



The Cooperative Advantage

When it comes to making economic and charitable contributions to their communities, the nation's more than 40,000 cooperative businesses are industry leaders, setting the bar high for other types of businesses. Being owned largely by people who live and work in the communities they serve gives cooperatives a different perspective from businesses owned by distant investors.

These co-ops are motivated to serve their members, not outside investors. Nationwide these 40,000 cooperative businesses are sometimes an overlooked but thriving economic sector. Co-ops come in all shapes and sizes, and they operate in virtually every industry and range in size from small storefronts to Fortune 500 companies.

From the agricultural standpoint, nearly 3,000 farmer cooperatives account for 300,000 jobs nationwide and a total payroll of more than \$8 billion. Some of the well-known farmer cooperatives include SunKist, Land O'Lakes, CHS (Cenex Harvest States), Farm Credit Services of America, and AGP.

In Nebraska, farmer-owned cooperatives also contribute heavily to the economy of our state. For instance:

57 local supply/marketing co-ops operating:	\$55.7 million net savings generated by local co-ops
57 headquarter locations	\$1.5 billion total assets of co-ops
375 branch locations in Nebraska	4,122 cooperative employees (full and part-time)
34 branch locations out of state	\$149.6 million employee payroll
11 regional co-ops operating in Nebraska	\$83.2 million investment in new equipment and facilities in past year
58,982 total voting members of co-ops	\$10.6 million equity/estate redemption in past year
\$3.4 billion total sales of local supply/marketing co-ops	

As you can see, cooperatives in Nebraska are vital to our economy. There are many outstanding career opportunities for young people wishing to pursue a career in the rural portions of our state. The Nebraska Cooperative Council represents these businesses that are focused on production agriculture, and we encourage you to explore what could be a very rewarding career in one of Nebraska's farmer-owned cooperatives. Then you too will understand The Cooperative Advantage.

Nebraska Cooperative Council Education Foundation

Scholarship Program

in Honor of Dr. Michael S. Turner

FOR THE 2008-09 ACADEMIC YEAR...

- Up to six \$800 scholarships to students at the UNL College of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources (CASNR). One scholarship will be awarded to an incoming student and the balance to upperclass students.
- One \$600 scholarship to a student at the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture (NCTA) at Curtis.
- One \$600 scholarship to an upperclass student at Chadron State College.

UNL STUDENTS:

- Must be accepted as a student in the CASNR majoring in agricultural business or agricultural economics
- Upperclass students must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above
- Incoming students must have demonstrated academic excellence as determined by UNL from SAT/ACT scores

NCTA STUDENT:

- Must be first- or second-year students majoring in business/management or ag production systems with the business option
- Second-year students must have achieved a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above
- First-year students must have demonstrated academic excellence as determined by NCTA from SAT/ACT scores

CHADRON STATE STUDENT:

- Must have achieved sophomore, junior or senior class standing with a major or minor in agribusiness
- Must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or above

SELECTION...

Scholarship Committees at the institutions will select recipients based on criteria established for each scholarship.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS...

Scholarships will be awarded to sons/daughters of a parent/legal guardian who has been an active member, director, or employee for at least the prior three (3) years of a cooperative which has been a member in good standing of the Council for the past five (5) years. Scholarship(s) will be awarded without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, national origin, or disability.

TO APPLY...

Complete the application form on the reverse and forward it to the appropriate institution by **April 15, 2008**. Additional forms, as well as an electronic version, are available on the NCC website at www.nebr.coop or by calling the NCC office at 402/475-6555.





Nebraska Cooperative Council Education Foundation
SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM
 IN HONOR OF MICHAEL S. TURNER

2008-09 APPLICATION FORM

APPLICATION DEADLINE: APRIL 15, 2008

[An electronic version of this form is available at www.nebr.coop]

Student Name: _____ College Student ID#: _____

Declared Major/Minor: _____

Class Status for 08/09 Academic Year (circle one):

UNL: FR SO JR SR **NCTA:** 1st Year 2nd Year **Chadron:** SO JR SR

Permanent Address (Street, City, St, Zip): _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Can you be reached at your permanent address/phone/email over the summer? Yes No
 If no, please give summer address/phone/email below:

Parents/Legal Guardians' Name: _____

Parents/Legal Guardians' Address (Street, City, St, Zip): _____

Name and Location of Local Cooperative Membership: _____ # of Years

Name and Town of Hometown Newspaper: _____

High School Attended: _____

Leadership Activities/Outstanding Achievements in High School and/or College (membership and offices held in organizations, awards, honor societies, etc) [Attach a separate sheet of paper if needed.]

Career Plans:

Return completed application forms to the appropriate institution below by **April 15, 2008**:

Dann Husmann, Assoc Dean College of Ag Sciences & Nat'l Res PO Box 830702 UNL East Campus Lincoln, NE 68583-0702 FAX: 402/472-7911 Email: dhusmann2@unl.edu	Mary Ann Mercer, Financial Aid NE College of Technical Agriculture RR 3 Box 23A Curtis, NE 69025-9525 Fax: 308/367-5203 Email: mmercer1@unl.edu	Sherry Douglas, Financial Aid Chadron State College 1000 Main Street Chadron, NE 69337 Fax: 308/432-6229 Email: sdouglas@csc.edu
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If you have questions about the scholarship program, please contact Ed or Deb at the Nebraska Cooperative Council (ph: 402/475-6555, email: edw@nebr.coop or debm@nebr.coop)