

2017 Young Shepherds Award Application

The West Virginia Sheep and Goat Breeders Association with the support of The West Virginia Department of Agriculture have established funds to assist youth in becoming future West Virginia Shepherds. The intent is to develop starter flocks, develop breeding skills and increase involvement in their abilities of raising breeding sheep and goats.

Four *one thousand dollar* awards will be given to **Four** individuals between the ages of **9 and 21 years to purchase breeding sheep or goats.** Interested applicants should meet the requirements below and submit the completed application by April 15th allowing for May 1st judging. Good Luck to all young agriculturalists in your endeavors.

Award Requirements:

- Applicants must be between the ages of 9 and 21. All applicants must reside in West Virginia.
- Applicant must appoint a designated mentor either a (parent, relative, neighbor, FFA and/or 4-H leader, or a fellow sheep or goat breeder).
- Applicant must consider breeding animals from the West Virginia Sheep and Goat Breeders sponsored sales. The intent being to start or extend the applicants own flock.
- The award must be used within two years of the presentation.

Application Process:

- Complete the attached application.
- A selection committee comprised of Sheep and Goat Breeders will judge the application.
- Winners of the award will be announced prior to the West Virginia Sheep and Goat Sale on Saturday, June 3rd, 2017.
- Attach one letter of recommendation from a 4-H or FFA leader testifying to your ability to build a sheep flock or goat herd.

Submit completed application forms to the address below or e-mail (GrantCountyExtension@mail.wvu.edu). All applications need to be **postmarked no later than April 15th, 2017.**

Brad Smith
WVU Grant County Extension
114 North Grove Street
Petersburg, WV 26847

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(Please fill out all blanks)

Name: _____ Age: _____

Date of Birth: _____ County: _____

Mentor: _____

Home Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

E-mail Address: _____

Phone: _____ Years of 4-H and FFA Experience _____

School Currently Attending: _____

Year of HS Graduation: _____

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parents Signature : _____ (If under 18)

Mentors Signature: _____

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Please answer the following questions completely. Add additional pages as needed for questions.

1.) Begin by letting us know why you are interested in raising sheep or goats? (20 points)

2.) Tell us about the experiences you have learned from working with livestock and include your 4-H and FFA projects. (20 points)

3.) If you receive this award What type of sheep or goats do you want to purchase and why you have chosen this breed? (Females, Male, Purebred, Commercial, Wether Sires/Dams, yearlings, lambs or Meat Goats, kids?) (20 points)

4.) What are your educational plans and career goals? (15 points)

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5.) Pick **ONE** of the two following topics to write about and explain in 100-300 words . (25 points)

(5-1) Looking towards the future explain and describe how you might be involved in the sheep and goat industry in West Virginia.

(5-2) What values will owning your sheep or goats instill in you?