



For Immediate Release

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STUDENT LEADER SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS DUE MAY 1

The PA Dairymen's Association and Dairy Excellence Foundation Are Offering Twelve \$3,000 Scholarships

Harrisburg, Pa. – The annual Student Leader Scholarship program is open for undergraduate students, including college students and high school seniors, who are pursuing a career in a dairy-related field. Applications must be submitted online by May 1. Twelve \$3,000 scholarships are available through a partnership between the Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association and the Dairy Excellence Foundation for the 2023-24 academic year.

"Partnering to offer these scholarships every year allows us to help ease the financial burden for agriculture students, giving them more time to focus on their studies and to make their mark on the dairy industry," said Dave Smith, Executive Director at the PA Dairymen's Association. "After catching up with some of these students and seeing where they are now, it's great to see what type of impact these scholarships have made on their future careers and ability to manage debt."

The Student Leader Scholarships are offered annually to provide recognition, encouragement, and financial assistance to outstanding students enrolled in academic programs that support the dairy industry. Undergraduate college students and high school seniors entering college in the fall are eligible for the scholarships. One scholarship is specifically designated for an incoming freshman.

To qualify for the scholarships, students must demonstrate a commitment to working in the dairy industry. Recipients are selected based on academic performance, interest in a dairy-related career, evidence of leadership, character and integrity, and application compliance.

"I am so thankful for the financial support I received from the Dairy Excellence Foundation and PA Dairymen's Association. Because of the scholarship money, I was able to spend less time working and more time on my studies," said Hanna Welk, a previous scholarship recipient who is now working as an agronomist. "Scholarships are your best friend. You will thank yourself after you graduate for taking the time to fill them out. Scholarships saved me so much money, to the point that the amount of debt I have is manageable. With inflation and prices of everything going up, it is all the more reason to take advantage of scholarships."

Pennsylvania residents who are full-time undergraduate students currently enrolled in a qualifying field of study or high school seniors who are planning to enroll in a qualifying field of study are given consideration for this scholarship. Qualifying fields of study include dairy and animal science, agricultural marketing and business, nutrition, food science, agriculture and extension education, agricultural communications, agricultural engineering, or related fields.

Students can receive the \$3,000 scholarship twice during their undergraduate academic career. Students employed by the Center for Dairy Excellence as an intern or in another capacity are not eligible to apply during the period in which they are working for the Center.

To submit an online application by May 1 and learn more about the scholarship opportunities, visit www.centerfordairyexcellence.org/scholarships or contact Michelle Shearer at 570-768-8316 or by email at mshearer@centerfordairyexcellence.org.

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About the Dairy Excellence Foundation

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/.

About the PA Dairymen's Association

The Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association is the oldest dairy group in Pennsylvania. The Dairymen's Milkshake is the top-selling food item at the Food Court. The Pennsylvania Dairymen's Association has been supporting "Fill a Glass with Hope®" with agriculture partners, Feeding PA, American Dairy Association North East, corporate partners and food banks since 2015. Over the past three years, the PA Dairymen have donated more than \$1.4 million to programs including The Calving Corner; agricultural and educational projects; initiatives and scholarships; the Fill A Glass with Hope® fresh milk campaign for neighbors in need; the Choose PA Dairy consumer education and awareness campaign; the PA Farm Bureau Mobile Ag Education Lab that travels to schools; and the PA Dairy Princess and Promotion Program. Their philanthropic efforts build a brighter future for all Pennsylvanians. For more information, visit www.padairymens.com.

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