



**South Dakota Pork Producers Council
Youth Pork Ambassador Program**

Description:

The South Dakota Youth Pork Ambassador Program is designed to provide youth with an opportunity to become actively involved in the pork industry. The program helps 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 South Dakota Pork Producers Council 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 minimum of a senior in high school as of January 1st of the year they will begin the program and must continue enrollment at a technical school, community college or 4-year university during their term as Youth Pork Ambassador.
-  Applicants may apply more than once, but may only be selected as an Ambassador once.

-  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).
-  Applicant must be a resident of South Dakota.
-  Applicant must have their own transportation and a valid driver's license.

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 November 10, 2017. Applicants that are chosen to move on to round two selections will be notified by November 20, 2017. The candidate will then have a personal interview with a selection panel. 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 the South Dakota Pork Producers Council Executive Director and Program & Communications Director, an executive committee member and an allied industry representative. The Ambassador will be notified at the end of December, and will be officially announced at the South Dakota Pork Congress and Trade Show on January 10, 2018. The Ambassador will report to the South Dakota Pork Producers Council Executive Director.

Duties:

The Ambassador is required to attend four events throughout the year. The required events are the South Dakota Pork Congress and Trade Show, Taste of Elegance, South Dakota State Fair food booth for one shift and in the information booth for one shift and one Executive Board Meeting. The Ambassador will also be asked to assist at other promotions during their term. The Ambassador will begin the program at the 2018 South Dakota Pork Congress and Trade Show and finish the program at the 2019 South Dakota Pork Congress and Trade Show. If the Ambassador is not able to attend one of these events, other events may be substituted with the approval of the Executive Director.

The Ambassador with the assistance from SDPPC staff is asked to set up a booth promoting pork at their local county fair or other public event. The South Dakota Pork Producers Council staff will also assist the Ambassador in finding appropriate contacts for job shadowing opportunities.

The Ambassador will receive two South Dakota Pork Producers Council shirts and will be awarded a \$1,000 scholarship, \$500 payable to a technical school, community college or 4-year University at the beginning and at the end of the program. The Ambassador will be reimbursed for lodging and travel expenses in accordance with the SDPPC policy.