



Siskiyou County Cattlemen and CattleWomen HEIFER SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT APPLICATION

*****DUE Friday, November 17, 2023*****

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

The Heifer Scholarship Project was initiated by former UC Cooperative Extension Livestock and Natural Resources Advisor, Cari Koopmann Rivers, in conjunction with the Siskiyou County Cattlemen (SCCA) and CattleWomen (SCCW) Boards in 2018. Since then, the **Cattlemen and CattleWomen have made it their mission to support a 4-H or FFA member in raising and selling a bred heifer and, ultimately, helping youth build strong ties with their ranching community and the beef industry.**

The SCCA/SCCW will coordinate the acquisition of a heifer for scholarship recipients and assigned SCCA Directors will serve as mentors throughout the project (see details below). Once the heifer is in possession of the recipient, the recipient and their 4H or FFA project leader **must** work together to manage the project. The ranch that supplies the heifer may be willing to support the scholarship recipient as a mentor, but is not required to (see p.3, question 8 for details).

Application information and project responsibilities are outlined below:

WHO CAN APPLY?

- This application is open to all Siskiyou County 4-H or FFA members that are 9 years old or older.
- Applicants must be eligible to show and sell at the Siskiyou Golden Fair or Tulelake Butte Valley Fair.

PROJECT SUPPORT PROVIDED:

- **The heifer project will be under the guidance of the recipient's 4H/FFA project leader.** Therefore, the recipient must meet all requirements of their 4H/FFA program to show and sell at fair (i.e., enrollment deadlines, fair entry due date, weigh-in requirements, breeding timeline, calving dates per fair requirements, etc.).
- This project will be supported by the **Heifer Scholarship Project Coordinator** (one or more of the SCCA Directors located in the same valley as the scholarship recipient) in the form of:
 - Coordinating visit(s) to look at and pick up the heifers from the participating producer.
 - Delivering the heifer to the recipient, if needed.
 - Check-ins throughout the year to ensure project is on track (i.e., that the scholarship recipient will show and sell their bred heifer at fair).



***PLEASE REVIEW 'ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES' (PG. 4) FOR A COMPLETE OVERVIEW OF PROJECT SUPPORT CONTACTS**

BINDING FACTORS OF THE PROJECT

- The heifer needs to be properly cared for and fed adequately to meet her nutritional needs, particularly during gestation when nutritional needs are higher. If the recipient fails to take care of the heifer properly, the recipient may be reimbursed at a rate of \$1.50 per day for feed into the heifer and the heifer will be returned to the sponsoring organization (i.e., Siskiyou County Cattlemen or Cattlegirls).
- The heifer will need to be halter broke, exhibited, and sold at the recipient's local Siskiyou County Fair in 2024 as a bred heifer. If the heifer is not sold at the recipient's local fair, the recipient may be reimbursed for feed cost at \$1.50 per day and the heifer will be returned to the sponsoring organization.
- The recipient is responsible for getting the heifer bred as part of the project- the ranch providing the heifer MAY be willing to breed her, but is not required to. If the heifer is not successfully bred and/or loses her calf, it is up to the recipient to coordinate next steps while communicating with both their 4H/FFA leader and the Heifer Scholarship Program Coordinator. *Note: If the heifer loses her calf, she can still be shown at fair but cannot be sold through the fair auction. If the heifer can't be sold at fair, the recipient must work with the Program Coordinator to determine how she will be sold.*
- The recipients are required to give a presentation to the local Cattlemen and Cattlegirls focusing on knowledge gained from the project, a cost summary and time commitment overview. The presentation could be a mid-year check-in or following fair.
- The applicant must have a project leader (4H leader or FFA advisor) sign off on their application. The recipient must work with their leader to complete their project and all requirements of their 4H/FFA program to show and sell at fair.
- The applicant must provide photos of facility where the heifer will be kept.
- Interviews (either in-person or via zoom) may be conducted with applicants before selecting a recipient.
- After a recipient has been selected, we will schedule an in-person meeting with the recipient, their parents, 4-H or FFA project leader, the ranch providing the heifer to ensure all parties are committed to completing the project successfully- all parties must understand and be committed to the time commitment and feed costs associated with raising a bred heifer.
- The recipient must communicate with the Heifer Scholarship Project Coordinator(s) and should expect periodic check-ins from their assigned Coordinator(s).

