

COOPERATIVES



THE COOPERATIVE ADVANTAGE

When it comes to making economic and charitable contributions to their communities, the nation's more than 40,000 cooperative businesses are industry leaders, setting the bar high for other types of businesses. Being owned largely by people who live and work in the communities they serve gives cooperatives a different perspective from businesses owned by distant investors.

These co-ops are motivated to serve their members not outside investors. Nationwide these 40,000 cooperative businesses are sometimes an overlooked but thriving economic sector. Co-ops come in all shapes and sizes, and they operate in virtually every industry and range in size from small storefronts to Fortune 500 companies.

From the agricultural standpoint, nearly 3,000 farmer cooperatives account for 300,000 jobs nationwide and a total payroll of more than \$8 billion. Some of the well-known farmer cooperatives include SunKist, Land O'Lakes, CHS (Genex Harvest States), Farm Credit Services of America, and AGP.

In Nebraska, farmer-owned cooperatives also contribute heavily to the economy of our state. For instance:

- 52 local supply/marketing co-ops operating:

 - \$4.8 billion total sales of local supply/marketing co-ops
 - \$2.2 billion total assets of co-ops
 - \$247.7 million employee payroll (w/ benefits)
 - \$127.9 million net savings generated by local co-ops
 - \$90.1 million investment in new equipment and facilities in past year
 - \$56.8 million patronage refunds in past year
 - \$9.2 million equity/estate redemptions in past year

- 52 headquarter locations
- 363 branch locations in Nebraska
- 26 branch locations out of state
- 11 regional co-ops operating in Nebraska
- 5,200+ cooperative employees (full and part-time)
- 72,700+ total voting members of co-ops

As you can see, cooperatives in Nebraska are vital to our economy. There are many outstanding career opportunities for young people wishing to pursue a career in the rural portions of our state. The Nebraska Cooperative Council represents these businesses that are focused on production agriculture, and we encourage you to explore what could be a very rewarding career in one of Nebraska's farmer-owned cooperatives. Then you too will understand The Cooperative Advantage.

NEBRASKA COOPERATIVE COUNCIL EDUCATION FOUNDATION

2012/13 SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

IN HONOR OF DR. MICHAEL S. TURNER

FOR THE 2012/13 ACADEMIC YEAR...

- Up to four \$950 scholarships to students at the UNL College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources (CASNR). One scholarship will be awarded to an incoming student and the balance to upperclass students.
- One \$650 scholarship to a student at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA) at Curtis.
- One \$650 scholarship to an upperclass student at Chadron State College.

SELECTION...

Scholarship Committees at the institutions will select recipients based on criteria established for each scholarship.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS...

Scholarships will be awarded to sons/daughters of a parent/legal guardian who has been an active member, director, or employee for at least the prior three (3) years of a cooperative which has been a member in good standing of the Council for the past five (5) years. Scholarship(s) will be awarded without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, or disability.

UNL STUDENTS:

- Must be accepted as a student in CASNR majoring in agribusiness or agricultural economics
- Upperclass students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above
- Incoming students must have demonstrated academic excellence as determined by UNL from SAT/ACT scores

NCTA STUDENT:

- Must be majoring in agribusiness or ag production systems
- Second-year students must have achieved a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above
- First-year students must have demonstrated academic excellence as determined by NCTA from SAT/ACT scores

CHADRON STATE STUDENT:

- Must have achieved sophomore, junior or senior class standing with a major or minor in agribusiness
- Must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above

TO APPLY...

Complete the application form on the reverse and forward it to the appropriate institution by April 15, 2012. Additional forms, as well as an electronic version, are available on the NCC website at www.nebr.coop or by calling the NCC office at 402/475-6555.





**Nebraska Cooperative Council Education Foundation
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
IN HONOR OF MICHAEL S. TURNER**

2012-13 APPLICATION FORM

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2012

[An electronic version of this form is available at www.nebr.coop]

Student Name: _____ College Student ID#: _____

Declared Major/Minor: _____

Class Status for the 2012/13 Academic Year (circle one):

UNL: FR SO JR SR **NCTA:** 1st Year 2nd Year **Chadron:** SO JR SR

Permanent Address (Street, City, St, Zip): _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Can you be reached at your permanent address/phone/email over the summer? Yes No
If no, please give summer address/phone/email below:

Parents/Legal Guardians' Name: _____

Parents/Legal Guardians' Address (Street, City, St, Zip): _____

Name and Location of Local Cooperative Membership: _____ # of Years

Name and Town of Hometown Newspaper: _____

High School Attended: _____

Leadership Activities/Outstanding Achievements in High School and/or College (membership and offices held in organizations, awards, honor societies, etc) [Attach a separate sheet of paper if needed.]

Career Plans:

Return completed application forms to the appropriate institution below by **April 15, 2012:**

Dann Husmann, Assoc Dean
College of Ag Sciences & Nat'l Res
PO Box 830702
UNL East Campus
Lincoln, NE 68583-0702
Ph: 402/472-2201
FAX: 402/472-7911
Email: dhusmann2@unl.edu

Marci Pike, Financial Aid
NE College of Technical Agriculture
RR 3 Box 23A
Curtis, NE 69025-9525
Ph: 800/328-7847
Fax: 308/367-5203
Email: mpike2@unl.edu

Heather Crofutt, Financial Aid
Chadron State College
1000 Main Street
Chadron, NE 69337
Ph: 308/432-6230
Fax: 308/432-6474
Email: hcrofutt@csc.edu

If you have questions about the scholarship program, please contact Ed or Deb at the Nebraska Cooperative Council (ph: 402/475-6555, email: edw@nebr.coop or debm@nebr.coop)