

Center Of Excellence

Scholarship/Internship Program
Summer 2025



Sponsored by

Midwest Poultry Consortium



Photo courtesy of Hy-Line International

Scholarship Application Deadline - December 4, 2024

The Midwest Poultry Consortium's Center of Excellence Scholarship/Internship Program

The Midwest Poultry Consortium's Center of Excellence Scholarship/Internship (COE) Program offers strong, research-based poultry science education in a welcoming, friendly environment. Faculty and industry members throughout our participating states collaborate to provide students with a unique educational experience and employment opportunities. Courses are taught at one of our participating universities, with credits transferring to the student's home university.

The COE offers 18 poultry science credits in two six-week summer sessions. Laboratory training and industry field trips complement interactive lectures and discussions. This series of courses can combine with a number of majors from your home university (e.g., Ag Engineering, Animal Science, Food Science, Veterinary Science, Ag Economics, Marketing, Biology) to expand opportunities for a rewarding career in the poultry industry.

Nationally Recognized Faculty

Courses are prepared and taught by outstanding faculty from participating universities, related agencies, and experienced poultry industry representatives. The six courses are offered in a sequence of Summer Sessions I and II.

Wednesday Night Forums

On Wednesday evenings, representatives from the poultry industry meet with students. Students are able to interact with industry leaders, learn more about the poultry industry, and explore future internship and career opportunities. Student attendance is required.

Research Labs and Instructional Support

Students will utilize on-campus laboratories to facilitate class exercises. Student laboratories are furnished with appropriate electronic teaching aids and individual student microscopes equipped with video screen monitors. Lecture halls are equipped with modern audio/visual technology.

Valuable Industry Internships

The Midwest Poultry Consortium coordinates internships and on-the-job opportunities for COE students. Internships will fit into the academic timetable for each participating university and will complement the summer's academic courses. Students take courses for six weeks and work in poultry-related internships for at least six weeks following classes.

What are COE Graduates Saying Now?



"During COE, I gained valuable knowledge and practical skills that boosted my understanding of poultry farming. I gained in-depth knowledge about poultry health, feeding, and leadership to lead my team. COE has empowered me to pursue my passion for poultry farming and set me on a path towards success."

Alexis Hakizimana

***Versova/Willamette Egg Farm - Pullet & Layer Manager
Starting Position: Pullet Manager
COE Class of 2021***



"COE provided me a skill set that is extremely valuable to the poultry industry and directly pertains to my current career. I am grateful for the special opportunities and connections this program offered."

Paige Williams

***Rose Acre Farms - Assistant Production Manager
Starting Position: Production Manager Trainee
COE Class of 2021-2022***

Gain the Added Advantage

Daily Lecture: Morning Session, Monday - Friday

Daily Lab: Afternoon Session, Monday - Friday

SUMMER SESSION I

SUMMER SESSION II

This is the curriculum for Summer Session I and II (prerequisite: college level chemistry and/or biology course). Course offerings:

Poultry Products Technology, 3 cr.

*May 19 - May 30, 2025**

Explores procurement, processing, and distribution of poultry meat, eggs, and further processed products. Composition, quality measurements, preservation, and economics are related to the biochemistry, microbiology, and technology involved in current processing methods.

Avian Physiology, 3 cr.

*June 2 - June 13, 2025**

Introduces systemic physiology of avian species with emphasis on functions related to production; included are endocrine and neural control, special senses, cognition and behavior, thermoregulation, and the major organ systems (cardiovascular, muscular, skeletal, respiratory, renal, and reproductive).

Breeder Flock and Hatchery Management, 3 cr.

*June 16 - June 27, 2025**

Focuses on the production of high quality day-old chicks and poults and the management factors involved with breeder flocks, incubation, and embryology. Aspects of operating a hatchery are also included. Field trip(s) planned.

Poultry Nutrition, 3 cr.

*May 19 - May 30, 2025**

Develops a conceptual understanding of nutrient requirements for optimal growth and production of commercial poultry species. The use of computer programming for feed formulation is emphasized.

Avian Health, 3 cr.

*June 2 - June 13, 2025**

Trains students to identify diseases that commonly plague poultry. Instruction on animal well-being, transport regulations, disease surveillance, and methods of disinfection and sanitation are included. Field trip(s) planned.

