**2025-2026 National Jersey Scholarships**

**American Jersey Cattle Association**

**6486 E. Main Street, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-2362**

**ELIGIBILITY AND APPLICATION CHECKLIST**

* I am a member (junior or Lifetime) of the American Jersey Cattle Association.
* **For scholarships:** My grade point average (GPA) is at least 2.5 on a 4-point scale, or equivalent, at the academic institution I am currently attending (if entering college freshman, at the high school from which you graduated).

Previous scholarship recipients are eligible to re-apply.

**COMPLETING THE APPLICATION**

Review the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) page before starting this application. The form may not be modified. Provide only the information requested in the application form. Personal résumés, picture and scrapbook pages, news clippings, and any other materials not requested will not be accepted.

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE**

Submit application with a **postmark no later than Tuesday, July 1, 2025. Email applications are preferred** to info@usjersey.com. If you use email and do not receive confirmation of receipt within 24 hours, call 614/322-4451 immediately. Applications may be **mailed** to the American Jersey Cattle Association, Attn: Communications Department, 6486 E. Main Street, Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-2362. **Application materials may not be submitted by fax.**

**TRANSCRIPTS and LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION**

Submit official transcripts from (1) your high school **AND** (2) college/university *(when applicable)* complete through spring term 2025. Transcripts must be sent by the Registrar directly to the AJCA Communications Department.

Request two (2) letters of recommendation written by teachers or mentors in the Jersey community who know you well and who can comment upon your academic performance, community and leadership activities, and work and accomplishments related to Jersey cattle and the dairy industry. Letters must be sent directly by them to the AJCA Communications Department at the office address or by email to info@usjersey.com.

Transcripts and recommendation letters must be received in the AJCA office no later than **Tuesday, July 8—NO EXCEPTIONS**.

Applications that do not have **ALL** required official transcripts and two (2) letters of recommendation will be considered incomplete and disqualified.

**SELECTION FACTORS**

Among applicants meeting all eligibility requirements for the various scholarships, awardees are determined by an anonymous selection committee appointed by the AJCA President. In general, the selection factors, reviewed through the completed application, academic transcript(s) and recommendation letters, are:

1. academic performance, demonstrated ability to excel and maintain good academic standing in school (35%);
2. activities and accomplishments with Registered Jersey cattle (30%); and
3. personal goals and interest in and commitment to continued involvement in the Jersey dairy business (35%).

Several scholarships have additional eligibility requirements and/or selection factors. These are listed in the application.

**NOTIFICATION**

Recipients will be notified in mid-August. Monetary awards will be given only if and after the winner provides evidence of enrollment as a full-time student and a completed IRS Form W-9 by September 1, 2025. Awards will be presented at the Youth Awards Ceremony, November 8 in Louisville, Ky.

**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

**Q: I am not a member of the American Jersey Cattle Association. Can I apply for these scholarships?**

*A: Yes, but only if you become a member before the scholarship application deadline. Apply for Junior Membership at http://bit.do/JuniorMembership. If you are too old for Junior Membership, you can apply for Lifetime Membership. If we cannot confirm your membership in AJCA records, your application will be considered incomplete and disqualified from consideration.*

**Q: My high school GPA was above the required grade point average (GPA) of 2.5, but my college GPA is not. Should I still apply?**

*A: No, the GPA requirement is for your current academic institution. If you do not meet the eligibility criteria exactly, you should not apply.*

**Q: I am a graduate student. Can I apply for these scholarships?**

*A: Yes, if you meet the basic eligibility criteria and also the eligibility criteria for specific scholarships.*

**Q: Why do some scholarships have an award amount and others say “varies”?**

*A: Funds available for most national Jersey scholarships vary from year to year, which is why the amount is stated as “varies.” The value for these scholarships will be listed on the USJersey Scholarship information page when determined each year (usually by May 1).*

**Q: If my application is over the page limit, would it be disqualified from consideration?**

*A: Yes. Applications exceeding the page limit will not be sent to the selection committee.*

**Q: If I forget to send my high school transcript, would my application be disqualified?**

*A: Yes. This would make it an incomplete application.*

**Q: I have completed college coursework. If I forget to send my college transcript, would my application be disqualified?**

*A: Yes. This would make it an incomplete application.*

**Q: What if I forget to include information or answer a question on my application? Can I submit that?**

*A: Revised applications will be accepted through July 1, the application deadline published for 2025.*

**Q: Can I include information such as my résumé, picture and scrapbook pages, and news clippings?**

*A: No. If such information is included, it will be disregarded.*

**Q: Who do I contact with other questions?**

*A: All questions should be referred to the Communications Department at:*

American Jersey Cattle Association

6486 E. Main St.

Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-2362

Phone: 614/322-4451

Email: info@usjersey.com

**Application for 2025-2026 National Jersey Scholarships**

**COMPLETE APPLICATION ONLY BY COMPUTER WORD PROCESSING.**

Maximum length of application: five (5) single-sided pages, minimum 10-point font size.

