



## **Guidelines - Iowa Hereford Breeders Association Heifer Grant Program 2026**

### **PURPOSE OF THE GRANT PROGRAM:**

1. To assist in the purchase of quality Hereford heifers and cows to youth interested in starting or building a Hereford herd.
2. To encourage youth to purchase at the Iowa Select Hereford Sale at the Iowa Beef Expo
3. Grants will be funded by the members of the Iowa Hereford Breeders Association, the Eric Tiernan Memorial, and the consignors of females to the Iowa Select Hereford Sale.

### **YOUTH ELIGIBLE FOR THESE GRANTS SHOULD MEET THE FOLLOWING CRITERIA:**

1. Be a current member of the Iowa Junior Hereford Association. (Annual membership fee of \$20 may be sent with Grant application if not already paid for 2026.)
2. Age: Must be at least 7 years old on January 1, 2026 and not older than 22 years on January 1, 2027, as set forth by the National Junior Hereford Association.
3. Must purchase a registered Hereford female (open heifer, bred heifer, or cow) from the Iowa Select Hereford Sale at the Iowa Beef Expo, scheduled for February 16, 2027, at the Iowa State Fairgrounds in Des Moines, Iowa, to receive the Grant award. Award may NOT be carried forward to a future year.
4. Award recipient(s) are strongly encouraged to be present at the Expo Sale to purchase the female, if at all possible, for the learning experience and to be recognized. Pre-sale research and discussions with Sales Staff and consignors is also encouraged.
5. Must have the means to provide the remaining funds required to purchase a female.
6. Award recipients will be invited and encouraged to attend the following year's Hereford Banquet (at Beef Expo) to provide a follow-up report on their purchase and experience.

**GRANT AWARD WILL BE \$1,000 each** for the 2027 Beef Expo Sale. Three (3) recipients will be selected for Grants, which are NOT transferable and may NOT carry over to another year.

### **SELECTION and AWARD PROCESS:**

1. Grant Applications must be postmarked or e-mailed by November 1, 2026.
2. Selection Committee will be comprised of at least three individuals, including one member of the Iowa Hereford Expo Sale Committee, and one member of the IHBA Board.
3. Selection process to be completed and award recipients notified by December 1, 2026.
4. Award winners will be publicized in the Iowa Select Hereford Sale Catalog and recognized at the 2027 Expo Sale.
5. Animal(s) purchased with Grant funds must be transferred to award winner's name(s) when settlement is made on Sale day.



**Application - Iowa Hereford Breeders Association Heifer Grant**

**Applicant: Please fill in this application yourself and *IN YOUR OWN HANDWRITING*.**  
Parent or Guardian is to fill out the bottom section of the page where indicated.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Your birth date: \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_

**You must be a member of the Iowa Junior Hereford Association to be eligible for a grant.**

If you are not already a current member of the IJHA, you may join by enclosing your annual membership fee of \$20 made payable to the "Iowa Junior Hereford Association", and include it with an IJHA application form, when submitting this Heifer Grant application.

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The following must be completed by a parent or legal guardian:

As the parent or legal guardian of \_\_\_\_\_, I hereby agree to see that there are funds available, should this grant be awarded, towards the purchase of a Hereford female at the Iowa Beef Expo Sale, to be held on February 16, 2027, in Des Moines, Iowa.

I also hereby agree to oversee the proper feeding and care of the female, and to maintain communication with the breeder if assistance or guidance is needed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of parent or legal guardian

**GRANT RECIPIENTS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO BE PRESENT AT THE "IOWA SELECT  
HEREFORD SALE" AT THE IOWA BEEF EXPO TO USE THEIR GRANT.**

Application must be completed by applicant only ***IN THEIR OWN HANDWRITING*** and in their own words. Do NOT write on reverse side - **attach additional paper as needed**. Please be specific and as detailed as possible in your answers.

1. List activities in which you are presently involved (i.e. Community, School, 4-H, FFA, Jr. Cattlemen's Association, Iowa Junior Hereford Association, etc.) and your level of involvement of each.

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2. At present, I own \_\_\_\_\_ number of heifers and/or cows, \_\_\_\_\_ of which are purebred Hereford, and \_\_\_\_\_ of which are commercial females of Hereford influence. Please explain your goals for your Hereford herd.

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3. Tell us how you will pay for the balance of the Hereford female, should this grant be given to you. (For example: borrow money, have money in savings account, etc.)

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4. What affect would it make on your ability to purchase a female at the Expo Sale if you were to be awarded a Heifer Grant? Please explain:

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5. Do you have the ability to attend the Beef Expo Sale and transport a female home, should you be awarded a grant? \_\_\_\_\_ Please explain:

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6. Are you able to provide the proper care for this female? \_\_\_\_\_ Please explain:

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7. Why would you like to purchase a Hereford female, to build or add to a herd, versus another breed? Please explain what it is about Herefords that you like:

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8. What do you consider to be your strongest traits? How do they help you meet your goals in caring for and raising cattle?

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9. Explain what involvement you've had in the Iowa Junior Hereford Association

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10. In the space provided below, explain your reasons for applying for this grant:

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Return this completed application by November 1, 2026 to the following address. Recipients will be announced by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

IHBA Heifer Grant Committee  
% Marilyn Lenth  
13690 130<sup>th</sup> Street  
Postville, IA 52162

Scanned application copies may be e-mailed to: [Marilyn@iowahereford.org](mailto:Marilyn@iowahereford.org).

**IMPORTANT:** Please notify Marilyn when you mail or e-mail your application so that if she does not receive it in a timely manner, she can follow-up with you.

E-mail [Marilyn@iowahereford.org](mailto:Marilyn@iowahereford.org) or call or text (319) 269-3146 to notify her that an application is on its way.