

David Hileman Memorial Next Generation Veterinary Service Award

The David Hileman Memorial Veterinary Service Award was established in 2026 to recognize those in the veterinary profession who have dedicated themselves and their careers to serving the large animal community in Pennsylvania and who have exemplified a commitment to advancing the sustainability and welfare of Pennsylvania dairy herds through proactive, responsive, and service-oriented veterinary care. The award recognizes those who are relatively new to the veterinary field to support that next generation of our veterinary community in Pennsylvania. This award is named in memory of David Hileman, who was not a veterinarian but a forward-thinking, service-oriented dairy producer who gave generously to the Foundation and was passionate about the next generation in our industry.

Objective: To recognize a large animal veterinarian within Pennsylvania who is under the age of 40 or within the first 10 years of practice in the field who has demonstrated a commitment to the large animal community in Pennsylvania and who exemplifies service to advancing the sustainability and welfare of our Pennsylvania dairy herds.

The award is intended to provide recognition and financial support to young and beginning leaders within the Pennsylvania large-animal veterinary community for the contributions they are making to the future of Pennsylvania's dairy industry. The winning individual will receive a \$12,000 cash award and recognition at the annual Pennsylvania Dairy Summit in February or a related event.

To qualify for this award, individuals must:

- Be under the age of 40 years old or within the first 10 years of practicing as a veterinarian.
- Be a practicing veterinarian who is part of a practice with dairy farms as part of their client base.

Qualities of someone recognized through this award could include:

- A deep understanding of the unique relationship and delicate balance between animal husbandry, dairy management, and profitability on a dairy farm
- A high level of integrity
- A forward-thinking, proactive and practical approach to supporting dairy farm clients
- A service-oriented disposition
- A strong passion for the Pennsylvania dairy farm community
- A demonstrated commitment to serving Pennsylvania's dairy farm community in a positive way

Nominations for this award are due by November 30, 2026, with the recipient selected in December for recognition at the Pennsylvania Dairy Summit on February 3 – 4 at the Penn State in University Park, Pa. Individuals can be nominated either through a self-nomination or by another individual who wishes to recognize their achievements in the industry.

To nominate an individual for this award, please complete the application on the next page and submit it with up to three letters of support for the nominee. All nominations should be submitted to the Dairy Excellence Foundation, Attn: Memorial Award Nomination, 2301 North Cameron Street, Room 407, Harrisburg, PA 17110 or by email to jsebright@centerfordairyexcellence.org. **All nominations must be postmarked or emailed by November 30, 2026.**

**David Hileman Memorial Veterinary Service Award
Nomination Form**

*Please submit this form, along with up to three letters of support, by November 30, 2026, to:
Dairy Excellence Foundation, Attn: Hileman Memorial Award, 2301 North Cameron St. Harrisburg, PA 17110
Or complete the online application at **URL NEEDED***

Nominee's Name: _____

Birthdate: _____ Email Address: _____

Address: _____ Phone Number: _____

City, State & Zip: _____

Veterinary Practice: _____ Town where located: _____

Number of Dairy Clients with VCPRs on File: _____ Large Animal Client Percentage of Total: _____

Number of Years as a practicing veterinarian: _____ Year earned veterinary degree: _____

Veterinary school where this person graduated: _____

List three ways this individual has exemplified a commitment to advancing the sustainability and welfare of Pennsylvania dairy herds:*

1). _____

2). _____

3). _____

Why do you think this person models the qualities identified as being worthy of receiving this award:*

Please feel free to provide additional comments relevant to the application:

Please List A Dairy Farm Reference for This Individual:

1) Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Contact Information of Person Nominating This Individual:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____ Relationship to Nominee: _____

** Can use an additional blank page to add more if needed. Application should not exceed two pages in length.*