



## For Immediate Release

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### **GRANTS AVAILABLE FOR SCHOOLS TO FUND FIELD TRIPS TO LOCAL DAIRY FARMS**

*Any Classroom Enrolled in the Discover Dairy Program Can Apply for a Grant Up to \$500*

**Harrisburg, Pa.** – Teachers who have classrooms that are enrolled in the Discover Dairy or Adopt a Cow program are eligible to apply for one of 80 grants available to fund a field trip to a local dairy farm. Grants will be up to \$500 based on the type of field trip planned. Funds from the grant can assist in covering the cost of busing, the farm tour itself, lunch, or a dairy treat. There are up to 40 grants designated specifically for Pennsylvania classrooms, and at least 15 grants are designated for Wisconsin classrooms. Farm tour field trip grant applications must be submitted online by January 15, 2024.

“For teachers who want to show students how dairy farmers care for their cows, conserve their natural resources and how milk impacts their local economy, there’s really no better way than seeing it firsthand and touring a dairy farm,” said Brittany Snyder, Dairy Education Program Manager at the Dairy Excellence Foundation. “That’s why we continue to offer these farm tour field trip grants year after year, thanks to support from our partners. These field trips serve as an engaging activity for classrooms this spring and help expose students to all that goes into running a successful dairy operation.”

Selection is based on the number of students eligible to attend the tour and previous and future plans of dairy education in the classroom. Discover Dairy staff do not provide farm suggestions for the dairy farm trip. Teachers who apply for the grants must plan the trip and contact a farm in their community to make arrangements for the tour.

“I have never seen my class so engaged and wanting to learn as much as they did. Our dairy farm was so efficient in their tour and answered all of my students’ questions. We walked to the milking parlor where the kids were able to see how the Holsteins were milked, we were able to see where the milk went, where it was tested and loaded on a truck,” said Katelynn, an agriculture teacher who received a grant. “I am so thankful to have had this opportunity with my students. This is definitely one field trip I feel my students will always remember.”

Farm tour field trip grant applications will be accepted until January 15, 2024. The application is to receive up to \$500 in funds for a farm field trip that is planned by the applicant. Applications without a specified dairy farm to tour will not be considered for the grant.

“Our students and teachers learned about robotic milking, farm safety, the inner workings of a cow’s stomach, and the many careers influenced by agriculture. We even tasted ice cream made by college students from the milk on the farm. We are thankful for those who made this trip possible for our fourth-grade students and staff,” said Kris, a fourth-grade teacher who received a grant.

Visit [www.discoverdairy.com/take-trip-dairy-farm](http://www.discoverdairy.com/take-trip-dairy-farm) to apply or share with a teacher you know. Contact Brittany Snyder at [bsnyder@centerfordairyexcellence.org](mailto:bsnyder@centerfordairyexcellence.org) or call 717-346-0849 for more information.

Discover Dairy is an educational series managed by the Center for Dairy Excellence Foundation of Pennsylvania in partnership with American Dairy Association Northeast, American Dairy Association Indiana, Midwest Dairy, The Dairy Alliance, Dairy Farmers of Wisconsin, Dairy Council of Arizona and Nevada, Dairy West, New England Dairy, Dairy Farmers of Washington, American Dairy Association Mideast, Dairy Council of Florida, United Dairy Industry of Michigan, Maine Dairy and Nutrition Council, and Oregon Dairy and Nutrition Council.

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The Center for Dairy Excellence Foundation of Pennsylvania is a 501(c)(3) non-profit, tax deductible organization that is Educational Improvement Tax Credit (EITC) approved. Established in 2010, the foundation’s mission is to build and invest in programs that cultivate and empower the next generation of producers, consumers, and advocates for the Pennsylvania dairy industry. Learn more at [centerfordairyexcellence.org/our-foundation/](http://centerfordairyexcellence.org/our-foundation/).

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