

# Illinois Pork Producers Association

## Illinois Pork Ambassador/Intern

### 2010 Program Guidelines

#### **Objective:**

The purpose of the Illinois Pork Ambassador/Intern program is to provide an opportunity for a young person to serve for one year as the official youth representative of the Illinois Pork Producers Association and to work as a part of the IPPA staff during the summer of such year. The Ambassador/Intern program will be administered by the IPPA Youth Committee.

#### **Qualifications:**

The Illinois Pork Ambassador/Intern:

- Must be an Illinois resident between the ages of 18 and 23 (including students completing their senior year in high school).
- Must exhibit strong communication and leadership skills.
- Must exhibit a genuine interest in the Illinois pork industry.
- Recommended that he/she has attended Illinois Pork Leadership Institute.
- Must be a member (or become a member) of the Illinois Pork Producers Association.
- Must have reliable transportation and be willing to travel to out-of-state trainings and functions.
- Must submit a completed application per the below specifications.
- May only serve one year.

#### **Application Process:**

Candidates must submit the following to the IPPA office no later than Dec. 1, 2009:

- A completed application form.
- A current resume.
- A list of accomplishments, awards, and activities (may be included in resume).
- An essay on "What I will accomplish as the Illinois Pork Ambassador/Intern." (1-2 typed pages.)

Further, candidates will be asked to:

- Participate in an interview with the selection committee.
- Participate in a mock media interview with an agriculture media representative of the selection committee's choice.
- Write a three-to-five page essay or be prepared to discuss an assigned topic. (This will be assigned after the application has been accepted and before the interview process.)

#### **Responsibilities:**

The IPPA Ambassador/Intern will work in the following areas:

- **Producer Checkoff Programs** - The Ambassador/Intern will develop, coordinate, and raise awareness of producer checkoff programs such as Environmental Assurance, Transport Quality Assurance, and Pork Quality Assurance programs and will coordinate state activities with staff and producers in these areas. The Ambassador/Intern must also complete PQA Plus Certification by June 1, 2010.  
NOTE: A minimum of 250 hours of work on these program areas is required.

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- **Ambassador Program** - Ambassador/Intern will assist in coordinating county pork ambassadors in preparation for the Illinois Pork Leadership Institute and with their goals and projects as county ambassadors. Additionally, the Ambassador/Intern will communicate with county ambassadors throughout the year and write articles for the IPPA newsletter and other publications.
- **Illinois State Fair** - The Ambassador/Intern will coordinate the Swine Birthing Center at the Illinois State Fair and work with IPPA staff and members on other state fair-related project/program areas as assigned. The Ambassador/Intern will have a presence in the livestock barns during the hog show and may emcee the breed shows.
- **Promotion/Consumer Information** - Projects as assigned/requested in foodservice, retail, health-care, youth education, food safety, etc. These may include presentations, promotions, sampling events, attending trade shows, and/or cooking demonstrations.
- **Communication** - The Ambassador/Intern will communicate with producers via personal contacts and group meetings. The Ambassador/Intern will also write articles about their programs and projects for IPPA publications and the IPPA website. Additionally, the Ambassador/Intern will complete at least six media interviews (radio or newspaper) throughout the year.
- **Producer Education** - The Ambassador/Intern will assist in educating producers about current issues, new legislation and regulations, and IPPA programs and opportunities.
- **Summer Ag Institutes** - The Ambassador/Intern will coordinate all activities related to the Summer Ag Institutes (SAI) including gathering educational materials for teachers' kits and giving presentations on the pork industry to SAI participants around the state.

#### **Work Schedule:**

- The Ambassador/Intern will begin his or her duties immediately upon announcement at the Awards Banquet at the Illinois Pork Expo on February 2, 2010.
- During the school year, the Ambassador/Intern will work from their school/home on projects and programs as agreed upon by the Ambassador/Intern and the IPPA Youth Coordinator. Hours worked during the school year may vary.
- During the summer, the Ambassador/Intern is expected to work a five-day work week throughout the summer, under the direction of the IPPA staff, working 35-40 hours per week.

#### **Supervision:**

- The Ambassador/Intern will work with all IPPA staff and leaders. The IPPA Youth Coordinator will coordinate the Ambassador/Intern's schedule, projects and activities.
- The Ambassador/Intern will be required to submit a weekly activity report, as well as a summary report of activities, accomplishments, contacts made, experiences, and recommended future direction, upon completion of the internship.

#### **Compensation/Travel Allowance:**

- The Illinois Pork Ambassador/Intern will receive a \$2,000 scholarship from NPB (assuming the NPB program criteria stays the same as 2009) and a \$2,500 scholarship from IPPA **upon successful completion of the internship.**
- The Ambassador/Intern will also be allowed reimbursement of expenses (mileage, hotel, meals, etc.) related to all approved IPPA activities.
- Housing in Springfield is generally not covered, except during specific activities (i.e. state fair), however, a stipend of \$500 per month (during the three summer months) will be provided to assist with housing/travel expenses.
- The Ambassador/Intern is encouraged to investigate and seek credit hours for the internship through his or her school, in addition to the above scholarship awards.

# 2010 Illinois Pork Ambassador/Intern Application

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Sex: M F (circle one)  
Home Address \_\_\_\_\_ College Address (student) \_\_\_\_\_  
City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
County \_\_\_\_\_ Major \_\_\_\_\_  
Parents' names \_\_\_\_\_ College year \_\_\_\_\_  
Home email \_\_\_\_\_ School email \_\_\_\_\_  
Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_ Attended IPLI? \_\_\_\_\_ Year \_\_\_\_\_

*Please Note: Further information concerning this position will be mailed to the college address unless specified otherwise.*

**Applicant's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent or Guardian Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

## **Candidates must submit the following to the IPPA office no later than Dec. 1, 2009:**

- A completed application form.
- A current resume.
- A list of accomplishments, awards, activities (may be included in resume).
- An essay on "What I will accomplish as the Illinois Pork Ambassador/Intern." (1-2 typed pages.)

## **Candidates will also be asked to:**

- Participate in an interview with the selection committee.
- Participate in a mock media interview with an agriculture media representative of the selection committee's choice.
- Write a three-to-five page essay or be prepared to discuss an assigned topic. (This will be assigned after the application has been accepted and before the interview process.)

## **Deadline for application - December 1, 2009**

Please complete the application, prepare and attach the required information (listed above), and send to:

### **Illinois Pork Producers Association**

Attn: Mike Borgic

6411 S. Sixth St. Road, Springfield, IL 62712

Questions? Call: (217) 529-3100