Poultry Enterprise Management, 3 cr.

*June 16 - June 27, 2025**

Offers current poultry management priorities presented by industry professionals. Segments of poultry business management that will be featured include: processing plant, feed milling, production complex, flock service personnel, transportation, construction of large poultry barns, etc.

Anticipated dates. Classes are planned to be held at Iowa State University. These are accelerated courses; therefore, **daily attendance is required. Curriculum subject to change.*

Average salary for the starting positions below is \$63,750 plus benefits!



"The amount of knowledge and number of networking connections I gained in just one summer of COE is immeasurable. I was lead to a perfect career path by the COE faculty and staff, and my internship mentors."

Kathryn Berta

*Pilgrim's - Leg Quarters Supervisor
Starting Position: Plant Operations Management Trainee
COE Class of 2022*



"I owe much of my industry success thus far to the COE program. I am fortunate to have gained knowledge from the classes and internships and to have made many industry connections. I simply would not be where I am without the COE experience!"

Isaac Harreld

*Hy-Line North America - Flock Service Manager
COE Class of 2022-2023*

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 Ridley Feed Ingredients
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 Sonstegard Foods
 South Dakota Poultry Industries Assn.
 Sparboe
 StoneX Group
 Summit
 Sunrise Acres Egg Farms
 Sure Conveyors
 Tigges, Kent
 Trillium Farm Holdings, LLC
 Turkey Valley Farms
 United Egg Producers
 University of Florida
 University of Minnesota
 University of Nebraska-Lincoln
 VAL-CO
 VALO BioMedia North America, LLC
 Vaxinova
 Vencomatic North America
 Veterinary Service Inc. (VSI)
 Wabash Valley Produce
 Weaver Brothers Inc.
 West Liberty Foods
 Wisconsin Poultry & Egg Ind. Assn.
 Xgenex
 Zoetis

What's In It For You?



- **Education & Internships**
- **Networking**
- **Employment Opportunities**
- **Lifelong Friends**
- **A GREAT Summer!**



How Do I Apply?

Online Application

Submit an application online at mwpoultry.org; only online applications will be accepted. Application on the following two pages is for reference only.

Transcript

Send an official transcript directly from the Registrar's Office to the MPC office; a passing college level chemistry and/or biology grade is a prerequisite (only transcripts directly from the Registrar are accepted).

Statement of Interest

In order to qualify for this scholarship, you must submit a **statement of interest** explaining why you would like to be accepted into the COE Scholarship/Internship Program and how the COE will benefit your career plans (no longer than one page, 12 pt. font, 1-inch margins, double spaced).

Resume/Internship Interest

Internship placements are determined according to experience and areas of interest. Scholarship preference will be given to applicants willing to complete an internship which will be assigned by MPC and provided by one of the MPC sponsor companies (please note: Internship Fulfillment Policy on following page).

Admission

Scholarship selection is based on a combination of the following criteria: faculty recommendation, academic record, quality of application, and statement of interest. Preference is given to those students enrolling in three consecutive courses per session and those willing to complete an internship. Phone interviews will be conducted in December. Full and partial scholarships will be awarded by January 22.

"Those were the best two summers I had in my college career!" - COE graduate

Apply online at mwpoultry.org

Submit your application for an opportunity to be part of COE 2025!



Midwest Poultry Consortium Center Of Excellence Scholarship Program

2025 Application *(only online applications are accepted: mwpoultry.org)*

Name: _____ Date: _____
(First, Middle, Last)

Mailing Address (at school): _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

School Email: _____ School Phone: _____

Home Email: _____ Cell Phone: _____

Home Mailing Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Are you a U.S. resident? ☐ Yes ☐ No University currently attending: _____

Current major(s) and minor(s): _____

Cumulative GPA: _____ (Official transcript required - it is your responsibility to have your transcript forwarded to MPC.)

