2027 Gunderson Memorial Scholarship

Background:

The Wisconsin Pork Association, in cooperation with the family of Buell Gunderson, established a scholarship program in 2007 to recognize the many contributions that Buell Gunderson made to the Wisconsin pork industry. As swine herdsman for the University of Wisconsin-Madison for more than 30 years, Buell Gunderson was instrumental in helping shape not only the swine industry, but also hundreds of 4-H and FFA youth and university students through his teaching, judging, coaching and commitment. In addition, Gunderson, together with his wife, Bernice, served as Secretary/Treasurer of the Wisconsin Pork Association for 20+ years and assisted in growing the organization from its initial roots to the successful organization that it is today--sponsoring scholarships, developing youth programs, and helping to support the pork producers of the state.

High school seniors and college students are eligible to apply. The Wisconsin Pork Association will accept recommendations or applications from county pork producer organizations, industry members, pork producers, and colleges or technical schools for recipients of the Gunderson Memorial Scholarship on an annual basis. Individuals who have shown considerable dedication and involvement in the pork industry will be considered for the scholarship.

Criteria:

A committee will review applications to determine whether a $1,000 award will be presented annually. Additional awards may be given to qualified candidates at the committee's discretion. Criteria for the scholarship are listed below:

1. Individuals who have shown considerable dedication and involvement to the pork industry.
2. Consideration will be given to individuals who have established their own production herd, been involved in their family operation, or shown specific interest in pork production or livestock judging.
3. Priority will be given to applicants who are beginning pork producers, or pursuing an Animal Science, agricultural production, or closely related major. Students who are attending college out of state, but were originally or remain a Wisconsin resident, may also apply.
4. Criteria may include, but are not limited to:
   a. Industry activities
   b. Career orientation
   c. Financial need

Submit materials no later than December 1st, 2026, to:

Wisconsin Pork Association
P.O. Box 327, Lancaster, WI 53813.
E-mail: wppa@wppa.org.

WISCONSIN WPA PORK ASSOCIATION

2027 Gunderson Memorial Scholarship Application

A. Personal Information:

Name: _____

Name of Individual/Organization who recommended you. (Attach letter of recommendation):

_____

School Address: _____
(if applicable)

Home Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Parents' Names: _____

Local Newspaper Name: _____

Email: _____ Mailing Address: _____

B. Extra-curriculars & Industry Involvement

a. List extra-curricular livestock activities/community service/pork industry activities:

b. How have Wisconsin Pork Association programs or activities impacted you, and how do you see the organization being of value to you in the future?

C. Future Career Plans

a. On a separate page, write or type a summary, on how your career plans relate to the pork industry. Include if you're currently attending school; educational seminars; industry groups involved with, etc. (Not to exceed one page).

b. Attach one letter of recommendation.

Note: Each candidate may be requested to schedule a personal interview.

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