William C. “Bill” Baisley
2020 “Sumpin’ Big” Scholarship

William C. “Bill” Baisley has been a key leader throughout his career in Georgia agriculture and will always hold a place of prominence in the economic success of our state’s $23.3 billion poultry industry. He has been an active member of the Georgia Agribusiness Council for more than 30 years serving in every leadership position possible. Bill helped lay the foundation, secure the roof, and strengthen the load bearing walls of our organization by insisting on sound management based on the fundamentals of service and a love for people. In 2017, Bill was inducted into the Georgia Agriculture Hall of Fame.

Bill Baisley has always been a leader and in his wisdom, he has always encouraged others to dream big. A phrase he used, “Folks, we need sumpin’ big” caught on and has been used by many to address challenges facing business and organization leaders. One such “sumpin’ big” challenge in our organization was met by creating a worker’s compensation insurance program for the agribusiness industry in Georgia. This program, AgriTrust of Georgia, is now in its 28th year and serves over 700 agribusinesses. Bill was a founding trustee of AgriTrust of Georgia and his leadership has played a vital role in the success of the program. It was his original challenge that set the journey in motion and many agribusinesses across Georgia have reaped the benefit.

**Purpose:** To provide financial aid to a qualified college student or incoming college student majoring in any agriculture-related subject in an accredited college or university in Georgia. Graduating High School Seniors through graduate level students majoring in agriculture related fields are eligible to apply.

**Funds:** Proceeds are derived from the Georgia Agribusiness Council Foundation, a 501(c)3 organization, through member and business donations.

**Award:** Up to three scholarships of $1,000; non-renewable. Scholarship recipients to be awarded (2) tickets to the Harvest Celebration and recognized in front of agribusiness industry guests on Friday, Nov. 20, 2020.

**Judging:** The selection of the scholarship winners is made by the Scholarship Committee of the Georgia Agribusiness Council and is based on the criteria listed in the application.

The Georgia Agribusiness Council (GAC) is a chamber-like organization comprised of more than 1,100 member businesses throughout the state of Georgia. Founded in 1966, GAC provides economic services, legislative representation, and agricultural communications to the state’s $73 billion industry. You can learn more about GAC by visiting us online at [www.ga-agribusiness.org](http://www.ga-agribusiness.org) or follow us on Twitter @Gaagribusiness. You can also find us on Facebook. We are proud to support the future of agriculture through this program, which is paramount to our mission:

“To Advance the Business of Agriculture through Economic Development, Environmental Stewardship and Education to Enhance the Quality of Life for All Georgians.”
2020 William C. “Bill” Baisley “Sumpin Big” Scholarship Application

Please type or print:                           Date: _______________________

Name in Full: ____________________________________________________________

Home Address: ______________________________________________________________________________________

School Address: ______________________________________________________________________________________

Home Telephone No.: ____________________ School Telephone No.: ________________

E-mail: ________________________________________________________________

Present Status: HS Senior___  Coll. Freshman___ Sophomore___ Jr. ___ Sr. ___ Grad. Student___

Major Subject: ___________________________________________________________ Cumulative GPA: ________________

Projected Graduation Date: __________________________ (Month & Year)

Please send official copy of your most recent transcript. Enclosed____ Sent by School _____

List or attach additional sheet of scholarships, prizes and awards received: ________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________
___________________________________________________________________________________________

Please also provide one letter of recommendation from a teacher or supervisor along with your application.

All applications should be sent in one envelope including this form, essay answers, one letter of recommendation, and your most recent official transcript.

Essay Questions - Please answer all the following questions on a separate sheet of paper in 250 words or less for each question.

☐  What is the greatest challenge facing agriculture today?

☐  What is your occupational objective after graduation?

☐  Why do you qualify for the scholarship? (Include statement of financial need.)

Applications are due postmarked by October 14, 2020. Please submit to:
Georgia Agribusiness Council
Attn: Jill Hansard
P.O. Box 119
Commerce, GA 30529
706-336-6830
jhansard@ga-agribusiness.org