University of Missouri

pork®

Youth Pork Institute 2026

JUNE 8-10, 2026
COLUMBIA, MISSOURI

The University of Missouri Pork Institute is an intensive three-day educational program. Its goal is to instruct young people in profitable pork production, introduce them to the latest technological developments and train them to be leaders in the U.S. pork industry.

Participants will compete for two $1,000 scholarships to the University of Missouri, or any Missouri-based college or university.

Students compete for $2,000 in scholarship money!

Sponsored by:

MoPORK
Missouri Pork Association

College of Agriculture Food and Natural Resources

Highlights

Monday, June 8
- Show Pig Topics
- Biosecurity Issues
- Swine Industry Involvement

Tuesday, June 9
- Pork Processing
- The Business of Raising Hogs
- Biomedical Pigs
- Evaluation of Breeding and Market Hogs

Wednesday, June 10
- Carcass and Meat Quality Evaluation
- Swine Reproduction and Farrowing
- MU Animal Science Program Overview

Applications Due May 8, 2026

An equal opportunity institution. For ADA accommodations, contact Heather Conrow at (660) 248-2272.

June 8-10, 2026
University of Missouri
Columbia, Missouri

Program Time
1:00 pm, Monday, June 8 to 4:00 pm, Wednesday, June 10.

Cost
$100 per student — This fee covers registration, materials, meals, dormitory lodging and field trips. Participants are responsible for their transportation costs between home and Columbia.

Eligibility
The Pork Institute is open to young men and women who are interested in a career in the pork industry. Participants must have been high school students in the spring of 2026.

Selection Process
The Pork Institute is limited to 15 individuals. Interested candidates are encouraged to apply. A selection committee composed of university faculty and leaders in the pork industry will screen the applicants.

Application Deadline
All applications for the 2026 University of Missouri Pork Institute must be postmarked no later than May 8, 2026. Results of the selection process will be announced May 13, 2026.

Housing
Students will spend both nights at Christian Campus House at the University of Missouri. Sheets and towels are furnished with the room.

Scholarship
Participants will compete for two $1,000 scholarships to the University of Missouri, or any Missouri-based college or university.

Funding
The Missouri Pork Association and the University of Missouri College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources provide financial support for the Youth Pork Institute.

For More Information, Contact:
Heather Conrow • University of Missouri Extension
600 West Morrison, Suite 17 • Fayette, MO 65254
(660) 248-2272 • hconrow@missouri.edu

Missouri Pork Association
6235 W. Cunningham Dr. • Columbia, MO 65202
(573) 445-8375 • mpa-intern@mopork.com

Tentative Agenda

Monday, June 8, 2026

9:00 am	Registration
9:15	Welcome and Introductions
9:30	Morning Topics To Be Determined
12:00	Lunch
1:30	Reasons for Biosecurity Dr. Cory Bromfield
2:30	Being Part of the Swine Industry Mag Lopez Soriano
4:00	Check into Christian Campus House
6:00	Load Vans for Supper and MPA Evening
6:30	Campus Tour

Tuesday, June 9, 2026

6:00 am	Breakfast at Christian Campus House
6:40	Load van and heat to MU Abattoir
7:00	Pork Processing Rick Disselhorst
8:30	The Business of Raising Hogs Joe Abbott, FCS Financial
9:30	In-Barn Experience Steve Toohill, Carthage Veterinary Service
11:00	Biomedical Pigs Junchul David Yoon
12:00	Lunch
1:30	Swine Teaching Barn Tour Heather Conrow
2:30	Evaluation of Breeding and Market Hogs Dakota Grellner
3:45	Load vans and travel to Christian Campus House
6:00	Supper and evening activity

Wednesday, June 10, 2026

6:30 am	Breakfast at Christian Campus House
7:15	Check out of Christian Campus House
8:00	Carcass and Meat Quality Evaluation Dr. Teagan Schnurbusch
9:30	Swine Reproduction and Farrowing Clara Henry
11:00	Chef-in-Training / Lunch Sarah Wood
1:00	MU Animal Sciences Program Overview Dr. Hannah Twenter
1:30	Buck's Ice Cream
2:00	Written Exam – S119 Animal Sciences Center
2:30	ASRC Building Tour Lee Spate
3:30	Scholarship Announcements and Pictures

YOUTH PORK INSTITUTE
APPLICATION FORM
DUE MAY 8, 2026

University of Missouri pork Youth Pork Institute 2026

I. Personal Information

Applicant's Name: _____ ☐ Male ☐ Female

Home Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home Phone: _____

Email address: _____

High School: _____

Emergency Contact (Name and Phone):_____

Graduation Date (circle one): ☐ 2026 ☐ 2027 ☐ 2028 ☐ 2029

Shirt Size (circle one): ☐ S ☐ M ☐ L ☐ XL ☐ XXL

II. List of School and Community Activities

_____

_____

_____

_____

III. Statement of Future Plans

_____

_____

_____

_____

IV. Statement of Involvement in Swine Production

_____

_____

_____

Application continued on back...

V. Statement of Interest in Attending Pork Institute

_____

_____

_____

_____

VI. Two References (Name, address and phone numbers)

1. _____

2. _____

VII. Parent or Guardian Signature

I give permission for my son/daughter to participate in the 2026 Pork Institute June 8-10, at the University of Missouri-Columbia, at a cost of $100.00.

Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian

VIII. High School Ag Instructor Signature (or Guidance Counselor)

The applicant's interest in swine production is (circle one):

☐ VERY HIGH ☐ HIGH ☐ AVERAGE ☐ LOW

The applicant's maturity and behavior is (circle one):

☐ EXCELLENT ☐ GOOD ☐ FAIR ☐ POOR

Signature: _____

Teacher/Instructor

IX. Principal or Superintendent Signature

The applicant currently has a GPA of _____ and ranks _____ in a class of _____.

Signature: _____

Principal/Superintendent

Applications must be postmarked by May 8, 2026.
Notification of selection will be by May 13, 2026.

Complete application form and return with fee to:
Missouri Pork Association
ATTN: Pork Institute
6235 W. Cunningham Drive • Columbia, MO 65202