Endowment Fund Guidelines for Donors

For donors who want to make an investment in the long-term support of Pennsylvania’s dairy industry, providing an endowment gift to the Center for Dairy Excellence Foundation of Pennsylvania may be an option. An endowment is a donor restricted gift that is not spent immediately but is invested in a perpetual fund. Endowments in the Dairy Excellence Foundation are invested to build a long-term funding source for the Foundation’s programs and Pennsylvania dairy’s next generation.

Giving through an endowment fund provides the following benefits:

- An endowment provides a framework for the Foundation to receive cash gifts and other planned gifts, such as through a will, trust, beneficiary designation on a retirement account, or insurance proceeds.
- An endowment is an ongoing testament to your support of the Dairy Excellence Foundation’s mission to build and invest in programs that cultivate and inspire the next generation of producers, consumers and advocates for Pennsylvania’s dairy industry.
- A named endowment is recognized in perpetuity through designation as a Dairy Excellence Foundation’s Cornerstone Club endowment member. A contribution to the general endowment fund will be recognized in that current fiscal year through the website, in the annual summary, and through other recognition and outreach efforts.

The Dairy Excellence Foundation’s guidelines related to the endowment fund include:

- A donor must give or commit to a gift of at least $10,000 to have a Named Endowment designated in their honor or at their request. The gift can be committed over a five-year period.
- Gifts to the General Endowment Fund can be given at any level.
- All unrestricted gifts provided to the Dairy Excellence Foundation are split between the Reserve and Endowment Funds, with 35 percent of the proceeds going into the Endowment Fund.
- The interest gained from the Endowment Fund can be drawn at the end of the fiscal year and allocated as the Board specifies or, in the case of a named endowment, as designated by the donor.
- The Dairy Excellence Foundation Board of Directors have established a policy in which any annual distribution from the Endowment Fund is suspended until the Endowment reaches a level of $1 million. The Board of Directors will at that point designate how proceeds from the fund are to be distributed, with distributions calculated at 3.5 percent of the average balance for the past 36 months.

For More Information, Contact:

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A Look at Our Programs:
Empowering the next generation starts with knowledge, education and experience. The Dairy Excellence Foundation provides cross-curricular lesson series, educational programming, on-farm internships and scholarship opportunities for students of all ages, including:

- Discover Dairy reaches 1,526 educators and 190,000 students through an interactive, cross-curricular lesson series that shows them how dairy farms contribute to our world.
- Dairy Leaders of Tomorrow has more than 435 educators and 19,000 students enrolled nationwide and offers industry certification in dairy herd and business management.
- On-farm internships for college students provide in-depth on-farm learning experiences to the next generation of dairy managers in Pennsylvania.
- The Dairy Excellence Foundation supports a wide variety of scholarships, including the Student Leader Scholarship which recognizes outstanding students in dairy with a $3,000 stipend to support their academic career.