

2016-2017 NCTA Heifer Link Program

The NCTA Heifer Link program was started at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture in January, 2015, as part of the 100 Beef Cow Ownership Advantage. Through Heifer Link, students have the opportunity to be assigned a breeding heifer during their fourth semester and upon graduation leave campus with a bred heifer.

This innovative program requiring student management, hands-on sweat equity, a sound business plan and commitment to the Nebraska cattle industry allows the student to get a jump start into the cattle business. With proven success on campus, the student will become owner of a first heifer to call their own and begin their herd.

For cattle producers and program donors, Heifer Link provides an opportunity to invest in a young producer and leader through industry mentoring, and heifer support (either animal or financial contribution to NCTA/University of Nebraska-Foundation, Heifer Link Fund #13377).

Student Eligibility Requirements

- Sophomore at NCTA (in livestock management, 100-Cow or diversified ag)
- A minimum 2.5 cumulative high school grade point average on a 4.00 scale
- Fulltime NCTA student in good standing
- Significant, demonstrated history of leadership and volunteer service activities related to livestock management
- Nebraska resident or provide strong evidence of Nebraska residency upon NCTA graduation (ex. Letter of employment)

Selection Criteria

- Academic preparation (as demonstrated by college and high school transcripts)
- Activities and talents (college and high school)
- Leadership
- Volunteer service
- Work experience
- Submit a Heifer Link application by February 15
- Complete a committee interview by March 1

Donations

- Cash donation of \$2,000 to Fund #13377, or yearling heifer.

For heifer criteria or a student application form, contact:

- Dr. Doug Smith, NCTA animal science division chair, 308-367-5286, E-mail to doug.smith@unl.edu, or call the NCTA Animal Science division at 308-367-5293.
- Forms also are available at: <http://ncta.unl.edu/heifer-link-program>