










Youth Pork Ambassador

Missouri Pork Association Youth Pork Ambassador Program

Description:

The Missouri Youth Pork Ambassador Program is designed to provide youth with an opportunity to become actively involved in the pork industry. The program will help youth develop strong relationships with both pork producers and allied industry members. It is an opportunity to learn about pork production and the industry and to improve communication and leadership skills. The main goal of the Youth Pork Ambassador program is to promote the Missouri Pork Association and the swine industry at various events. The successful candidate will gain valuable experience and develop relationships that will last a lifetime.

Rules:

-  The applicant must be a senior in high school up to a sophomore in college as of January 1st of the year they will begin the program.
-  Applicants may apply more than once but may only be selected as an ambassador once and may only receive one Pork Industry Scholarship.
-  Applicant must be involved in the pork industry or the son/daughter of a parent or guardian involved in the pork industry (owner, operator, or allied industry).
-  The applicant must be a resident of Missouri.
-  Must have own transportation.
-  Must continue education at a technical school, community college or 4-year university.
-  The scholarship must be used within one year of completion of the program.

Judging and Selection:

Judging and selection will take place in two rounds. Round one consists of an application, three letters of recommendation and a current transcript. Round two consists of a personal interview. Round one applications are due by December 15, 2023. Applicants that are chosen to move on to round two selections will be notified by December 21, 2023. The candidate will then have a personal interview with a selection panel at the Missouri Pork Association office. Applicants should be prepared to discuss and demonstrate their knowledge of the pork industry and organizational issues during the interview process. The selection panel will include a Missouri Pork Association staff member, an executive committee member and an allied industry representative. The Ambassador will be notified at the end of January and will be officially announced at the Missouri Pork Expo on February 20, 2024. The Ambassador will report to the Missouri Pork Association Director of Communications.

Duties:

The Ambassador is required to attend six events throughout the year. The required events include:

Missouri Youth Pork Institute – June 10-12, 2024, Columbia, Missouri
Missouri Pork Classic Golf Tournament – June 18, 2024, Boonville, Missouri
Governor’s Conference on Agriculture – To Be Determined
Missouri State Fair – potential dates of August 8 and 9, 2024, Sedalia, Missouri
Taste of Elegance – To Be Determined
2024 Missouri Pork Expo – February 18, 2025 – REQUIRED

The Ambassador will begin the program with the 2024 Missouri Pork Expo and finish the program with the 2025 Missouri Pork Expo. If the Ambassador is not able to attend one of these events, there are other events that may be substituted.

The Ambassador will receive two Missouri Pork Youth Ambassador shirts and will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship, payable to a technical school, community college or 4-year University at the end of the program. The scholarship must be used within one year of completing the program. The Ambassador will be reimbursed for lodging and travel expenses in accordance with the MPA policy.

Missouri Pork Association

Ambassador Program Application

General Information:

First Name: _____ M.I.: _____ Last Name: _____

Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Birthplace: _____

Social Security Number: _____

Current Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____ Daytime Phone: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Relationship: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

High School Students:

Name of School: _____

Grade: _____ Expected Graduation Date: _____

College Students:

Name of School: _____

Current Major: _____

Current Minor: _____

Academic Advisor: _____

Expected Completion of Degree Date: _____

Personal Information:

List below academic honors, extra-curricular activities, offices held and interests.

List any agricultural related coursework.

List employment experience.

The guidelines state that to be eligible, the applicant must be involved in the pork industry or the son/daughter of a parent or guardian involved in the pork industry (owner, operator or allied industry). Please indicate your tie to the industry.

What are your tentative career plans?

What are the goals that you hope to gain from being the Missouri Pork Association Youth Ambassador?

I certify that the information given on this application is correct and I agree that if accepted, I shall abide by all standards and regulations as specified by the Missouri Pork Association.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

**Please submit application, three letters of recommendation and a current transcript to:
Missouri Pork Association
Diane Slater
6235 West Cunningham Drive
Columbia, MO 65202**

Deadline: December 15, 2023

Selected students will be notified to schedule an interview.