

NORTH AMERICAN INTERCOLLEGIATE Dairy Challenge ACADEMY

Dear Dairy Challenge Coach,

The NAIDC Board of Directors is pleased to present the new Dairy Challenge Academy for 2013. The Dairy Challenge Academy will run in conjunction with the national Dairy Challenge contest, April 4-6, 2013, in Fort Wayne, IN.

The Academy will give its students an intensive 3-day program using the educational component of the Dairy Challenge contest without the competition.

Participation

- The new Academy is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors from 4-year dairy programs, as well as undergraduates from community colleges and technical schools.
- This first year, the program is limited to the first 100 students who register. Schools may register up to 4 students per school, but 2 alternates may be identified in case we have fewer than 100 students.
- Priority will be given to schools whose faculty advisors expressed interest in participating. Completed entries will receive priority by postmark and previous regional or national participation if contest size limits are reached.
- Requirements for student participation are as follows:
 - *A Dairy Challenge Academy participant must be a student in a North American educational institution that offers classes that have emphasis in dairy production.*
 - *Participants must be enrolled in a program of study to meet the requirements for a bachelor's degree or be enrolled in a dairy/animal degree or certificate granting program and have completed one year or equivalent of course work. Students, with or without a bachelor's degree, enrolled in graduate or professional studies programs are not eligible.*
 - *A student is ineligible to participate if he/she has (1) competed in the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge National Contest, or (2) been an employee or paid consultant of any agricultural organization or service for which his/her duties included on-farm dairy consulting (excluding internships).*
 - *A contestant may only participate/compete in a total of two regional contests, one Dairy Challenge Academy, and one National Dairy Challenge contest.*

These requirements allow the Dairy Challenge Academy to be a meaningful educational experience for students and also to assure Dairy Challenge sponsors that we are involving students with potential interest and relevance to the industry.

Registration

Please complete the entry form by February 15, 2013.

- Return to: North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge

3310 Latham Drive, Madison, WI. 53713
Attn: Laura Herschleb, PH: 608/224-0400, FX: 608/224-0300,
Email: lherschleb@wdexpo.com

- Entry Fee: **\$150.00 per student**
- Make your check out to the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge.

Travel Information

- Hotel reservations will be made for your Academy participants after the entry form is completed and returned with payment to the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge, 3310 Latham Drive, Madison, WI 53713.
- The student/coach hotel is the Hilton Fort Wayne and the Grand Wayne Convention Center, 1020 S. Calhoun Street, Fort Wayne, IN. Phone: (260) 420-1100.
Website: <http://www.hiltonfortwayne.com/>.
 - We will reserve up to three hotel rooms (2 student, 1 coach) for each participating school for the evenings of April 3, 4, 5 and 6. Rooms for the students will be paid for by the Academy. **Rooms for coaches are the school's financial responsibility, as well as any additional charges.** Rooms at the Hilton Fort Wayne are **\$89/night** plus tax single occupancy. When checking in, we kindly ask that you confirm the rooms that will be for your students (paid for by NAIDC), and the room that will be for you as the coach (paid for by the individual). Please indicate on your form if you plan to have a roommate (including a coach from another school) so we can book accordingly.
- The committee is suggesting your Academy students arrive at the hotel Wednesday evening, April 3 or **no later than 9:00 AM on Thursday morning, April 4**. Registration is available from 9:00 - 9:30 AM Thursday morning. The opening session begins at 10:00 AM. Students should plan to depart either after the banquet on Saturday, April 6 or on Sunday morning, April 7. *Note: for groups arriving Thursday morning, hotel check in is 3:00 PM.*
- Thursday's activities begin with opening session seminars on Dairy Profitability and Opportunities in the Dairy Industry, followed by lunch and a farm tour. Students are responsible for their own transportation to the farms on Thursday. Several schools will be traveling via van; as such, we encourage carpooling on Thursday to minimize the number of vehicles traveling to each farm. The farm is approximately 15 minutes from the convention center.
- Travel assistance is not being offered to Academy participants.
- For those planning to fly to the Dairy Challenge Academy, the nearest airport is Fort Wayne International Airport. For a list of airlines and rental car agencies that serve that airport, go to: <http://www.flyfwa.com/>. The Hilton Fort Wayne offers shuttle rides to the airport as well as van rides to popular select venues within a five-mile radius.

Note: Schools that are sending both contest students and Academy students are not required to send a coach for each - one coach can manage both activities.

Meals

- Most meals will be provided for each Academy participant on the days of April 4, 5 and 6 (includes lunch on Thursday, all meals on Friday and Saturday). Should you have an individual needing a special diet, please include this information on the Academy entry form so we can alert the catering staff. Also, schools that bring more than one coach will need to pay the full price for

the additional meals (\$170) in advance of the event or at registration. If an additional sleeping room is required, it is up to the university to make and pay for that reservation.

Please complete the attached entry form and return it to NAIDC by **February 15, 2013** with a check payable to North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge. Completed entries will receive priority by date and time of receipt and previous participation in the contest if contest size limits are reached. A confirmation letter with more contest details will be sent upon receipt of your registration material.

A final letter will follow after February 15th with additional details. We look forward to your participation in this new event.

Sincerely,

Dave Winston
Program Committee Chair

Enclosures:

- Entry Form
- Contest Schedule
- Travel Information