

NEWS RELEASE



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Nominees Sought for Ohio Pork Leaders Program

COLUMBUS, Ohio (October 8, 2026) — The Ohio Pork Council is looking for the next generation of pork industry leaders.

Applications and nominations are now open for the 2027 Ohio Pork Leaders Program, designed for people ages 18–35 who are ready to expand their understanding of the pork industry and grow their ability to contribute to its future.

Farms can nominate promising employees, contract growers, or family members, and individuals may nominate themselves for the Ohio Pork Leaders Program’s next cohort.

From February through October 2027, Ohio Pork Leader Program participants will gain experience well beyond the farm, including learning how industry organizations work, engaging with policymakers, developing media and communication skills, experiencing consumer outreach at the Ohio State Fair, and seeing how pork moves through processing and retail.

For participants, the program offers a chance to build confidence, professional relationships and industry knowledge. For farms, it is an opportunity to invest in people with potential and help prepare them for greater responsibility.

“Being in the Leaders Program has been a great learning experience,” said Hannah Schroeder, a participant in the second class. “This program has helped me grow my professional skills and my professional connections.”

The 2027 Pork Leaders Program application deadline is Jan. 11, 2027.

To nominate a Pork Leader, send the name and email address to Blake Campbell bcampbell@ohiopork.org.

Application [access here](#).

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Ohio Pork Council Contacts

For Pork Leaders Program questions, contact Blake Campbell at bcampbell@ohiopork.org or Kayla Barker at kbarker@ohiopork.org.

About the Ohio Pork Council

The Ohio Pork Council works on behalf of Ohio's pig farmers to provide producer education, strengthen consumer confidence, build demand for pork and prepare the state's pork industry for the future. Learn more at www.ohiopork.org.

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