2026 Agricultural Injury Prevention Youth Grant

Created in 1990, Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH) is funded by the Iowa Legislature. The mission of I-CASH is to lead statewide partnerships that promote agricultural safety and health.
Each year I-CASH designates funds for community grants to youth aimed at the prevention of farm-related injury.

- $800 grants are available to decrease the risk of illness or injury due to farm hazard exposure. Additional funding for 2026 projects is provided by the CHS Foundation.
- Applications will be reviewed by members of the I-CASH advisory board. Criteria for selection will be based on youth leadership, use of funds, collaboration, and proposed activities.
- All projects must be run through an educational, agricultural, youth or similar organization. Grants funds will not be paid directly to individuals.
- One project will be selected for the *Outstanding Youth Grant Award* which will be presented at the 2026 Midwest Regional Agricultural Safety and Health (MRASH) meeting usually held in mid-November. A cash award plus funding for travel and expenses to attend the meeting will be provided.

DEADLINES: Applications are due **April 17th, 2026**; funding announcements will be made by **April 24th, 2026.** A final report is due **October 9th, 2026**. Contact Kim McMichael, at 319-467-4320 or kimberlee-mcmichael@uiowa.edu with questions or for more information.

TO SUBMIT, email applications to:
Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health
cph-icash@uiowa.edu

Project Description

Farming is a dangerous occupation, and Iowa has lots of farms. This grant program was developed to encourage youth to take an active role in preventing injuries and deaths on farms by raising awareness about safety and health issues with farmers and other youth in their community. The projects should be **planned and conducted by youth**, with adults serving as mentors and advisors.

Rural hazards come in many forms and there are many topics that can be addressed. To select a topic, start by considering the type of farming in your community, any injuries or deaths that may have happened in the past, as well as the obvious hazards such as tractors and livestock. Don't forget about health issues such as hearing loss, sun exposure, ergonomics, and proper hydration.

The message of farm safety and health can be delivered in a variety of ways. **We encourage creative projects!** Here are some examples you may consider:

- Distribute SMV (slow moving vehicle) signs at the local implement dealership, using the opportunity to talk with farmers about roadway safety
- Make a poster about hearing protection for the county fair and hand out ear plugs and brochures
- Speak with farmers while they wait in line to drop off grain at the local co-op – pass out a fact sheet about respiratory health and give them dust masks
- Produce a YouTube video about safely sorting cattle, using the funds to purchase props for demonstrations, special makeup, or editing software
- Hold a local essay or poster contest about ATV safety and give ATV helmets away to the winners

2026 Agricultural Injury Prevention Youth Grant
Application Form

Organization Name*: _____

*Only one application will be accepted per organization/chapter

Address: _____

City: _____ **State:** _____**Zip:** _____

E-mail: _____**Telephone:** _____

Contact person for application: _____

Area/Counties served: _____

Number of farmers and youth you hope to reach: _____

Expected date for project: _____

Safety/health topic to be addressed by this project: _____

How do you plan to research/get information on this topic and best safety practices?

_____

_____

_____

_____

Type of activity (e.g.: educational program, online or social media, resource distribution, etc.)

_____

What do you want to accomplish by completing this project? Highlight what component of the project will have the biggest impact or is the most creative.

_____

_____

_____

_____

What role and how many youth will participate in project *planning, implementation, and delivery?*

Planning: _____

_____

Implementation: _____

_____

Delivery: _____

_____

Resources to be purchased with grant money: (I-CASH funds cannot be used for salaries)

_____

_____

Locally donated in-kind resources: (handout material, staff time, food, etc.)

_____

_____

Supervising Adult Signature _____

*I-CASH payments will be processed to the organization listed on the top line.

One *Outstanding Youth Grant* will be selected for youth and advisors to attend the mid-November MRASH conference.

All information submitted by the applicant will be treated by the university as a public record unless the applicant requests that the information be treated as confidential in accordance with the public record laws of the State of Iowa at the time of this application.

Project Evaluation Form

Organization Name _____

To be filled out after completing the project.

This information will be used to determine the Outstanding Youth Grant Award eligible for 2026 MRASH participation. Criteria for selection includes: topic creativity, level of youth involvement in project planning and execution, funding use, people reached, promotion, and future plans.

Program Topic

- Topic addressed _____
- Why topic was chosen _____
- How topic was researched _____

Program Delivery

- Delivery method used (presentation, video production, fair booth, etc.) _____
- Why delivery method chosen _____
- Where did you conduct your program _____
- Number of youth involved _____
- Describe the Youth Involvement _____

Resources

- Resources purchased _____
- Why these resources _____

Program Reach

- Who was the target audience _____
- Number of youth impacted _____
- Number of farmers impacted _____

Promotion

- Promotional methods used (newspaper, radio, Facebook etc.) _____
- Promotional items developed (PSA, fact sheet, bookmark, etc.)_____

Project Outcomes

What outcomes did your project have? (new partnerships, additional opportunities, unexpected successes)

_____

What life skills did students utilize throughout this project? (ex: Leadership, communication, organization)

_____

Future Plans

Reflect on what you and the students learned throughout this experience.

_____

Explain what you plan to do differently in the future to address this or other farm safety and health topics?

_____

Feedback

Please share any feedback you have on the grant program and any agricultural health and safety resource needs you identified.

_____

Organizations not fulfilling this evaluation form will not be eligible for future I-CASH grants.

Please return by **October 9th, 2026,** along with pictures of your event or product to:

cph-icash@uiowa.edu

All information submitted in the evaluation, including pictures, will be treated by the university as a public record unless the grant recipient requests that the information be treated as confidential in accordance with the public record laws of the State of Iowa at the time of this application.

I-CASH | Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health

2026 I-CASH Youth Grants – Grant Score Sheet

Score each section from 1 (low) to 5 or 10 (high) for each applicant. Youth Involvement is worth twice as many points as the other categories.

Applicant	Project consistent with I-CASH mission	Number of people reached	Creativity or Innovation of topic and project	Youth Involvement in project implementation	Wise use of funding/ Budget	In-kind resources	Affiliations/ collaborations	Total score - 40 maximum	Comments
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	5 4 3 2 1	5 4 3 2 1	5 4 3 2 1	10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	5 4 3 2 1	5 4 3 2 1	5 4 3 2 1		
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	5 4 3 2 1	5 4 3 2 1	5 4 3 2 1	10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1	5 4 3 2 1	5 4 3 2 1	5 4 3 2 1		
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