



## NATIONAL 4-H DAIRY CONFERENCE

**Overview:** 4-H Dairy Conference is a three 1/2 day conference held annually in Madison, Wisconsin, at the same time as World Dairy Expo. This premier event is designed to assist 4-H youth in learning more about the dairy industry. Youth explore dairy careers, debate contemporary issues facing the dairy industry, share ideas, interests, and concerns with peers nationwide, and practice leadership, communication, and group participation skills. This is an independent living opportunity for 4-H youth.

**Date:** first week in October

**Location:** Madison, Wisconsin

**Eligibility:** Must be 15 to 18 years of age as of 1/1 of the current year and have had at least three years of experience in the 4-H Dairy project including the current year. Applicants should have an outstanding record of dairy participation. Delegates should have an interest in the dairy industry and in the processing, marketing, and use of dairy products. Participants are expected to bring information gathered back to share with other NH 4-H members. 4-H members exhibiting at World Dairy Expo or participating in the National 4-H Dairy Judging Contest are not eligible during that year.

**Cost:** Travel to and from the place of departure, meals, and personal souvenirs are the responsibilities of the delegate, approximately \$100-\$125. Air travel, lodging, ground transportation, and registration fees are provided by the 4-H Foundation of New Hampshire, Inc. through generous contributions from individuals, businesses, including dairy industry organizations and individuals.

**Registration/Application:** Dairy Conference delegates are selected in the same manner as recipients of 4-H State and National Awards. 4-H members apply by submitting a personal resume to the county 4-H Office. Resume may be the same as the one submitted for State/National awards, but a separate copy must be submitted for each selection process. Information on the 4-H State and National Awards Process can be obtained from County 4-H Youth Development Educators. Check with Educators for county deadlines. Resumes chosen by the counties are due to the State 4-H Office the first week of December.

**Selection Process:** Resumes will be read and finalists will be interviewed at the same time as Achievement Award applicants - the second or third Saturday in January. Delegates will be announced within a week of the interviews through the state 4-H office.

**Typical Schedule:** Delegates fly out on the Saturday prior to the Conference. Sunday is a sightseeing day with the Conference starting with a Sunday night pizza party and welcome. Monday through Wednesday delegates participate in workshops, seminars, and field trips to Hoard's Dairyman, World Dairy Expo, the Dairy Shrine, and more. Travel home is Thursday. There is a dress code for participants.

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