**DO NOT MODIFY OR DELETE ANY PARTS OF THIS APPLICATION FORM.**

**READ ELIGIBILITY RULES FOR EACH SCHOLARSHIP, THEN**

**ADD AN X IN FRONT OF THE NAME OF SCHOLARSHIP(S) YOU ARE APPLYING FOR.**

 **William A. Russell Memorial Scholarship** ($3,000), awarded to a high school graduate accepted into a college or university program for the fall of 2025 *(i.e., entering college freshman).*

 **V. L. Peterson Scholarship** ($2,250) **and Paul Jackson Scholarship** ($1,000), awarded to students who have completed at least one year of college work.

 **Cedarcrest Farms Scholarship** ($1,500), awarded to a student (undergraduate or graduate) enrolled in a program to earn a degree in large animal veterinary practice, dairy production, dairy manufacturing, or dairy product marketing, and who demonstrates through completed coursework and goal statement, significant progress toward this intended degree and a clear intention for a career in agriculture.

 **Bob Toole Youth Award** ($1,500), awarded to a high school graduate for (a) college expenses or (b) a clearly defined practical educational experience related to breeding, developing and showing Registered Jerseys™.

 **Russell-Malnati Memorial Scholarship for Advanced Studies**($5,000), awarded to a graduate student seeking a degree in dairy science, animal science, large animal veterinary practice, dairy production, dairy manufacturing or dairy product marketing. Scholarship is paid in two installments during the academic year, upon proof of enrollment and maintenance of academic eligibility.

 **AJCA Directors Scholarship** ($1,500), awarded to a student (undergraduate or graduate) based on academic performance, activities and accomplishments with Jersey cattle and commitment to continued involvement in the Jersey dairy business.

**Morris B. Ewing ABS Genetic Performance Scholarship** ($2,750), awarded to a junior or senior undergraduate student seeking a career in genetics, dairy production, large animal veterinary medicine or milk marketing.

 **The Lineweaver Scholarship** ($3,500), awarded to an undergraduate student who has completed at least one year at an accredited four-year college/university in a dairy science, animal sciences, or dairy products department. The initial award is based upon financial need, academic performance, and leadership skills. Financial need will be determined by comparing the total Cost of Attendance (COA) at your school to the amount of money you will contribute in the form of (1) scholarships and grants, (2) income from work, (3) loans, and (4) contributions from parents and/or others. The scholarship may be automatically renewed twice or until completion of your undergraduate degree (whichever comes first) if (1) eligibility requirements are met, (2) continuing financial need exists, (3) you earn at least thirty (30) semester hours of college credit each academic year, and (4) you maintain a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 or above. The review for renewal of the scholarship will occur May 15 or when your spring semester grades are posted. Failure to meet all renewal requirements or any misrepresentation of financial and/or academic information will result in the termination of the scholarship with no option for reinstatement.

**The Robert Bignami Memorial Scholarship** ($2,500), Students who are high school graduates and have attended Jersey Youth Academy are eligible to apply if heading to, or already enrolled in an accredited four-year college/university majoring in an agricultural-based degree. The award is based upon financial need, academic performance, and leadership skills. Financial need will be determined by comparing the Cost of Attendance (COA) at the students university offset by the amount of money the student will contribute in the form of (1) scholarships and grants, (2) income from work, (3) loans, and (4) contributions from parents and/or others. The scholarship may be automatically renewed up to three times or until completion of your undergraduate degree (whichever comes first) if (1) eligibility requirements are met, (2) continuing financial need exists, (3) student earns at least thirty (30) semester hours of college credit each academic year, and (4) student maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.50 or above. The review for renewal of the scholarship will occur May 15 or when the students spring semester grades are posted. Student is required to submit transcripts to the AJCA in a timely manner. Failure to meet all renewal requirements or any misrepresentation of financial and/or academic information will result in the termination of the scholarship with no option for reinstatement.

**Walter and Joyce Owens and Family Scholarship** ($5,000), awarded to an incoming or current undergraduate student in any post education institution studying dairy related majors, working towards a 2-year or 4-year degree and demonstrating satisfactory academic performance. Recipients are eligible to receive scholarship up to two (2) times but must reapply to be considered

**Jack C. Nisbet Memorial Scholarship** ($2,250) awarded to an eligible candidate for the 2024 National Jersey Youth Achievement Contest *(activities completed through December 31, 2024).*

All complete applications will be considered for the **Anne E. Perchard Challenge Award** ($350).

**Reuben R. Cowles Youth Award** (varies), awarded to a Jersey owner from Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Virginia who is at least a high school senior but not older than 36 years of age, to be used for educational expenses or to travel to the All American Jersey Show and Sale, the AJCA-NAJ Annual Meetings or other Jersey educational activities. *To apply, submit* [separate application form](http://www.usjersey.com/Portals/0/AJCA/2_Docs/Youth/25_CowlesYouthAward.doc)*.*

**DO NOT PROCEED WITH THIS APPLICATION UNTIL**

**YOU INDICATE WHICH SCHOLARSHIPS YOU ARE APPLYING FOR.**

**PERSONAL INFORMATION**

**LAST NAME FIRST NAME MIDDLE NAME**

DELETE THIS LINE. ENTER YOUR INFORMATION HERE. REMOVE TEXT HIGHLIGHT COLOR.

