

NEBRASKA PORK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION

NEWS RELEASE

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Accepting Applications for the 2018 Nebraska Pork Youth Conference: Makin' Bacon ... and a Whole Lot More!

Sophomores, juniors, and seniors in high-schools across Nebraska are encouraged to apply to participate in the 2018 Nebraska Pork Youth Conference: Makin' Bacon ... and a Whole Lot More! Applications will be reviewed and up to 32 students will be selected to participate. **The deadline to apply is April 13th.** Students may apply for the opportunity by visiting the youth tab on www.nepork.org.

The conference will be conducted from Wednesday afternoon, May 30th through approximately noon, Friday, June 1st, at the University of Nebraska Lincoln's East Campus. Other than the youth's transportation to and from Lincoln, there will be no cost to participate. All lodging, meals, and conference materials are covered!

Due to the activities in the meat lab, students must be 16 years or older at the time of the conference. Current seniors who will be graduating in May are also welcome to apply to participate in this conference.

Participants will evaluate market animals, grade carcasses, fabricate carcasses into wholesale and retail cuts, and exercise basic culinary methods on a variety of different pork products. Additionally, lab activities include a hands-on genetics lab, a food safety lab, and a biosecurity and animal health activity. Not only will youth learn about pork as a wholesome food product, but they will also learn how the pork industry is using science to address many significant challenges, plus, throughout the conference, participants will discuss consumer issues. Finally, participants will enjoy engaging life skills activities will be intermixed throughout the program that focus on development of communication, leadership, and networking skills.

Upon conclusion of this workshop, our youth will have a more thorough understanding of the pork products produced, the consumers who purchase those products, and will have greater confidence in their ability to effectively communicate with one another regarding the many issues and challenges facing the pork industry.

The 2018 Nebraska Pork Youth Conference: Makin' Bacon ... and a Whole Lot More! is sponsored by the Nebraska Corn Board, Nebraska Soybean Board, Nebraska Pork Producers Association, as well as Nebraska Extension and the University of Nebraska Lincoln's Department of Animal Science.

The Nebraska Pork Producers Association is a grassroots, incorporated, non profit organization established in 1961. NPPA was developed to promote the pork industry through the enhancement of consumer demand, producer education and research. For more information, visit NPPA's website at www.NEpork.org.