

4-H Dairy Club Endowed Scholarship  
Helpful Hints in Completing the Application

- 1) Correct spelling, punctuation and grammar are very important. As the number of applicants for these scholarships continues to rise, a clean application is key to making the first cut. Please have someone else read through the application to check for errors. Please answer the essay and other questions in complete sentences.
- 2) This is a dairy scholarship, so while we appreciate the honesty of those who aren't involved in dairy in any way, with the increase in applications, it becomes imperative to have had some involvement in the dairy industry to score higher. Those pursuing degrees in agriculture, ag communications or better yet, some type of emphasis on dairy studies, received heavy consideration.
- 3) Essay questions are weighed particularly heavy. Clarify points and expand on the problems in agriculture. Don't just say input prices are too high and good farmland is being used for development. Take some time to think about possible solutions to these problems or alternatives that producers might pursue. Would diversification of the farm be possible? Does the farmer have a chance to put his land into easements or green space initiatives to stop the advancement of developments?
- 4) While we admire the many activities and honors the students are involved in and have received - when we must go through 40 or more applications, those lists that are 2-3 pages long tend to blur. Look at that section of the application as you would a resume for a job. Summarize and consolidate, picking only the highest honors and listing activities by a year: FFA - 1, 2, 3, 4 or FFA - 2010-14; and move on. That section should not go over a page for ease of reading.
- 5) Since this is an annual scholarship, prepare ahead of time and complete it three or four days before the deadline so someone can read through it. It is really easy to see which applications are done right on deadline and they suffer in the selection process.

Good luck!