

Essay Outline for 2025 Dairy Merit Heifer

Essays should be handwritten or typed

I. Introduction

- A. Introduce yourself, family, state what your parent/guardian does for a living and whether you live in town or in the country.

II. Body

- A. Tell about previous 4-H and/or FFA projects.
- B. Explain your interest in raising a Dairy Merit Heifer, as well as your parent/guardians' interest.
- C. List financial arrangements for the purchase of a heifer, feed and care of the animal.
- D. Responsibility you feel toward the Sponsor.

III. Summary

- A. Your plans for the project after the Fair.
- B. Plans for future projects.

Handwritten/Typed Essays should be submitted electronically or hand delivered!

Email: wcyf@whartoncountyyouthfair.org

Fax: 979-677-3561

Deliver: 6036 FM 961, Wharton

DO NOT MAIL YOUR APPLICATION

Deadline Date:
July 25, 2024

2025 Dairy Merit Program Application

(Please Print or type)

Applicant's Name _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____

Zip _____

Contact Number _____ School Name _____

Age _____ Grade _____ E-Mail _____

4-H Club/FFA Chapter _____

(Must be a member PRIOR to applying.)

Leader/Ag Teacher Name _____ How many years as Merit Recipient _____

Description of facilities to house heifer _____

By signing below (applicant and parent/guardian) acknowledge we have read the Wharton County Youth Fair's Rules and Regulations and agree to comply with them or be responsible for the consequences. Also, we understand the importance of sending monthly reports to our Sponsor, the Fair Office and Science Ag Teacher or County Ag Agent by the 10th of each month.

Applicant's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent(s)/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Applications must be received in Fair office by **July 25th**. Email, fax or deliver:

Email: wcyf@whartoncountyyouthfair.org

Fax: 979-677-3561

Deliver: 6036 FM 961, Wharton

REQUIRMENTS FOR THE WHARTON COUNTY YOUTH FAIR MERIT PROGRAMS

1. Thank – you letter

- Please mail a thank you letter or card to your donor no later than August 31st.
- Keep a copy for your records and submit a copy to the Fair office.
- Please keep in mind that this correspondence is to thank your donor for their generous donation.

2. Monthly Reports

- Due by the 10th of every month for the previous month. Example: May report is due no later than June 10th.
- It is your responsibility to ensure that your donor, the fair office and your AST/CEA receive a report each month. If your donor does not use email, you are required to print off the report and mail it to them.
- **You need to keep a copy of each report for your records and for your record book.**
- Reports are due even if you have not purchased your animal or if no expenses are incurred for the current month.
- If you do not have a personal computer, it is your responsibility to find one to ensure your reports are submitted every month. If you need assistance locating resources, please contact your AST/CEA or 4H Leader.
- The first report is due September 10th for the month of August.
- The last full month report is due March 10th for the month of February.
- If an exhibitor misses 3 or more monthly reports, they will be required to pay a \$50.00 penalty to the fair office that will be reimbursed to the Sponsor.

3. Record Book

- Must be in the fair office by March 10th
- Your record book must contain the following:
 - o Decorative and original exterior cover
 - o Inside cover page with your name, animal name, club/chapter name
 - o Table of Contents with corresponding tabs
 - o Monthly expense reports
 - o Monthly correspondence to and from donor
 - o Pictures relating to project

Everything listed must be included in your record book; however, you may add anything else that may highlight your Merit Project experience. The record books will be judged and displayed during the fair in the designated Merit areas.

Exhibitors should pick up their record book in the fair office after the dairy merit check-in Monday, March 31st to be placed in the Amman Barn for display.

2025 Dairy Merit Project Checklist

- **Thank You Letter – due August 31st**

Monthly Reports

- August (due by Sept. 10th)
 - September (due by Oct 10th)
 - October (due by Nov 10th)
 - November (due by Dec 10th)
 - December (due by Jan 10th)
 - January (due by Feb 10th)
 - February (due by Mar.10th)
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- **Record Book – Delivered to the fair office by March 10th**