**DATE OF BIRTH COUNTRY OF CITZENSHIP**

DELETE THIS LINE. ENTER YOUR INFORMATION HERE. REMOVE TEXT HIGHLIGHT COLOR.

**MAILING ADDRESS YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS**

DELETE THIS LINE. ENTER YOUR INFORMATION HERE. REMOVE TEXT HIGHLIGHT COLOR.

**CITY STATE ZIP CODE (AREA CODE) PHONE NUMBER**

DELETE THIS LINE. ENTER YOUR INFORMATION HERE. REMOVE TEXT HIGHLIGHT COLOR.

**NAME AND ADDRESS OF PARENTS OR GUARDIANS**

DELETE THIS LINE. ENTER YOUR INFORMATION HERE. REMOVE TEXT HIGHLIGHT COLOR.

**WORK AND INTERNSHIP EXPERIENCES**

**DATES (MONTH/ YEAR) EMPLOYER JOB DESCRIPTION HOURS/WEEK**

USE AS MANY LINES AS ARE NECESSARY.

**ACADEMIC INFORMATION**

**NAME/ADDRESS OF HIGH SCHOOL YEAR GRADUATED GRADE POINT AVERAGE**

DELETE THIS LINE. ENTER YOUR INFORMATION HERE. REMOVE TEXT HIGHLIGHT COLOR. REMEMBER TO INCLUDE YOUR HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIPT.

**NAME/ADDRESS OF COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY ENROLLED IN FOR FALL 2025**

DELETE THIS LINE. ENTER YOUR INFORMATION HERE. REMOVE TEXT HIGHLIGHT COLOR. REMEMBER TO INCLUDE TRANSCRIPT SHOWING GRADES THROUGH SPRING 2024.

**CLASS STATUS AT START OF 2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR: Highlight CHECKBox and Replace with X.**

 Freshman Sophomore Junior Senior

 M.S. Ph.D. VMD/DVM OTHER *(specify)*

**ACADEMIC MAJOR AND MINOR(S), IF APPLICABLE**

DELETE THIS LINE. ENTER YOUR INFORMATION HERE. REMOVE TEXT HIGHLIGHT COLOR.

**NAME/ADDRESS OF ALL COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES YOU PREVIOUSLY ATTENDED, WITH DATES OF ATTENDANCE**

DELETE THIS LINE. ENTER YOUR INFORMATION HERE. REMOVE TEXT HIGHLIGHT COLOR.

**Have you ever been on academic or social probation at any college/university you have attended? NO YES *If yes, indicate when and why:***

**SCHOLARSHIPS YOU HAVE RECEIVED FOR UPCOMING ACADEMIC YEAR**

**SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS INSTITUTION MAKING AWARD DOLLAR AMOUNT**

ALL APPLICANTS MUST COMPLETE THIS SECTION. IF YOU HAVE NOT RECEIVED A SCHOLARSHIP OR GRANT, STATE THAT IN THIS SECTION.

**TO APPLY FOR LINEWEAVER, OWENS, BRENTWOOD SCHOLARSHIP,
COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING SECTION.**

**COST OF ATTENDANCE,** as stated on website of your college/university:

**INCOME FROM WORK EMPLOYER WAGES/MONTH**

DELETE THIS LINE. ENTER YOUR INFORMATION HERE. REMOVE TEXT HIGHLIGHT COLOR.

**LOANS FOR EDUCATION LENDER DOLLAR AMOUNT**

DELETE THIS LINE. ENTER YOUR INFORMATION HERE. REMOVE TEXT HIGHLIGHT COLOR.

**CONTRIBUTIONS FROM PARENTS and OTHERS DOLLAR AMOUNT**

DELETE THIS LINE. ENTER YOUR INFORMATION HERE. REMOVE TEXT HIGHLIGHT COLOR.

**ALL APPLICANTS: COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING ESSAY QUESTIONS.**

1. **Describe your activities with Jersey cattle.**
2. **Describe your leadership activities here.**
3. **Briefly summarize your extracurricular activities during high school and/or college, and indicate how these were/are relevant to your degree program and professional/career goals.**
4. **Describe your major, the degree you are working towards, and the program of study that you have completed to date. Documentation (high school and/or college/university transcript) must be submitted. What courses will you schedule for the coming academic year?**
5. **Provide information regarding your ambitions, goals and background that will assist the selection committee in judging your eligibility for these scholarships. Do not restate information previously given on this application.**

**NAME AND ADDRESS OF YOUR LOCAL NEWSPAPER**

**DATE APPLICANT’S SIGNATURE**

**APPLICATION, including page 1-2 with the scholarships you are applying for marked by X,**

**MAY NOT EXCEED SEVEN (7) PAGES.**

**SUBMIT WITH TRANSCRIPTS AND LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION NOT LATER THAN TuesDAY, JULY 8, 2025.**

**by email to info@usjersey.com or by mail/express delivery to American Jersey Cattle Association,**

**Attn: Communications Department, 6486 E. Main St., Reynoldsburg, OH 43068-2362.**

*Approved AJCA Board of Directors 2020*