Have you taken/passed a college level chemistry and/or biology course?: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Current college level: ☐ Freshman ☐ Sophomore ☐ Junior ☐ Senior ☐ Graduate Student ☐ Returning Adult

Expected graduation date: _____ Degree level: _____

Are you interested in a summer internship(s)? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, dates available: _____

Internship Fulfillment Policy: Full scholarships require completion of an internship/job. Preference is given to applicants willing to complete an internship for partial scholarships. **If you are awarded a full scholarship and you indicated "yes" you are committing yourself to a 2025 summer internship** assigned by MPC and provided by one of the Midwest Poultry Consortium's sponsor companies. **If you mark "yes" but do not complete an internship, your scholarship will be revoked and you will be responsible for your tuition.** Internships are conducted during the summer, following the COE classes. Students completing an internship must have a valid driver's license and access to a vehicle.

List titles of most recent college-level courses taken in the following areas:

Biology: _____

Animal Sciences/Poultry Science: _____

Chemistry: _____

Food Science: _____

Nutrition: _____

Physiology: _____

Economics/Business/Computer Science: _____

Indicate the courses you plan to take at the Center of Excellence in **2025 (preference is given to those students enrolling in three consecutive courses per session; prerequisite: college level chemistry and/or biology course)**. You may only take up to three classes a summer. All classes must be within the same session:

Summer Session I

- ☐ Poultry Products Technology - 3 cr.
May 19 - May 30, 2025*
- ☐ Avian Physiology - 3 cr.
June 2 - June 13, 2025*
- ☐ Breeder Flock and Hatchery Management - 3 cr.
June 16 - June 27, 2025*

Summer Session II

- ☐ Poultry Nutrition - 3 cr.
May 19 - May 30, 2025*
- ☐ Avian Health - 3 cr.
June 2 - June 13, 2025*
- ☐ Poultry Enterprise Management - 3 cr.
June 16 - June 27, 2025*

Anticipated dates. Classes are planned to be held at Iowa State University. These are accelerated courses; therefore, **daily attendance is required.*

Housing: On-campus housing is an important part of the educational experience and is strongly encouraged. Housing is included with scholarship. If accepted, do you need on-campus housing? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Faculty Reference: A faculty reference is required. Please provide the name and email address of the faculty member you have contacted as your reference. MPC will send a reference email to the faculty member listed below. You may use any faculty member as a reference (an Animal Science faculty member is suggested).

Faculty Name

Faculty Email

Required Attachments/Enclosures

Statement of Interest: In order to qualify for this scholarship, you must submit a short **statement of interest** explaining why you would like to be accepted into the Center of Excellence Scholarship/Internship Program and how the COE might benefit your career plans (no longer than one page, 12 pt. font, 1-inch margins, double spaced).

Resume: Internship placements will be assigned by MPC staff according to availability, experience, and areas of interest.

Submit your online application *no later than December 4, 2024*, to be considered for the COE.

By submitting your application, you certify the information provided is accurate.

FOR REFERENCE ONLY

Student Signature

Date

APPLY ONLINE

Phone interviews will be conducted in December. Applications will be reviewed by the Screening Committee. Students awarded scholarships will receive acceptance letters by January 22.

If you are accepted into the Center of Excellence Scholarship/Internship Program, you will be required to sign a Code of Conduct and an Internship Fulfillment Policy contract.

Midwest Poultry Consortium

4630 Churchill Street, # 1 • St. Paul, MN 55126

Phone: 651.766.8118 • Fax: 651.638.0756

mpc@mwppoultry.org • mwppoultry.org

By the Numbers ...

COE is a unique program guiding students through recruitment, education, internship, employment, and networking opportunities in the poultry industry.

Education Statistics

- Since its inception, MPC has sent 596 students through the COE. Of those, 277 students have earned their poultry emphasis by completing both years.
- The COE boasts nationally recognized experts from universities and related agencies, as well as poultry industry representatives, who come together for a one-of-a-kind educational experience.
- In 2024, there were 19 faculty members and 35 students. The student-faculty ratio and one-on-one attention are exceptional.