*****PLEASE REVIEW 'ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES' ON PAGE 4 *****

Applicant Signature & Date: _____

Parent Signature & Date _____

4-H Leader or FFA Advisor Signature: _____



APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications will be evaluated by members of the Siskiyou County Cattlemen's and/or Cattlewomen's Associations. The Heifer Scholarship Project Coordinator(s) will notify the recipient/applicants by November 28, 2023. The Coordinator will also coordinate heifer pick-up.

Applications can be emailed to Grace Woodmansee, UC Cooperative Extension Advisor, at gwoodmansee@ucanr.edu OR mailed to 1655 S. Main St. Yreka, CA 96097 OR dropped off in person at the 4H office (same address). Note: if you will be dropping off an application in person, office hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 AM till 5:00 PM (closed from 12:00 - 1:00 PM for lunch).

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

Please include the following information (it may be typed or handwritten)

1. NAME:
2. AGE:
3. 4-H/FFA CLUB:
4. Preferred contact info to be informed if you are the recipient:
5. Have you raised an animal for a fair before? If so, what species?
6. Do you have a safe facility close to you with adequate water to keep the heifer, halter break her safely and feed her twice a day? (Please provide a description and photo of location).
7. Please include a basic budget outlining your financial plans for successfully raising the heifer.
8. What kind of support would you like from the ranch that provides your heifer? Check all applicable boxes. *Please note: ranches are not required to mentor youth throughout their project, but many would like to. Knowing more about what you would like help with helps us "pair" a youth and rancher that have similar goals and expectations. Remember, ranch mentorship is NOT a substitute for meeting all your FFA/4H leader's requirements (including meetings, events, etc.).*

I would like help/support with:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Selecting my heifer | <input type="checkbox"/> Health and vaccination |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Feeding my heifer appropriately | <input type="checkbox"/> General questions |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Showmanship and fitting | <input type="checkbox"/> Advice on getting more involved in the beef industry |

For the following questions, please answer each completely with the most information that you can (minimum of 5 sentences per question).

9. What would you hope to learn from this project?
10. Why do you think you should receive this heifer?
11. What do you think will be the most challenging part of raising a heifer? How will you address this challenge?
12. Please provide a timeline of key dates that will enable you to meet your goals for the Heifer Project (i.e., showing and selling at fair). Include what date she must be bred by, when you will start working with her, key deadlines for your fair, etc.



ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Outline of project support contacts

1. **Scholarship recipient and parents/guardians:** It is critically important that the recipient and parents/guardians communicate with their 4H/FFA leader AND the Heifer Scholarship Project Coordinator(s) throughout the duration of the project. Communication includes general project updates, asking questions, and notifying leader/coordinator of challenges or problems that arise so they can be addressed as soon as possible. The recipient should expect periodic check-ins from their assigned Coordinator(s).
2. **4H/FFA leader:**
 - **The heifer project will be under the guidance of the recipient's 4H/FFA project leader.** Therefore, the recipient must meet all requirements of their 4H/FFA program to show and sell at fair (i.e., enrollment deadline, fair entry due date, weigh-in requirements, breeding timeline, calving dates per fair requirements, etc.).
 - Recipient's 4H/FFA leader will be their primary source of information for day-to-day support and direction about project management, animal care (including nutrition and health), and showmanship.
 - The recipient should work closely with their project leader/advisor to ensure success. The Heifer Scholarship Project Coordinator should be notified as soon as possible if recipient is having trouble connecting with their leader/advisor.
3. **Siskiyou County Cattlemen's Association:**
 - The SCCA will offer support through the **Heifer Scholarship Project Coordinator**. The Heifer Program Coordinator will be a secondary source of information and support for the recipient by assisting with the following:
 - Coordinate visits to look at and pick up heifer(s) from the participating producer(s).
 - Deliver the heifer to the recipient, if needed.
 - Check-ins throughout the year to ensure project is on track for the scholarship recipient to show and sell their bred heifer at fair.