
As CEO of the National Pork Producers Council (2002-2021), Neil Dierks encouraged, challenged, supported, and equipped members as they advocated for opportunities in trade as well as reasonable regulation. Dierks nurtured leadership for the pork industry, seeking and elevating talented persons with a variety of skills to serve as resources and decision-makers for today and tomorrow.

The **Neil Dierks Scholarship** supports students seeking a graduate degree in a field related to the pork industry at a land grant university. This \$5000 one-time scholarship will be given to one individual annually to carry on Neil's mission to equip new leaders for the industry he served so well. Administered by the National Pork Industry Foundation, applications are due December 31 annually with the award made during the National Pork Industry Forum annually, typically held in March.

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Please create a new document to provide requested information. Submit your application in Word or pdf form to the National Pork Industry Foundation by December 31 by emailing vanvarkj@nppc.org. In addition to this application, please include two references as well.

STUDENT'S FULL/LEGAL NAME

First

Middle

Last

ADDRESS

Street/PO Box

City

State

Zip

PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL ADDRESS

WEBSITE/BLOG

EDUCATION

High School Name

Location

GPA

UNDERGRADUATE

University/College

Location

Major(s)

Minor(s)

Degree(s) Earned

Special Programs/Certifications Earned

GPA Include Transcript with Application (optional)

Advisor Name

Phone

Email Address

Internship(s)

Company/Organization

Location

Supervisor Name

Phone

Email Address

GRADUATE SCHOOL

School

Location

Major

Minor

Emphasis(es)

Anticipated Completion Date

Graduate Assistant/Teaching Responsibilities

Current GPA

Other

EMPLOYMENT (During/following undergraduate program)

Employer

Location

Supervisor Name

Phone

Email Address

VOLUNTEERING

Organization

Location

Supervisor Name

Phone

Email Address

4-H, FFA, OR OTHER AGRICULTURE-RELATED ACTIVITY

Organization

Location

Leader Name

Phone

Email Address

-ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ON A SEPARATE DOCUMENT, SUBMITTED WITH THIS FORM-

PLEASE TELL NPIF A LITTLE ABOUT YOURSELF.

WHAT LEADERSHIP ROLES HAVE YOU HELD WHILE IN COLLEGE (AND AFTER)?

WHAT EXPERIENCE WITH PORK PRODUCTION DO YOU HAVE?

PLEASE SHARE YOUR UNDERSTANDING OF AT LEAST ONE ISSUE FACING PORK PRODUCERS AND INCLUDE HOW YOU WOULD ADDRESS IT. (500-600 words)

AS YOU CONSIDER YOUR FUTURE CAREER, WHERE AND HOW DO YOU HOPE TO BE ENGAGED IN THE US PORK INDUSTRY? (Minimum 300 words)

WHAT SKILLS AND INTERESTS DO YOU POSSESS AND HOW DO YOU ENVISION EMPLOYING THEM FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE US PORK INDUSTRY? (Minimum 300 words)

WHO ARE TWO OR THREE US PORK INDUSTRY LEADERS YOU RESPECT AND WHY? (Minimum 300 words)

WHAT COMMENTS WOULD YOU LIKE TO ADD TO THIS APPLICATION PROVIDING INFORMATION THAT MAY HAVE NOT BEEN ASKED OF YOU? (Optional)