http://varsity.shimano.com> – or contact ***Shimano Youth Fishing Coordinator Frank Hyla at [fhyla@shimano.com](mailto:fhyla@shimano.com)***.

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