

VERMONT MAPLE AMBASSADOR APPLICATION

Vermont Maple Ambassador Scholarships Sponsored by:
Vermont Maple Sugar Makers Association, Vermont Maple Festival, Franklin County Maple Sugarmakers Association, Caledonia Maple Association, Orleans County Maple Producers Association

ATTN: Diane Marsh, Chair

APPLICATION

Candidate: _____ Phone _____

Parent or Legal Guardian _____ Phone _____

Mailing Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Place of Birth _____

School _____ Grade _____

Do you live on a farm that produces maple syrup? Yes / No If yes, where?

Do you assist on a farm that produces maple syrup? Yes /No If yes, where?

Please include along with your application:

1. Your experience and involvement in maple
2. Your school and community activities
3. A letter of recommendation from a sugarmaker in your county. The letter cannot be written by a family member.

If you are not currently at the above address, where can you be reached?

Address _____

Phone _____ Cell Phone _____

Applicant's signature _____ Date _____

The person named above has permission to enter this contest and my consent to use photographic releases for publicity purposes.

_____ Date _____

2026 VERMONT MAPLE AMBASSADOR CONTEST QUALIFICATIONS, RULES AND REGULATIONS

1. Must be 16 years of age and not over 21 by **April 24, 2026**
2. Applicants shall not have formerly been **a Vermont Maple Ambassador.**
3. Applicants will be interviewed via ZOOM on Saturday, April 18th one week prior to the festival. Candidates will be notified in advance what time their interview will be scheduled. During the interview, the judges will be asking you questions about the process of sugaring and seeking your ideas on the future of the maple industry in Vermont. Judges will be observing your appearance, poise and speech delivery. You will also be asked how available you will be during the year. (Do not apply if you will not be able to fulfill the obligations listed below) The new Vermont Maple Ambassadors will be announced on Friday, April 24th at the Opening Ceremony at noon on the Main Street Stage. The new Maple Ambassadors will be expected to remain at the festival for the afternoon on Friday, attend the festival on Saturday and plan on going to the Maple BBQ that evening at 6:00 **at the St. Albans Museum in the Bliss Room** and on Sunday to ride in the parade as well as helping after the parade.
A complimentary Maple BBQ ticket will be provided for each of the new Maple Ambassadors. We encourage you to bring your family and friends. Additional tickets for the Maple BBQ can be purchased at the door. Attendance at these event is mandatory.
4. The Vermont Maple Festival, Vermont Maple Sugarmakers' Association & Franklin County Maple Sugarmakers Association will expect you to be available for the required number of events listed below throughout the year. You will be representing the Vermont Maple Industry in promotion, publicity and education.
5. The Vermont Maple Ambassadors will each receive a total of \$2500. The first \$1000 being awarded at the crowning and you are required to attend oncoming events throughout the Maple Festival weekend .
6. Below are the mandatory events that you are asked to attend:
 - Maple Sugarhouse at the Champlain Valley Fair in Essex Jct. held in September **2026**
 - Big "E" (Eastern States Exposition) held in Springfield, MA in late September **2026** (Vermont Day)
 - Maple Cooking Show held in **March 2027** (tentative)
 - Governor's Tree Tapping Ceremony held in **March of 2027**
 - Across The Fence WCAX TV held in **March/April 2027**
 - Vermont Maple Festival Opening Ceremony to crown New Ambassadors in **April 2027**
7. We also suggest that you attend as many of the local county fairs as possible to meet new people and promote maple at these functions but they are not mandatory. \$500.00 will be awarded to you **January 2027** and the final \$1000.00 at the Maple Festival in **April 2027**
8. If candidate is under the age of 18 a parent or guardian must sign the application form.
9. All entries must be received no later than **April 8, 2026.**

Contact: Diane Marsh, Chair at 644-2935 or email at drmarsh@myfairpoint.net with any questions.