Wisconsin Beginning in Ayrshire Grant

The Wisconsin Ayrshire Breeders' Association (WABA) is proud to sponsor an agricultural enthusiast grant program. The Wisconsin Beginning in Ayrshire Grant will help breeders establish themselves in this excellent breed of dairy cattle. This successful applicant will be awarded a $1,000 grant from the WABA, which will be used to help purchase an Ayrshire cow or heifer.

The goal of this program is to show existing dairy producers the profitability of Ayrshires in their milking herd. Ayrshire dairy cattle are an asset to every dairy farm. Ayrshires have many positive attributes that are profitable for all types of operations including: low somatic cell counts, higher pregnancy rates, trouble-free body composition, functional size, higher fat, and protein percent, compete well in grazing and free stall setups, and many other desirable attributes.

Applicants for this grant can have owned Ayrshires in the past and be looking to expand their herd or be interested in the breed and looking to buy their first animal. As stated, the successful applicant will be awarded a $1,000 grant from WABA. This money will be given as a certificate, which can be redeemed with the purchase of animal(s) at the annual **Wisconsin Ayrshire Spring sale. This year, the sale will be held April 11, 2026, at Horst Stables in Thorp, WI.**

The winner of this grant will also be given one-year free membership to WABA, and assistance and information in the selection of their sale purchase. The grant winner will be announced at the annual meeting March 7, 2026, in Tomah. **Winners must be present at the annual meeting.** Their grant money will be rebated after successful purchase of an animal at the Wisconsin Ayrshire Spring Sale in April.

To qualify for this grant, a person must fulfill these stipulations:

- Actively engage in farming
- Age 19 or older
- Interested in the Ayrshire Breed
- Wisconsin resident
- Complete and submit an application.
- Provide two references, professional and personal.
- Attend the Wisconsin Ayrshire Spring Sale

Applicants not awarded in the past are encouraged to reapply.

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Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone Number: _____ Age: _____

Tell us about yourself (your farm, family, and activities)

What makes you interested in Ayrshires?

What changes/growth would you like to see on your farm?

If you were awarded this grant, what would you do with your Ayrshire herd?

What support would you like from the Wisconsin Ayrshire Breeders Association?

Please also provide two references (name and phone number): one personal or neighbor, and the other professional (veterinarian or nutritionist)

Person Reference: _____ Phone Number: _____

Professional Reference: _____ Phone Number: _____

Please send applications by **February 1, 2026,** to:

Sarah Kolaske

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