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AABP Student Members Awarded \$350,00 in Scholarships

*The American Association of Bovine Practitioners Foundation
gives veterinary students financial help.*

(ASHLAND, Ohio) September 1, 2026 – Student recipients were acknowledged at the 2026 59th AABP Annual Conference which was held Aug. 27-29 in Minneapolis, Minn. The awards, funded by AABP members, AABP industry partners Merck Animal Health, the Zoetis Foundation and the AABP Foundation, will enable recipients to further pursue their careers in bovine medicine. The AABP Foundation administers all of the charitable functions of AABP. This year, the AABP Foundation received 357 scholarship applications and awarded 43 scholarships. Adding to the Amstutz scholarship funds were the Amstutz live and silent auctions, the annual 5K Stampede Fun Run/Walk sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim, and direct donations from members.

“Few things are more meaningful than having the opportunity to invest directly in the future of our profession,” says AABP Foundation Chair Dr. Tera Barnhardt. “As Foundation Board chair, I’m incredibly proud that the generosity of our members and partners allows us to award such an abundance of scholarships. Each scholarship is more than financial support. It is a vote of confidence in a student, an investment in their potential, and a commitment to ensuring our profession remains strong for generations to come. I’m so excited to work alongside these future outstanding bovine practitioners.”

“The AABP Foundation and AABP is appreciative of the significant increase in scholarships and grants thanks to the generosity of our industry partners and members,” says AABP Executive Director Dr. Fred Gingrich. “Recruitment and retention of rural veterinarians interested in bovine practice remains an important focus of our organization, and financial support through scholarships is one factor that can alleviate the financial pressures of veterinary students entering rural practice. Externships remain a critical component of demonstrating opportunities in rural practice to students, and grants offset the financial barriers that students may face when selecting an externship opportunity.”

The Foundation also distributed a record amount of money in 2026 with a total of \$350,000 in scholarships, \$40,000 in AABP externship grants, \$4,000 in externship grants funded by the BI Cares Foundation, \$18,000 in externship grants funded by the Wisconsin Rural Opportunities Foundation, \$9,000 in AABP education grants, and \$45,544 in AABP Foundation research grants for a total of \$430,544. Thank you to our members for the increase in donations to support the AABP Foundation, and our industry partners Merck Animal Health, Zoetis Foundation, Boehringer Ingelheim Cares Foundation, and the Wisconsin Rural Opportunities Fund.

2026 Amstutz Scholarship Recipients

Ten veterinary students received the \$12,000 2026 Harold E. Amstutz Scholarships. Funding comes from AABP member contributions, investment fund interest and dividends, proceeds from the 5k Stampede, and proceeds from the AABP Live and Silent Auctions and raffle. The 2026 recipients are:

- Caroline Berge, University of Wisconsin

- Tayler Chamberlain, Oklahoma State University
- Maggie Cronk, Iowa State University
- Kaden Eisenbraun, University of Minnesota
- Robert Feiock, University of Minnesota
- Loren Foley, The Ohio State University
- Cade Gustafson, University of Missouri
- Bryer Jones, Washington State University
- Kali Linville, Texas Tech University
- Esmeralda Lopez Hernandez, Cornell University

2026 Merck Animal Health

Bovine Veterinary Student Recognition Awards

Nine 3rd and 4th year veterinary students will receive this \$10,000 scholarship generously sponsored by Merck Animal Health. The 2026 recipients are:

- Caroline Berge, University of Wisconsin
- Faith Bergman, The Ohio State University
- Luke Daniels, Texas Tech University
- Derrick Goldammer, Kansas State University
- Jillian Grantz, Purdue University
- Alexandria Henderson, Cornell University
- Jonathon Macmillan, Atlantic Veterinary College
- Anna Spoth, Texas A&M University
- Alex Webster, Iowa State University

2026 Zoetis Foundation Scholarship

Veterinary students graduating in 2027 were eligible for the Zoetis Foundation Scholarship. This year, 16 students received the \$7,500 award which is generously funded by the Zoetis Foundation. The 2026 recipients are:

- Caroline Berge, University of Wisconsin
- Faith Bergman, The Ohio State University
- Raquel Dimond, Washington State University
- Kaden Eisenbraun, University of Minnesota
- Kaitlyn Forrest, North Carolina State University
- Emma Guasta, Cornell University
- Jaedyn Johnson, Texas Tech University
- Elpida Liakos, Iowa State University
- Kagan Migl, Texas Tech University
- Macy Moore, Iowa State University
- Allen Moulton, Washington State University
- Sarah Nafziger, University of Pennsylvania
- Nathan Schank, Lincoln Memorial University
- Elizabeth Skapley, Cornell University
- Destiny Smith, University of Minnesota
- Meghan Van Althuis, Cornell University

2026 James H. Bias Scholarship

James H. Bias was the first Black man to graduate from The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine in 1910. He went on to establish veterinary medicine as a critical component of the Tuskegee agricultural science department, and fostered a positive image of veterinarians in the community. This influential \$5,000 scholarship is named in honor of this historic trailblazer who opened many doors for veterinary students of color. The 2026 recipients are:

- Kourtnei Curry, North Carolina State University
- Joyce Lopez, The Ohio State University

Hunter Lang Dairy Welfare Scholarship

The purpose of the \$2,000 Hunter Lang Dairy Welfare Scholarship is to provide a one-time financial award to two veterinary students interested in dairy practice and animal welfare. This scholarship was created by the family of Dr. Hunter Lang who served on the AABP Board of Directors, AABP Animal Welfare Committee and as an AABP delegate in the AVMA House of Delegates. The 2026 recipients are:

- Rebecca Dorn, University of Minnesota
- Jillian Grantz, Purdue University

2026 Francis Welcome Future Dairy Practitioner Scholarship

The Francis Welcome Future Dairy Practitioner Scholarship supports superior 3rd year veterinary students who demonstrate the character, knowledge and potential to become outstanding dairy veterinarians upon graduation. This \$2,500 memorial scholarship was created by the Welcome family to honor the memory of AABP Honor Roll member Dr. Francis (Frank) Welcome. The 2026 recipients are:

- Chaiden Duitscher, Iowa State University
- Tessa Scheler, University of Minnesota

2026 Edwin Robertson Memorial Scholarship

The Edwin Robertson Memorial Scholarship, administered through the AABP Foundation, provides a \$1,000 award to two veterinary students to help fund a theriogenology, embryo transfer or advance reproductive techniques experience. The 2026 recipients are:

- Aaron Brown, University of Missouri
- Michaiah (Mikey) Galvin, Purdue University

Find more conference recaps and photos on the AABP Facebook page. #AABP2026

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Next up will be the 10th Annual AABP Recent Graduate Conference February 13-14, 2026 in Baton Rouge, La.

The 2026 60th AABP Annual Conference will be held September 16-18, 2026, in Louisville, Ky.

AABP is a membership-based, not-for-profit organization serving cattle veterinary medicine professionals across the United States, Canada and other countries. Visit <https://aabp.org> and like us on Facebook.

