

PHIL FERDINANDO MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION 2026

Longtime advocate and lifelong farmer, Phil Ferdinando was a legend in the New Hampshire agriculture community. He tirelessly cultivated his family farm, J&F Farms of Derry, helping to sustain and grow his family's generations-long legacy of agriculture and local food. Phil was a relentless champion of young farmers, always going above and beyond to do what he could to help the next generation thrive. In honor of his commitment to the land and the young farmer, the Rockingham County Farm Bureau (RCFB) has voted to establish annual scholarships up to \$500 to be awarded to a student with an interest in studies related to agriculture. The intent is to encourage young people to attend college or other centers of higher education and to assist them in the quest for higher education in agriculturally related subjects.

This scholarship is available to members/residents of Rockingham County with preference given to members of Rockingham County Farm Bureau families. A selection committee will evaluate applications and select the student to receive the award. The winner will be contacted by RCFB Secretary Heather Fernald.

An application essay must be submitted to RCFB by Friday, April 17, 2026.

To apply for this scholarship, please write a short essay stating the following points of eligibility:

1. Resident of Rockingham County
2. Attending an accredited school: public or private
3. An intent to pursue studies in agriculture defined to include any commodity recognized by Farm Bureau

Evaluation of applications will be based on the applicant's financial need, their interest in agriculture, and how their program of study will benefit agriculture in New Hampshire. Preference will be given to an applicant who is a member of Rockingham County Farm Bureau.

Payment will be made directly to the school of choice of the designated recipient.

The winner of the scholarship will also be required to report to the RCFB Board of Directors as to how the scholarship has been used and how their studies are progressing. The scholarship winner may submit a report in writing or attend a board meeting and report in person.

Please send the completed application essay by April 17, 2026, to the secretary of RCFB:

Heather Fernald
11 Deerfield Road

 **ROCKINGHAM COUNTY FARM BUREAU**

Nottingham, NH 03290