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North American Renderers Association Launches First-Ever NARA Rendering Scholarship in Celebration of National Rendering Day

ALEXANDRIA, VA, April 21, 2025 – In celebration of the 3rd annual National Rendering Day, the North American Renderers Association (NARA) is proud to announce the launch of its first-ever scholarship, the NARA Rendering Scholarship, to be awarded to one student in the amount of \$2,500. This scholarship was established to recognize and support students who demonstrate an interest in the vital role of rendering, this milestone initiative is designed to inspire the next generation of leaders passionate about sustainability, agriculture, animal nutrition, and the circular economy.

[Click here for full details of the scholarship.](#)

[Click here to download the scholarship application.](#)

Rendering is one of the most impactful yet often overlooked processes in the agricultural supply chain. It diverts millions of tons of byproducts from landfills each year, supports American farmers, contributes to safe and nutritious animal feed and pet food, and significantly reduces environmental impact. With the creation of this scholarship, NARA hopes to shine a light on the vital role rendering plays in building a more sustainable future—and to encourage young leaders to engage with this essential industry.

"We're thrilled to announce NARA's first official scholarship as part of this year's National Rendering Day," said Anna Carlson, Vice President of Communications at NARA. "This initiative reflects our deep commitment to education, sustainability, and to investing in the future of rendering."

Scholarship Details

The NARA Rendering Scholarship is open to all high school or college students accepted to or currently enrolled in a college, university, or trade school. While applicants from all disciplines are welcome, those studying agriculture, environmental science, animal science, food systems, or sustainability-related fields are especially encouraged to apply.

Applicants must submit:

- A completed application form (available upon request and at www.nara.org)
- A current transcript
- Proof of enrollment or acceptance
- A 500-word essay responding to the prompt:
"Why is rendering important in today's world?"

The deadline for all application materials is **July 28, 2025**. Submissions must be emailed as a single PDF file to **acarlson@nara.org** with the subject line **"NARA Rendering Scholarship."**

To request the mailing address to send an application and all documents, or for more information please email acarlson@nara.org. *All mailed applications must be received by the deadline.*

About National Rendering Day

National Rendering Day is an annual event established to raise awareness of the rendering industry's environmental and economic contributions. Now in its third year, it celebrates the science, sustainability, and innovation behind rendering - a practice that turns unused animal materials into valuable products. Observed every April 21st, this National Day recognizes the role of agricultural rendering in reducing food waste and promoting sustainability, while also honoring the dedicated individuals in the rendering industry. The inaugural celebration took place on April 21, 2023, when NARA and National Day Calendar issued a [proclamation](#) officially designating the date. April 21st was intentionally selected to fall just before Earth Day, symbolizing the rendering industry's critical contributions to environmental protection and the circular economy.

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About the North American Renderers Association

The North American Renderers Association (NARA) represents the interests of the North American rendering industry to regulatory and other governmental agencies, promotes the greater use of animal byproducts, and fosters the opening and expansion of trade between foreign buyers and North American exporters. In addition to its U.S.-based headquarters, the association maintains offices and market consultants in strategic locations around the world. NARA publishes a bi-monthly trade magazine, *Render*. For more information, visit www.nara.org.