Guidelines for Master Gardener Scholarship Awards

<u>Purpose-</u> The purpose is to award educational grant(s) for the annual Master Gardener Conference to advance education of certified Master Gardeners for the enrichment and quality of the program. The award(s) are sponsored by the Master Gardener Association of Chelan County.

Budget: Funds available for this program will be determined on a yearly basis by the Association Board. Generally, these will be partial scholarships, with the recipient responsible for any additional costs.

<u>Awards</u> - Grants will include registration conference fees (including conference meals). Reimbursement will be paid post conference.

The number of scholarships shall be determined by the number of applications that meet criteria and availability of funds.

Criteria for granting Awards

- -Must be a Certified Master Gardener in active status
- -First priority will be given to qualified applicants that haven't attended a conference in the last two years with the aid of a scholarship.
- -Number of volunteer hours will be considered but not used as the main criteria

Note: When an award recipient is unable to attend, the Association President should be notified as early as possible (at least 30 days in advance) so that a replacement can be found.

Application Cycle- Application deadline and award date will be determined based on the Conference dates each year.

<u>Application Process-</u> Submit an Application Form to WSU Chelan county Master Gardener Program Coordinator.

If more qualified applications are received than can be awarded, additional information may be requested. A committee may be formed to review the applications. The committee shall be composed of two board members, and one volunteer that received a scholarship the prior year. The names of the applicants will be removed prior to being given to the committee, to ensure an objective evaluation.

Note: a scholarship committee member cannot receive a scholarship.

Recipients of an award are required to share information with the group, either by a written article(s) for Sage Advice, workshop, or presentation (s) at a program meeting. Failure to do so will disqualify a person from future awards the next two years.