

Wyoming Beef Cattle Improvement Association (WBCIA) Scholarships

The WBCIA will again fund up to four \$1000 scholarships for Wyoming resident students attending either the University of Wyoming or a Wyoming Community College for the 2007-2008 academic year. The only exception to the Wyoming university/community college requirement would be Wyoming residents in professional programs outside of Wyoming such as veterinary students (since Wyoming does not have a veterinary school) or medical students provided they plan to return to Wyoming to practice. Applicants need to have completed one year of post-high school education by the start of the fall 2007 school term. They need to be enrolled in a program of study associated with agriculture and demonstrate an interest and experience in the beef industry. Any students, who meet these requirements, have a minimum grade point average of 2.70 and have not previously received this scholarship, are encouraged to apply. The WBCIA scholarships will be awarded as \$500 per semester.

In addition to the above scholarships, the WBCIA Symposium Committee will fund one \$1500 internship stipend. Students can use these funds to supplement their internship experience during the year of 2005. This scholarship can be used for either a domestic or international internship experience related to the beef cattle industry or an associated profession. The recipient must complete a report outlining their internship experience.

Three individuals from the WBCIA general membership (appointed by Board of Directors) and three members of the WBCIA Symposium Planning Committee will serve on the selection committee for the four traditional \$1000 scholarships. They will evaluate applications based on academic achievement, a demonstrated personal commitment to some aspect of the beef industry, potential to advance the science associated with the beef industry, and an ability to articulate and be a positive spokesperson for the beef industry. In addition, it is desired that selected students should serve as positive role models for other students. Final selection will include a telephone interview of the top ranked candidates by the selection committee.

The internship applications will be evaluated and selected by individuals representing the WBCIA Symposium Committee.

It is the desire of the funding organization to award the four traditional scholarships to the most qualified individuals. However the selection committee is encouraged to award at least two to a sophomore/junior and two to a senior/graduate or professional student if qualified applications are received. Final selection will include a telephone interview by the selection committee of top ranked candidates.

Applications should be typed and include:

1. A cover page consisting of -
 - a) Applicant's name, address and current phone number.
 - b) Parents' name, address and phone number (to be used if unable to contact student at their number).
 - c) School applicant plans to attend during the 2006-2007 academic year and how they plan to finance this educational experience.
 - d) Date and time during the last week in February when applicant could be available for a telephone interview.
2. A short resume to include related activities and awards received (e.g., 4-H, FFA, junior breed association activities, high school and college involvement in extracurricular activities, employment, etc.)

3. A statement (paragraph) of future educational plans and career aspirations.
4. Current college transcript including major and hours being taken in spring 2007 semester or term.
5. Two letters of recommendation (can be sealed in a separate envelope and signed across the seal by the reference and submitted with application or independently sent by the deadline).
6. A one-page essay (double-spaced) on how applicants foresee using their education to enhance some aspect of the Wyoming beef industry.
7. Those applicants wanting to be considered specifically for the internship scholarship should also in a paragraph or two describe their planned internship experience.

The scholarship committee would prefer FAXed or emailed applications, if possible. (address below)

Applications must be postmarked by March 16, 2007 and sent to:

Steve Paisley
WBCIA Secretary
Dept. 3684
1000 E. University Ave.
Laramie, WY 82071
FAX: 307-766-2355
email: spaisley@uwyo.edu

Selections will be finalized by March 26th with official presentation of winners being made at the WBCIA Awards Banquet following the WBCIA Bull Test Symposium at the Armoury in Riverton, WY on April 6th, 2007.

Additional information can be obtained by contacting the University of Wyoming Animal Science Department (307-766-5541) or any Wyoming Cooperative Extension Office.