

## **MSPA YOUTH FLOCK GRANT**

DESCRIPTION: This is a one-time \$1,250 grant administered through the MSPA Youth Fund and Committee.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this grant is to provide one Michigan youths \$1,250 in funds with which to purchase a starter flock of sheep or to purchase sheep to add to and improve an existing flock owned by the youth.

### **RULES AND REQUIREMENTS:**

1. Youth must be ages 9 years through 18 years to apply. Age is determined as of January 1, 2024.
2. Youth or their family must be a member of MSPA or join MSPA to apply.
3. Youth must be a Michigan resident to apply.
4. Funds must be used to purchase live animals. If there are residual funds after the purchase of animals they may be put toward feed and/or equipment.
5. Animals are to be purchased by the youth, in the name of the youth, for their own personal starter flock or established youth flock. Animals are not to be purchased for family flocks. Animals may reside with the family flock.
6. Animals are to be purchased for the purpose of starting or improving a breeding flock, not for immediate resale. Purchased animals are not to be sold, transferred, or given away for at least 12 months after the time of purchase.
7. Sheep purchased may be of any breed or type- purebred, commercial, club lamb, fiber flock, hair sheep, etc.
8. MSPA Youth Flock Grant application and all supporting materials must be received by email on or before November 1, 2024.
9. Applications will be reviewed by the MSPA Youth Flock Grant Committee and winners will be determined by November 15, 2024. The winners will be contacted by December 1, 2024.
10. The grant winners will be invited to the 2024 Michigan Shepherd's Weekend banquet on Saturday, January 4th and will be recognized during the awards program.

11. The grant winners will not receive funds until letters of thanks to the sponsors are submitted to the MSPA Youth Flock Grant Committee. The Committee will ensure the letters are sent to the sponsors.
12. The grant winners will be required to do a presentation about the grant, their new animals and flock at the 2026 Michigan Shepherd's Weekend Friday night Young Producers event.
13. In the event that two winners are not chosen, the remaining funds will be offered as a Youth Flock Grant the following year.

## **MSPA YOUTH FLOCK GRANT APPLICATION**

**Complete application and send to [info@misheep.org](mailto:info@misheep.org) with all supporting materials attached. Application is due November 1st, 2024.**

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBER:

EMAIL:

AGE:

MSPA MEMBERSHIP:

DO YOU OR YOUR FAMILY CURRENTLY OWN ANY SHEEP?

IF YES, DESCRIBE YOUR CURRENT FLOCK AND INDICATE IF THEY ARE PERSONAL ANIMALS OR FAMILY ANIMALS.

IF YES, DESCRIBE HOW YOUR FLOCK AND/OR FAMILY FLOCK ARE FINANCIALLY SUPPORTED.

DO YOU PARTICIPATE IN ANY ACTIVITIES THAT INVOLVE EDUCATION OR PROMOTION OF THE SHEEP INDUSTRY? IF YES, DESCRIBE THEM HERE: DESCRIBE YOUR PERSONAL GOALS AND PURPOSE FOR THE MSPA GRANT:

PROVIDE AN ITEMIZED LIST OF ANIMALS TO BE PURCHASED\* WITH INDIVIDUAL PRICES, AND THE NAMES, ADDRESSES, AND PHONE NUMBERS OF THE PRODUCERS YOU WILL BE PURCHASING FROM.

*\*Individual animals can be generally identified- "yearling ram," "ewe lamb," etc. Specific ID is not necessary as long as prices remain consistent.*

WILL THESE PRODUCERS BE WILLING TO MENTOR YOU IN THE CARE OF YOUR NEW ANIMALS/FLOCK?

ARE THERE ANY RESIDUAL FUNDS LEFT AFTER THE PURCHASE OF THE ANIMALS?

IF YES, PROVIDE AN ITEMIZED LIST OF ANY FEED OR EQUIPMENT TO BE PURCHASED WITH THEIR INDIVIDUAL PRICES INCLUDED.

DESCRIBE THE HOUSING FACILITIES FOR YOUR NEW ANIMALS. ONE OR MORE PHOTOGRAPHS OF THE FACILITIES ARE REQUIRED. ATTACH PHOTOGRAPHS TO YOUR EMAIL SUBMISSION IN JPEG FORMAT.

DESCRIBE HOW YOU WILL FEED AND CARE FOR YOUR NEW ANIMALS. CALCULATE FEED COSTS AND ITEMIZE THEM HERE. DESCRIBE HOW YOU WILL PAY FOR THE COST OF FEED FOR YOUR NEW ANIMALS.

WHAT IS YOUR LONG TERM PLAN FOR YOUR SHEEP FLOCK? WHERE DO YOU SEE YOUR FLOCK ONE YEAR FROM NOW? FIVE YEARS FROM NOW? LONGER??

ATTACH ONE LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION FROM A 4H LEADER, FFA ADVISOR, TEACHER, OR OTHER COMMUNITY MEMBER WHO CAN ATTEST TO YOUR RESPONSIBILITY AND ABILITY TO CARE FOR YOUR NEW ANIMALS.