



15th Western Regional Dairy Challenge
Co-hosted by Western Region and Modesto Junior College
Modesto, California
Thursday, February 20 – Saturday, February 22, 2020

On behalf of the Western Regional committee of the North American Intercollegiate Dairy Challenge, it is our privilege to invite you to participate in the 15th Annual Western Regional Dairy Challenge. The event will be held in Modesto, California February 20-22, co-hosted by the Western Region and Modesto Junior College. We thank you for your continued support of the Western Regional Dairy Challenge.

Sponsor Participation: We are building our list of volunteers to help with the event on Thursday evening thru Saturday afternoon. Being involved and working directly with the students gives you a firsthand view of the students in action, plus a large volunteer pool helps the contest run smoothly.

Schedule: A listing of the scheduled events for this year's contest will be posted on the Western Dairy Challenge web page at http://www.dairychallenge.org/ws_event.php

Sponsor Volunteer Registration: Please submit information for each volunteer from your company using this online form. **Forms are due Friday, February 7, 2020.**

Hotel: We will be at the Springhill Suites by Marriott in Modesto. A block of rooms is held under the Western Regional Dairy Challenge Sponsors until **Monday, January 27, 2020**. Please call the hotel directly to make appropriate reservations. All volunteers (sponsors, judges, mentors) are responsible for making their own reservations.

[SpringHill Suites by Marriott Modesto](#)

1901 W Orangeburg Ave
Modesto, CA 95350
209-526-2157 or 888-236-2427

You must call the hotel and request the **Western Regional Dairy Challenge** block to receive the rate of \$142 which includes breakfast buffet.

Meals: Meals will be provided to volunteers. Please indicate on the registration form which meals you will be attending.

Sponsor Display: You are invited to set up a booth at Modesto Junior College. If you wish to set up a booth, you may do so on Saturday morning. Please indicate your desire to reserve a booth using the online registration form. There is no charge for booth. Electricity will be available, but you will need to supply your own electrical cords. All sponsors are encouraged to interact with students and University coaches and view student presentations on Saturday. Remember because of the number of teams, presentations will be going simultaneously.

Dairy Challenge T-Shirt: show your support by purchasing a Dairy Challenge shirt. Shirts are \$15. Shirts can be ordered when registering as a volunteer and will be distributed onsite during the Western Regional event.

We kindly ask each individual attending from your company register using this form. Forms are due back Friday, February 7, 2020. Go to https://2020westerndairychallenge_volunteer_registration.eventbrite.com

If you have questions about volunteering your company's time at the event, please communicate with Volunteer Coordinator Jen Gisler, Jennifer_Gisler@cargill.com, PH (559) 469-7219.

On behalf of the steering committee, we thank you for your time, energy and commitment to the Dairy Challenge!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The following are areas where assistance is needed. If you have a volunteer duty preference, please indicate as such on the [volunteer form](#) and every opportunity will be made to assign you those responsibilities.

- Mentors: We need volunteers on Thursday Evening thru the farm visit on Friday morning to Mentor the student groups and to work with them on the host farms. You will work with your group on Thursday evening as they start to look through information and prepare for the farm tour. You will then escort this group of students while on the farm tour on Friday morning. It is critical all volunteers who do want to sign up for this new duty are available all of Thursday evening thru lunch on Friday. We will need at least 12 mentors available. **Based on mentor comments in recent years, we are seeking one mentor per team to stay throughout the entire event (through Saturday presentation) to allow for even more interaction with your team and to provide cohesiveness for the team. They will assist the team by being in the prep room on Saturday, to be their team guide to the presentation, be present during the presentation and then be their guide to debriefing.**

Please indicate your plans on the volunteer registration form.

- Farm Volunteers: We need people on Friday morning to help get the students on buses and keep them moving on the host farms.
- Support Help: Individuals are needed for Friday afternoon to assist teams in getting support from IT, questions answered, and to assist with farm manager meetings.
- Room Monitors and Time-Keepers: We need 3-6 room monitors and 3-6 time keepers for Saturday's presentations. These volunteers are needed to share the coverage of the 3-6 presentation rooms from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Saturday.
- Debrief Team: We need 3 individuals to visit with teams following their presentation for 10 minute debriefing sessions on their experience.

Please complete the volunteer form at https://2020westerndairychallenge_volunteer_registration.eventbrite.com Thank you in advance for your support of the Western Dairy Challenge.

If you have questions about volunteering your company's time at the event, please communicate with Volunteer Coordinator Jen Gisler, Jennifer_Gisler@cargill.com, PH (559) 469-7219