

CATTLE SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT

Siskiyou County Cattlemen, CattleWomen, & Cooperative Extension



SISKIYOU COUNTY CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION



DUE FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2026

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Cattle Scholarship Project invests in the next generation of agricultural leaders by providing youth with practical experience, industry knowledge, and meaningful connections within the local ranching community. Since 2018, the Siskiyou County Cattlemen, Siskiyou County CattleWomen, and Siskiyou County Cooperative Extension have partnered to offer 4-H and FFA members a unique, hands-on opportunity to experience the beef industry. Through managing their project animal and working alongside experienced producers, scholarship winners gain firsthand knowledge of the responsibilities and opportunities within the beef industry while developing skills and relationships that can support their future in agriculture.



Alexis Delgado, 2025-2026 scholarship recipient, and his steer.

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Each year, one youth participant is selected based on merit and receives a bred heifer or market steer donated by a local ranch. The Project leaders will coordinate the acquisition of a bred heifer or market steer for the scholarship recipient and assigned Directors from both the Siskiyou County Cattlemen's Association (SCCA) and Siskiyou County CattleWomen (SCCW) will serve as mentors throughout the project (see details below). Once the animal 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 animal 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.

- We updated our program in 2024 based on previous experience and feedback:
 - Tulelake Butte Valley Fair eligible Applicants: you are applying to receive a market steer for the Tulelake-Butte Valley Fair (NOT a bred heifer)
 - Siskiyou Golden Fair eligible Applicants: you are applying to receive a bred heifer for the Siskiyou Golden Fair (NOT a market animal)

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES: Outline of Project Support Contacts

Cattle Scholarship recipient and parents/guardians:

It is critically important that the recipient and parents/guardians communicate with their 4H/FFA leader AND the Cattle Scholarship Project Coordinators 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 Coordinators.

4H/FFA leader:

- The 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, YQCA Certification, 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 Cattle Scholarship Project Coordinators should be notified as soon as possible if recipient is having trouble connecting with their leader/advisor.

Siskiyou County Cattlemen's Association and Siskiyou County CattleWomen:

- The SCCA and SCCW will offer support through their Cattle Scholarship Project Coordinators (one coordinator from each Association). The Program Coordinators will be a secondary source of information and support for the recipient by assisting with the following:
 - Coordinate visits to look at/pick up animal from the participating ranch.
 - Deliver the animal 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 animal at fair.

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BINDING FACTORS OF THE PROJECT

- The Cattle Scholarship Project will be completed under the guidance of the recipient's 4-H/FFA project leader. The recipient is responsible for meeting all requirements of their respective 4-H/FFA program in order to show and sell their project animal at the fair. This includes, but is not limited to, enrollment deadlines, fair entry deadlines, YQCA certification, weigh-in requirements, breeding timelines, calving dates, and all other fair-specific requirements.
- By participating in the Cattle Scholarship Project, the recipient agrees to fulfill all responsibilities and adhere to the roles outlined in the "Roles and Responsibilities" section on page 1.
- The scholarship steer or heifer must be properly cared for and provided with adequate feed and nutrition to meet its nutritional needs throughout the project. This includes providing appropriate nutrition during periods of increased nutritional demand, such as gestation. If the recipient fails to provide proper care, adequate nutrition, or otherwise does not meet the animal's needs, the sponsoring organization (SCCA and/or SCCW) reserves the right to reclaim the animal. In such circumstances, the recipient may be reimbursed for feed expenses at a rate of \$1.50 per day, based on the duration of the recipient's care of the animal. The animal will then be returned to the sponsoring organization (SCCA and/or SCCW).
- The animal must be halter broke, exhibited, and sold at the recipient's local Siskiyou County Fair in 2027. If the animal is not sold at the recipient's local fair, the animal will be returned to the sponsoring organization and the recipient may be reimbursed for feed cost at \$1.50 per day.
- The donating ranch will breed the heifer before she is delivered to the recipient. 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 Cattle Scholarship Program Coordinators. *Note: If the heifer loses her calf, she can still be shown/sold through the Siskiyou Golden fair auction as a market animal. If the heifer can't be sold at fair, the recipient must work with the Program Coordinators to determine how she will be sold.*
- The recipient is required to give a presentation to the SCCA and/or SCCW Boards showcasing knowledge gained from the project, a cost summary, and time commitment overview. The presentation could be a mid-year check-in or following fair.
- Butte Valley Recipients must enter their steer in the Local Bred Market Beef Contest
- The applicant must have a project leader (4H leader or FFA advisor) sign off on their application. The recipient must work with their leader/advisor 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 animal 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, an in-person meeting will be scheduled with the recipient, their parent(s)/guardian(s), 4-H or FFA project leader, and the ranch providing the bred heifer or steer to ensure all parties are committed to completing the project successfully. All parties must understand and be committed to the time commitment, feed costs, and roles/responsibilities associated with raising a bred heifer or market steer.
- The recipient must communicate with the Cattle Scholarship Project Coordinators and must respond to periodic check-ins from their assigned Coordinators.

By signing below, I acknowledge that I have reviewed and agree to the terms stated above, including the

Applicant name printed

Applicant signature

Date

Email (this is where notification will be sent)

Phone number

Parent/guardian name printed

Parent/guardian signature

Date

4-H Leader/FFA Advisor name printed

4-H Leader/FFA Advisor signature

Date

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APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications will be evaluated by members of the SCCA and SCCW. UCCE Livestock Advisor, Grace Woodmansee, will notify the recipient/applicants by mid-October, 2026 and coordinate animal pick-up.

Applications can be emailed to Grace Woodmansee at gwoodmansee@ucanr.edu OR mailed to UC Cooperative Extension, Siskiyou Office (1655 S. Main St. Yreka, CA 96097) OR dropped off in person at the UC Cooperative Extension, Siskiyou 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, either typed or handwritten. Attached additional pages as needed.

NAME: _____

AGE: _____

4-H/FFA CLUB: _____

What kind of support would you like from the ranch that provides your animal? 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:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ☐ Selecting my heifer/steer | ☐ Animal health and vaccination |
| ☐ Feeding my heifer/steer appropriately | ☐ General questions |
| ☐ Showmanship and fitting | ☐ Advice on becoming 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**).

1. Have you raised an animal for a fair before? If not, explain why you are now interested. If so, please describe your experience (including species).
2. Do you have a safe facility close to you with adequate water to keep the animal, halter break it safely and feed it twice a day? Please provide a description and photo of location.
3. Please include a basic budget outlining your financial plans for successfully raising the animal.
4. What would you hope to learn from this project?
5. Why do you think you should receive this heifer/steer?
6. What do you think will be the most challenging part of raising a heifer/steer? How will you address this challenge?
7. Please provide a timeline of key dates that will enable you to meet your goals for the Project (i.e., showing and selling at fair). For Heifers, include ownership deadline, what date she must be bred by, when you will start working with her, key deadlines for your fair, etc. For Steers, include ownership deadline, when you will start working with him, expected rate of gain based on desired finished weight (fair weight limits), key deadlines for your fair, etc.
8. Why are you interested in pursuing a future in the beef industry, and how would receiving this scholarship help you take the next step toward your goals?