| | | Breakdown of COE Students | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---------------|------------------------|---------------------------|----|----|----|-----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|-----|------|----|--------|---|-----|
| Year | # of Full Scholarships | Other | FL | IA | IL | IN | KS | MI | MN | MO | NE | ND | OH | SD | UWM | UWRF | * | Total: | | |
| 2024 | 23 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 35 |
| 2023 | 23 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 30 |
| 2022 | 18 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 26 |
| 2021 | 22 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 30 |
| 2020 | 22 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 29 |
| 2019 | 23 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 36 |
| 2018 | 25 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 35 |
| 2017 | 30 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 36 |
| 2016 | 27 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 29 |
| 2015 | 27 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 5 | | | 32 |
| 2014 | 28 | 0 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 7 | | | 35 |
| 2013 | 29 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 6 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 3 | 5 | | | 34 |
| 2012 | 26 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 7 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 2 | 5 | 1 | | | 27 |
| 2011 | 28 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 0 | | | 28 |
| 2010 | 27 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 0 | | | 27 |
| 2009 | 29 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 0 | | | 29 |
| 2008 | 29 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 1 | 4 | 1 | 3 | 3 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 3 | 1 | | | 30 |
| 2007 | 30 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 1 | | | 31 |
| 2006 | 39 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 9 | 1 | 5 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 0 | | | 39 |
| 2005 | 30 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 2 | 0 | | | 30 |
| 2004 | 25 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 0 | | | 25 |
| 2003 | 23 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 4 | 2 | 2 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 4 | 0 | 5 | 0 | 0 | | | 23 |
| 2002 | 31 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 3 | 3 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 9 | 0 | 0 | | | 31 |
| 2001 | 32 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 6 | 4 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 1 | 0 | | | 32 |
| 2000 | 36 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 4 | 12 | 2 | 0 | | | 36 |
| 1999 | 26 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 6 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 9 | 1 | 0 | | | 26 |
| 1998 | 22 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | 3 | 0 | 3 | 2 | 0 | | | 22 |
| 1997 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 1 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 5 | 1 | 10 | 3 | 0 | | | 29 |
| 1996 | 21 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 0 | | | 21 |
| Total: | | 18 | 42 | 86 | 36 | 113 | 48 | 87 | 70 | 32 | 31 | 27 | 68 | 37 | 107 | 50 | 22 | | | 873 |

*Students who paid their own tuition to attend COE classes or sponsor employed students.
Students receiving a partial scholarship to attend COE classes.

Total COE Students: 596
Students who completed both years: 277

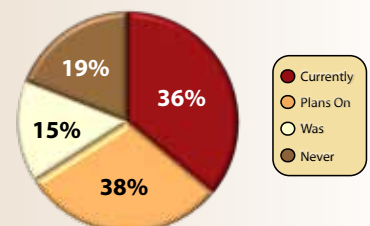
Internship Statistics

- In 2024, 27 paid industry internships were coordinated with MPC sponsor companies for COE students. Students received industry training to complement the knowledge gained from COE classes and labs.
- 85% of COE graduates said COE provided professional connections they remain in contact with today.**

Job Statistics

- 84% of students said the COE experience provided skills beneficial to their careers.**
- 81% of COE students are now, plan on, or were employed in the poultry industry.**
- Poultry is a growing industry offering great career potential with opportunities in farm management, processing, veterinary medicine, research and development, feed and nutrition, welfare, engineering, sales and marketing, public policy, consumer education, and more.

Current Poultry Employment Status



**From the 5-year student survey done in 2023.

Don't let this opportunity pass you by ... apply to be part of the 2025 COE class today!

Application

Students interested in the COE must complete an online application at mwpoultry.org. The enclosed application is for reference only.

Statement of Interest

In order to qualify for this scholarship, you must submit a *statement of interest* explaining why you would like to be accepted into the COE and how the COE might benefit your career plans (no longer than one page, 12 pt. font, 1-inch margins, double spaced).

Admission

A screening committee evaluates the applications and selection is based on a combination of the following criteria: faculty recommendation, academic record, quality of application, and statement of interest. Preference is given to those students enrolling in three consecutive courses per session and those willing to complete an internship. Students accepted into the COE will be notified by January 22 and will be sent information to complete for enrollment in summer classes.

Tuition and Per Credit Fees

If you are awarded a COE scholarship (full or partial), the Midwest Poultry Consortium pays your tuition and/or on-campus housing. Tuition includes access to many on-campus services.

On-Campus Housing

On-campus housing is strongly encouraged as it is an important part of this educational experience. On-campus housing is included in all scholarships.

Recreation

Enjoy free-time with your classmates in the evenings and on weekends. Students have enjoyed day trips, barbecues, recreational athletics, and more.



PARTICIPATING STATES



Midwest Poultry Consortium

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Final application deadline is

December 4, 2024.

Online applications only.