

Virginia Hereford Association Heifer Scholarship Program Guidelines

The Virginia Hereford Association Heifer Scholarship Program is a mentoring and development program for youth that are interested in becoming involved in the farming industry. It is our goal to make possible for a younger generation of future Hereford breeders to learn through the management of a Registered Hereford female.

The program will provide a Registered Hereford Heifer to the recipient of this scholarship. At that time the junior will maintain ownership and possession of the heifer. The recipient will be responsible for all costs including but not limited to: feed, healthcare, AI service, transportation, and show expenses.

The recipient will be required to show this heifer at a Virginia Hereford sanctioned event within a year and breed this heifer to a registered Hereford bull and return the first calf back to the scholarship program. The heifer will be bred AI to a Registered Hereford Bull using sexed heifer semen, twice if needed, and exposed to a Registered Hereford Bull if AI does not take. If the first calf is a heifer, the calf will be returned to the Heifer Program. If the first calf is a bull calf the recipient will be responsible to sell the calf and return those funds to the Virginia Hereford Association. The recipient also agrees to give a short presentation of their experience with the project at the annual Virginia Hereford Association meeting.

A Virginia Hereford Association Heifer Scholarship Representative will be assigned to the recipient to guide the youth with management decisions concerning the care, showing, and breeding of this heifer and to facilitate the return of a heifer calf back to the program.

Upon application, it is acknowledged and agreed that all selection decisions of the board are final and at any time the board deems the care or management is not appropriate the heifer must be returned to the program.

Qualifications for application:

- 1). A boy or girl ages 7 to 21 by January 1 of the application year and he or she must be a member or become a member of the Virginia Hereford Association.
- 2). Complete the Virginia Hereford Association Heifer Scholarship Program Application.
- 3). The application must include one letter of recommendation. This letter of recommendation must come from one of the following areas: 4-H Club leader, FFA advisor, county agent, school teacher or principal, minister or youth advisor, or a Hereford breeder. The letter of recommendation should include a candid evaluation of the applicant's background, character, strengths and weaknesses, and ability to care for the project.

For questions, please contact Michael Taylor at (304) 668-0580

Deadline for applications: October 1, 2026

The recipient will be announced at the 2026 Mid Atlantic Fall Bonanza Sale on November 14, 2026.

Applications can be mailed to:

Virginia Hereford Association
118 Via Farm Lane
Patrick Springs, VA 24133

Or emailed to secretary@virginiahereford.org

Virginia Hereford Association Heifer Program Application

Name_____

Date of Birth_____

Address_____

Email_____

Telephone_____

Attach:

1) An essay of 250-500 words (typed, double spaced) discussing

"What receiving a heifer from this program would mean to me and how I plan to care for her."

2) Letter of Recommendation

Applicant's Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian's Signature

Date

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Virginia Hereford Association Heifer Scholarship Program Agreement

Certification, Release, and Acceptance of Responsibility

The undersigned applicant certifies that he or she understands that there is always some unavoidable risk of injury involved when working with farm animals, especially if the applicant has little or no experience working with farm animals. The undersigned applicant accepts and assumes, without reservation, all risk associated with the applicant's participation in the Heifer Scholarship Program and the care of the heifer to be awarded to the applicant if the applicant is the successful applicant. As lawful consideration for being awarded a heifer if the applicant is the successful applicant, the applicant (or the applicant's parent or legal guardian for and on behalf of the applicant if the applicant is under the age of eighteen (18) years) hereby waives, releases, discharges and agrees not to sue and to indemnify, defend and hold harmless the Virginia Hereford Association and its members, directors, and officers from any claims for injuries to persons, including but not limited to the applicant, and from any claims for damage to property arising from the applicant's participation in the Heifer Scholarship Program. The applicant shall be responsible for and shall bear all costs and expenses of raising and caring for the heifer awarded to the applicant if he or she is the successful applicant, including, but not limited to, all costs for feed, veterinarian care, artificial insemination, and transportation. Furthermore, the applicant (and the applicant's parent or legal guardian if the applicant is under the age of eighteen (18) years) understands and accepts, as a condition of participating in the Heifer Scholarship Program and being awarded a registered Hereford heifer if the applicant is the successful applicant, the requirement to return to the Program within two (2) years a heifer calf or money from the sale of a bull calf that is the progeny of the heifer awarded to the applicant from the Program.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Parent or Guardian's Signature

Date
