

Dairy Challenge

NORTH AMERICAN INTERCOLLEGIATE
ACADEMY

Dear Dairy Challenge Coach,

On behalf of the National Program Committee of the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge, it is our privilege to invite your university to participate in the 2nd Annual Dairy Challenge Academy. The Academy will run in conjunction with the national Dairy Challenge contest, April 3-5, 2014 in Fort Wayne, IN.

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

Format

The Dairy Challenge Academy will run in conjunction with the national Dairy Challenge contest, April 3-5, 2014 in Fort Wayne, IN. All students - both contest participants and academy participants – start together on Thursday, April 3 for a educational seminar and farm tour. Thursday evening, the two groups part: contest participants begin competitive activities while Academy students continue educational activities. Academy students spend the next two days working with Academy Advisors (industry and university specialists) to experience first-hand how to evaluate and consult on a dairy farm. Consult the accompanying schedule for complete details.

Participation

- The Academy is open to sophomores, juniors and seniors from 4-year dairy programs, as well as undergraduates from community colleges and technical schools.
- The program is being offered to the first 150 students who register. Schools may register up to 5 students per school, but 2 alternates may be identified in case we have fewer than 150 students.
- 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 21, 2014.

- Return to: North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge
3310 Latham Drive, Madison, WI. 53713
Attn: Ann Marie Magnochi, PH: 608/224-0400, FX: 608/224-0300,
Email: amagnochi@wdexpo.com
- Entry Fee: \$75.00 per student
- Make your check out to the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge.

Travel Information

- New this year: Hotel reservations for students and coaches should be made by the university 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/>.
 - Schools are asked to make their own reservations. The number of student rooms being paid for by NAIDC is based on the total number of Contest and Academy students attending from a school. Contest and Academy students from a single school may share rooms. Refer to the Housing Information packet for instructions for making your reservations.
 - **Rooms for coaches are the school's responsibility**, as well as any additional charges including additional student rooms outside the block allocation.
 - 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).
- Schools should plan to arrive **no later than 9:00 a.m. on Thursday morning, April 3**. Registration and computer check in will be Thursday morning from 9:00-10:00 a.m. NAIDC will pay for Wednesday night student rooms for those schools needing it.
- Activities get underway starting at 9:00 a.m. Thursday Apr 3 with Registration. Thursday's program begins with a Seminar from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m., followed by a farm tour which begins at 12:30 p.m., ending at 3:30 p.m. Schools 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.
- Students should plan to depart after the banquet on Saturday evening April 5, or Sunday morning, April 6. Because of distance, we anticipate many schools will need to arrive on Wednesday
- Travel assistance is not offered to Academy participants.

- For those planning to fly to the Dairy Challenge, 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.

Meals

- Breakfast, lunch and dinner will be provided for one coach and each Academy participant on the days of April 4 - 5.
- Should you have an individual needing a special diet, it is important that you include this information on the Academy entry form so we can alert the catering staff.
- 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.

Please complete the attached entry form and return it to NAIDC by **February 21, 2014** 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.

Special Note: A Contest and Academy Student group photo will be taken Thursday, April 3rd at 7:15 p.m. Please advise your students to all wear the same school colors for the photos. Students should **not** wear clothing with a university's name or logo at any other time during the contest.

A final letter will follow after February 21st with additional details. . New this year, individual student forms are being distributed at the same time as team entry forms. These completed forms are due by **March 7, 2014**. We look forward to your participation in this exciting and innovative contest.

Sincerely,

Dave Winston
Program Committee Chair

Enclosures:

- Entry Form

- Contest Schedule
- Travel Information
- Personal Info & Liability Waivers
- Housing Information