



Beef Project Grant

INFORMATION SHEET

The Beef Project Grant promotes the beef industry by supporting youth in agriculture. The Hernando County Cattlewomen (HCCW) grants support three youth beef projects, with each project receiving \$500. The application outlines the project's goals, implementation plans, the use of funds, and the applicant's information.

*Hernando County Cattlewomen
2026-2027*



Hernando County Cattlemen

Information for the Beef Project Grant Application

Purpose: The Hernando County Cattlemen Organization (HCCW) is dedicated to promoting the beef industry and supports our community's youth in agriculture. The Beef Project Grant provides HCCW with the opportunity to support County youth in learning about the beef industry, to foster their interest and knowledge in the field, and to encourage their participation.

What: The HCCW is excited to support three (3) of our County's youth in expanding their beef projects or starting their beef experiences.

1. This grant can be used for a breeding program or market show project.
2. A \$500.00 grant per year is available by May for one junior (ages 8 -10), one intermediate (ages 11-13), and one senior (ages 14 -18) project. A graduating senior is not eligible.

The **DUE DATE** is on or before **February 1**.

Information and forms are on the website at hernandocountycattlemen.com

Who Qualifies: A youth aged 8 to 18, who is not a current year graduate, is eligible if attending a:

1. Hernando County public, charter, private school, or a homeschooler of a Hernando resident.
2. Public, charter, private school, or a homeschooler in another County whose parent is an active HCCW member, or if the student is active in a Hernando County agricultural club.
3. An applicant may receive the Beef Grant more than once.

HCCW Beef Grant Application Submission:

1. Your application is to be **hand-delivered** to the Hernando-Citrus Farm Bureau office at 617 Lamar Street, Brooksville, FL, on or before **February 1**.

HCCW Assurances:

1. Each eligible entry is evaluated through a "blind review" process to ensure a fair and unbiased quality rating. For the blind review, names are blacked out on application materials. This anonymous process removes bias, with each application judged solely on its merit.
2. The judging sessions are closed sessions to ensure fairness. Only the Judges and a neutral party not part of the selection process, the Independent Observer, can be present in the room. All discussions during the process are confidential.
3. An applicant must **score at least 70% of the points to qualify to receive the grant**. **Tiebreakers** occur in this order: 1) the Section 3 Beef Grant Essay score, 2) the Section 2 Part A Beef Project score, and 3) active participation in 4-H, FFA, or an ag-related club.
4. The Winners will be notified by the Beef Grant Chair on or before March 15.

Beef Grant Applicant Responsibilities:

1. You are to determine which level of Beef Grant you are eligible for based on the criteria.
2. A properly completed application must be turned in on or before February 1.
3. The Beef Grant winners are to attend the HCCW's annual awards meeting in May, either in person or virtually, to introduce themselves and briefly explain their project plans.
4. Winners are to email the Beef Grant Chair **an end-of-year project summary**.