



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Seeking The Next Vermont Maple Ambassadors

Earn a scholarship by promoting the official flavor of Vermont!

RICHFORD, VT - Vermont continues to lead the nation by a commanding margin as the top maple producing state. Total Vermont maple syrup production in 2022 was 2.55 million gallons, an 800,000 increase over the prior year and about half of the US production of maple syrup. And we're looking for Vermont students who love maple as much as we do and have some experience with the process of turning sap into syrup. Each year, the Vermont Maple Sugar Makers' Association (VMSMA) and the Vermont Maple Festival partner to encourage youth involvement in promoting this important Vermont crop. And we're now accepting applications for this exciting work!

The Vermont Maple Festival and VMSMA are looking for Vermont Maple Ambassadors candidates to represent the Vermont Maple industry at functions throughout Vermont and New England for one year. If you're a Vermont student between the ages of 16 and 21 and you have knowledge and experience with maple sugaring, it's time to apply! Ambassadors promote, publicize, and educate the public with their maple knowledge. They take part in fairs, festivals, and field days throughout the state, Maple Open House Weekends in the spring and fall, the VMSMA Booth at the Big E in Massachusetts, the annual Governor's Tree Tapping and other significant Vermont maple events.

In return for the work promoting Vermont Maple, VMSMA and the Vermont Maple Festival offer each Ambassador a \$2,500 scholarship. This year, applications are due by April 12 and you can find the formal application online: <https://www.vtmaplefestival.org/contests>. Applicant interviews will take place in person this year during the Maple Festival, on Saturday, April 29.

The Application deadline is right around the corner, so apply today and help us to promote Vermont's sweetest crop and the official flavor of Vermont! Find details and application information on the Vermont Maple Festival's website: <https://www.vtmaplefestival.org/post/vermont-maple-ambassador>.

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The Vermont Maple Sugar Makers' Association (VMSMA), founded in 1893, is one of the oldest agricultural organizations in the United States and represents over 1,000 members. The VMSMA helps to promote and protect the branding of pure Vermont maple products and to serve as the official voice for Vermont sugar makers. Our members take great pride in maintaining a prosperous maple industry and a working landscape that future generations will enjoy. Vermont sugar makers produce over 2 million gallons of maple syrup annually (over one half of the production in the United States). More information at www.VermontMaple.org.