

American Milking Shorthorn Junior Society *Junior Australian Exchange Program Information*

The Junior Australian Exchange Program is a program that connects American Milking Shorthorn Junior Society Members with our sister breed, the Australian Illawarra. This program sends one AMSJS member to Australia for approximately one month. While on this trip the selected applicant will stay on several different family farms, and perform various duties.

What to Expect:

- Be prepared to work. This is not an all pleasure trip.
- Expect to travel often, and in many ways.
- Your hosting families will provide most necessities. (food, shelter, water, etc.)
- You will be caring for and handling animals. A knowledge in all areas of the dairy industry is a must.

What to Pack:

- Pack clothes corresponding with the time of year you will be traveling and at least one pair of dress clothes.
- Pack as light as possible. No more than 2 bags of luggage.
- Essential toiletries. (toothbrush, toothpaste, etc.)
- Camera.
- Small souvenirs to give to hosting families.
- Approx. \$500 spending money.

Where you will go:

- Travel will mostly be in the southern, eastern, and northern parts of Australia.
- Your final itinerary will be set prior to departure.

Junior Australian Exchange Program Rules & Application

Each candidate must be in good standing of a state Junior Milking Shorthorn Breeder's Association, if there is one in their state; and be an active junior member of the American Milking Shorthorn Junior Society for a minimum of 2 years. Active includes entering in national and/or local competitions, attending meetings, attending conventions, and being active in meetings and fundraisers.

1. A candidate must be single and between the ages of 18 and 21 when they apply. Thus being able to attend when they are 22.
2. Each candidate must enter on an official entry blank, signed by his or her parent or guardian.
3. Each candidate is responsible for his or her own expenses in connection with the contest.
4. Each candidate must sign a behavior contract. This contract will be explained in detail by junior officers prior to being interviewed.
5. Upon winning, the exchange student is expected to provide the following information during and after the trip:
 - a. Maintain a daily journal of activities while abroad
 - b. Submit an article for the Junior page of the Milking Shorthorn Journal upon your return.
 - c. Take pictures while abroad
 - d. Present a PowerPoint presentation during the following year's National Shorthorn Convention to the membership.
 - e. Prepare a photo album for the American Milking Shorthorn Society booth at World Dairy Expo to be on display and visit with attendees about the trip if possible.
6. A committee of three or more judges (along with a past exchange program winner) will be selected by the state hosting the National Convention and the junior advisors. Examples for judges include: current AMSS Board Members; attending Milking Shorthorn breeders; local agricultural business personnel; and local extension employees.
 - a. These interviews will be conducted at the National Convention.
 - b. Applicant must be present to interview.
 - c. Candidates are judged on maturity, poise, personal appearance, general intelligence, speaking ability, knowledge and experience with Milking Shorthorns and general dairy industry knowledge. The winner will be announced at the banquet.
 - d. The trip will be approximately a month in length. The month of the trip is flexible depending on the candidate.
7. The AMSJS will pay \$1,500 towards the airline transportation. The decision to send a junior member to Australia will be left up to the judges' discretion. A completed application and signed behavior contract for the program must be postmarked by **MAY 15TH of the current** year submitted to:

American Milking Shorthorn Society
800 Pleasant Street
Beloit, WI 53511

Milking Shorthorn Junior Australian Exchange Program Application Form

Name _____ DOB _____

Address _____

Home Phone _____ Cell Phone _____ Email _____

Parent or Guardian(s) _____

Address (if different) _____

Years in 4-H _____ Years in FFA _____ Project area _____

Name of School and/or Current Employment _____

Year _____ Major _____

Farm Name _____

In your own words, write as much as you feel necessary in response to the following questions (additional pages may be added)

1. Summarize your extra-curricular activities (school, church, community, etc.)
2. Outline your association and involvement with the Milking Shorthorn Junior Society and how you have been involved with your own herd.
3. Explain how you have benefited from your experiences with Milking Shorthorns.
4. Explain why you would like to travel as an exchange student to Australia and what do you feel you could learn from this experience.
5. What are your future plans?
6. Where do you feel the future of the dairy industry is headed?
7. Include signed behavior contract form.

Date _____ Signature of Applicant _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian _____

RETURN TO: AMSS, 800 Pleasant Street, Beloit, WI 53511 by MAY 15TH of current year.

American Milking Shorthorn Junior Society

Junior Australian Exchange Program Behavioral Agreement

Being selected to represent the American Milking Shorthorn Junior Society in the Junior Australian Exchange Program is a privilege and should be treated as such. Any behavior deemed detrimental to the American Milking Shorthorn Junior Society and/or the American Milking Shorthorn Society will not be tolerated. A violation of the terms presented in this agreement will subject the applicant to one or more of the reprimands listed below.

1. Forfeiting the remaining half of your financial assistance.
2. Writing of formal apology letters to all parties involved.
3. In severe cases the trip may be terminated, and the participant required to return home at his/her own expense.

If selected to represent the American Milking Shorthorn Junior Society in the Junior Australian Exchange Program I, _____, agree to, and fully understand, the following:

1. This program is a privilege which can be revoked at any time.
2. I will conduct myself in a respectable fashion, and perform all duties requested of me by hosting parties.
3. I **will not** behave in any way, or participate in any activities, that reflect on the American Milking Shorthorn Junior Society, American Milking Shorthorn Society or any of their affiliates, in a harmful way.
4. Actions that will be deemed unacceptable include, *but is not limited to*, the following:
 - 4a. Any action that results in involvement of law enforcement officials.
 - 4b. Any action that violates local, state, or national laws.
 - 4c. Conducting yourself in a way which causes embarrassment to a hosting party.
 - 4d. Disrespecting a hosting party in any way.

Judgment of adherence to these terms, and the selection of reprimands, will be up to the sole discretion of the Junior Officer Team, Junior Advisors, and the Senior Executive Committee.

(Applicant Signature)

(Junior Officer Signature)