

APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE FOR VETERINARY STUDENT LOANS



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE April 2, 2020

CONTACT: Tasha Bunting

Associate Director of Commodities & Livestock Programs

Illinois Farm Bureau®

(309) 557-2993 | tbunting@ilfb.org

BLOOMINGTON – Illinois Farm Bureau® (IFB) is accepting applications for its Illinois Veterinary Education and Training (IVET) loan program. Loans are available to students attending any accredited college of veterinary medicine in the U.S. and who are focused on Illinois food animal medicine.

The Illinois Veterinary Education Training (IVET) Program helps offset the high cost of veterinary education. The program loans up to \$40,000 to as many as three veterinary students each year. Loans are made over a period of 2-3 years. IVET awards recipients a \$1,500 stipend during their fourth year in school to help pay expenses associated with clinical rotations. Loans are repaid over five years, during which graduates must commit to working in a food animal practice that services Illinois livestock producers.

"Illinois Farm Bureau encourages veterinary students to pursue a career in caring for food animals. To succeed, farmers need the services of a food-animal veterinarian to help them care for their beef cattle, swine, sheep, and poultry," said Tasha Bunting, Associate Director of Commodities & Livestock Programs, IFB. "It's an opportunity to help bring a calf into the world and share in the love that farmers have for their animals."

Applications are due May 15, 2020, and can be found online at www.ilfb.org/IVET. The selection committee will interview applicants in spring 2020 at the IAA building in Bloomington, IL. Successful applicants will be notified by mail.

IFB established IVET in 2005. Since then, the organization has awarded more than \$430,000 to 24 veterinary students who focus on caring for food animals in Illinois.

The Illinois Farm Bureau is a member of the American Farm Bureau Federation, a national organization of farmers and ranchers. Founded in 1916, IFB is a non-profit, membership organization directed by farmers who join through their county Farm Bureau. IFB has a total membership of 396,000 and a voting membership of more than 79,000. IFB represents three out of four Illinois farmers.