



Beef Project Grant

APPLICATION FORM

Junior Level (Ages 8-10)

The Beef Project Grant promotes the beef industry by supporting youth in agriculture. The Hernando County Cattlemen (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 Cattlemen
2026-2027*



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

Purpose

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, the applicant's knowledge, and their information.

Overall Application Procedures

Due Date: The application deadline is on or before February 1.

Who Qualifies:

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

1. Hernando County public, charter, private school, or is a County homeschooler.
2. Public, charter, private school, or is a homeschooler in another County whose parent is an active HCCW member, or the student is active in a Hernando County agriculture-related club.

What:

1. This grant can be used for a breeding program or market show project.
2. There is one grant for each of the age levels: junior (ages 8 -10), intermediate (ages 11-13), and senior (ages 14 -18).
3. A graduating senior is not eligible to receive the grant.

Procedures:

1. By February 1 of the application year, the application is to be **hand-delivered in a sealed envelope, not put in the dropbox**, to the Hernando-Citrus Farm Bureau office at 617 Lamar Street, Brooksville. At the time of submission, the delivery date and time will be recorded on the "received log form." The date and time of receipt can also be recorded on the application cover or the first page.
2. Each **eligible entry** is rated using a **blind review judging process**, ensuring a fair and impartial quality assessment. This process involves keeping the applicant's name anonymous by blacking out any identifying information in the judges' materials.
3. The judging session is a closed session to ensure fairness and confidentiality. Only the Judges and an Independent Observer, if appointed, may be present during the process. All discussions during the process are confidential.
4. Section 1, which includes the applicant's identifying data, is used to determine eligibility, collect the necessary information, and, if needed, serve as a tiebreaker. It is shared with the judges after the winner is selected.
5. An application score must be at least 70% of the total points to qualify for the grant money.
6. **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.
7. The submitted application is to be handwritten or be a copy of the handwritten one, not a digital one. The application packet includes all sections 1, 2, and 3 papers, in order.
8. The Winners will be notified by the Beef Grant Chair on or before March 15.



Show ruler

Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

Beef Grant Applicant and Winner 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 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**.

General Directions for Completing the Beef Grant Application Form

1. The application must be handwritten according to the directions **on a copy of the Answer Form for each question provided in this application**. The Answer Forms for the questions are in the **Answer Form Section** of this application, **starting on page 6**.
2. All questions are to be answered and the essay written.
3. In Sections 2 and 3, do not include your or your parent/guardian's name(s) in your answers, as the "blind review judging" is used to ensure a fair and impartial evaluation.
4. The **answers to Sections 2 and 3 are to be written on copies of the Answer Forms provided in this application**. You are to write your answers on the front and back of the forms, as needed.
5. Your response to each question will be evaluated on its **clarity, originality, and relevance to agriculture**.
6. The quality of your answers is also judged by your use of correct grammar, complete sentences, age-appropriate writing, following directions, and neatness.
7. Your research may use artificial intelligence (AI). However, all your responses should be your original thoughts and wording. The AI research information should be appropriately cited as needed. **Plagiarized and AI-generated answers can result in point deductions, exclusion of sections with point loss, or disqualification of the applicant.**



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

APPLICATION FORM

Section 1: Applicant Information (Required)

Directions:

Please **handwrite all** requested information in the space **provided here**.

Name of Youth: _____

Birthdate: _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s): _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Contact Information – **Required:** Phone _____ email _____

Is it okay to leave your messages on your voicemail? _____

Check with an “X”:

Is your parent/guardian an active HCCW member? ____ Yes ____ No

Name(s) _____

School Name: _____ Grade: _____

Check with an “X” your level and the type of Beef Project you plan to conduct.

____ Junior (Ages: 8-10) ____ Intermediate (Ages: 11-13) ____ Senior (Ages: 14-18)

Type of Beef Project: ____ **Market/Show Project** or ____ **Breeding Program**

Check with an “X” if you are or have been a member of any of these groups:

____ 4-H ____ FFA ____ Jr. Cattlemen ____ Other Agricultural Club

Applicant Signature: _____ **Date** _____

*** Parent or Guardian Signature:** _____ **Date** _____

* Parent or Guardian signature is required, no matter the student's age,
unless legally declared independent.



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

Section 2: Short Answer Questions (50 Total Points)

Note: You are to **write on a copy of the Answer Form** provided for each question, located at the end of this application on pages 6 through 12.

Directions

- You must **handwrite** your answer to each Section 2 Short Answer Question in at **least 15 words and at most 75 words** on the **copies of the Answer Forms on pages 6 – 12 found in the Answer Forms Section**.
- If you are under or over the word limit on a question, then **three (3) points will be deducted for that question**.
- The original or a copy of your **Section 2 answers** is to be attached to your Section 1 form for submission of your application. **Digital applications are not accepted**.
- Reminder:* Please **do not include your or your parent/guardian's names** in your answers, as this is a “blind review” judging process to ensure fairness for each one.

Section 2 Short Answer Questions (50 Points)

Part A: Beef Project Questions (40 Points)

- Describe your proposed Beef Grant project and its purpose. (10 points)
- Share an **overview** of the activities you plan to use to achieve your purpose. (10 points)
- In some way, **outline** your projected timeline, label it “*Question 2: Timeline,*” and *include* major activities. (5 points)
- How will you use the grant’s funds, such as buying livestock, pens, etc.? (5 points)
- Please explain why your beef project is important to you. (10 points)

Part B: Agricultural Experiences (10 Points)

- Describe any agricultural or ag-related projects, activities, or experiences in which you have participated. (5 points)
- Share two (2) important ideas or actions you learned from your agricultural or ag-related projects, activities, or experiences. (5 points)



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

Section 3: Essay

(50 Total Points)

Note: In the Answer Forms Section, the specific essay directions are also repeated on page 13, and the Essay Answer Form you copy to write your essay on is on page 14.

Directions for Writing Your Essay:

Section 3: Beef Project Essay

(50 points)

- a) You are to **handwrite a 1 ½ to 2-page essay** on a copy of the form on **page 14**, using both sides as needed, to express your thoughts to answer the Essay Prompt.
- b) If you are under or over the page limit, then three (3) points will be **deducted**.
- c) The Topic Points are the three reasons you are discussing for your essay.
- d) **At least three (3) points or more will be deducted for each reason not written about.** You are to write about three reasons in your essay.
- e) Attach your original or a copy of the handwritten essay pages to your Section 1 and 2 answer papers of your application packet.
- f) Reminder: Please **do not include your or your parent/guardian's name(s)** in your essay, as this is a “blind review” judging process to ensure fairness for each applicant.

Essay Prompt:

Explain at least three (3) reasons you think the beef industry is important.

Topic Points: 3 reasons the beef industry is important.

*You are to **write your essay on a copy of page 14**
in the Answer Form Section.
Do not write your essay on this page.*



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

ANSWER FORMS SECTION

**YOU ARE TO COPY THE FORMS IN THIS
SECTION TO WRITE ON FOR YOUR
SECTION 2 PART A AND B QUESTIONS
AND SECTION 3 ESSAY.**

Name _____ (Blacked out at Judging and Replaced with an Assigned Number.) Assigned Number _____



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

Section 2 Short Answer Questions (50 Points)

ANSWER FORM for Section 2 Part A: Beef Project Questions

Write your answers on a copy of this form using the front and back as needed.

- | | |
|---|-------------|
| 1. Describe your proposed Beef Grant project and its purpose. | (10 points) |
|---|-------------|

Name _____ (Blacked out at Judging and Replaced with an Assigned Number.) Assigned Number _____



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

ANSWER FORM for Section 2 Part A: Beef Project Questions

Write your answers on a copy of this form using the front and back as needed.

2. Share an overview of the <u>activities</u> you plan to use to achieve your purpose.	(10 points)
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Name _____ (Blacked out at Judging and Replaced with an Assigned Number.) Assigned Number _____



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

ANSWER FORM for Section 2 Part A: Beef Project Questions

Write your answers on a copy of this form using the front and back as needed.

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 3. In some way, outline your <u>projected timeline</u> , label it " <i>Question 2: Timeline,</i> " and include major activities. | (5 points) |
|--|-------------|

Name _____ (Blacked out at Judging and Replaced with an Assigned Number.) Assigned Number _____



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

ANSWER FORM for Section 2 Part A: Beef Project Questions

Write your answers on a copy of this form using the front and back as needed.

4. How will you use the grant's funds, such as buying livestock, pens, etc.?	(5 points)
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Name _____ (Blacked out at Judging and Replaced with an Assigned Number.) Assigned Number _____



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

ANSWER FORM for Section 2 Part A: Beef Project Questions

Write your answers on a copy of this form using the front and back as needed.

5. Please explain why your beef project is important to you.

(10 points)

Name _____ (Blacked out at Judging and Replaced with an Assigned Number.) Assigned Number _____



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

ANSWER FORM for Section 2 Part B: Agricultural Experiences Questions

Write your answers on a copy of this form using the front and back as needed.

1. Describe any agricultural or ag-related projects, activities, or experiences in which you have participated.

(5 points)

Name _____ (Blacked out at Judging and Replaced with an Assigned Number.) Assigned Number _____



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

ANSWER FORM for Section 2 Part B: Agricultural Experiences Questions

Write your answers on a copy of this form using the front and back as needed.

- | | |
|--|-------------|
| 2. Share two (2) important ideas or actions you learned from your agricultural or ag-related projects, activities, or experiences. | (5 points) |
|--|-------------|



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

Section 3 Beef Project Essay Directions:

Section 3: Essay: *DIRECTIONS*

Write your essay on a copy of the form on page 14, the next page, using the front and back as needed.

Directions for Writing Your Essay:

Section 3: Beef Project Essay (50 points)

- a) You are to **handwrite a 1 ½ to 2-page essay** on a copy of the form on page 14, using both sides as needed, to express your thoughts to answer the Essay Prompt.
- b) If you are under or over the page limit, then three (3) points will be **deducted**.
- c) The Topic Points are the three reasons to be discussed.
- d) **At least three (3) points or more will be deducted for each reason not written about.**
You must have three reasons in your essay.
- e) Attach your original or a copy of the handwritten essay pages to your Section 1 and 2 answer papers of your application packet in numerical order.
- f) Reminder: Please **do not include your or your parent/guardian's names** in your essay, as this is a "blind review" judging process to ensure fairness for each applicant.

Essay Prompt:

Explain at least three (3) reasons you think the beef industry is important.

Topic Points: 3 reasons the beef industry is important.

Do not write your essay on this page.

You are to write your essay on a copy of page 14, the next page.

Name _____ (Blacked out at Judging and Replaced with an Assigned Number.) Assigned Number _____



Beef Grant Program Junior Level Application (Ages 8-10)

ANSWER FORM for ESSAY for Section 3 Beef Project

(50 Points)

Write your essay on a copy of this form, page 14, using the front and back as needed.

Essay Prompt:

Explain at least three (3) reasons why you think it is important to raise beef.

Topic Points: Discuss 3 reasons