

WORLD FOOD PRIZE



MICHIGAN YOUTH INSTITUTE

AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
MAY 7, 2026

The World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute is a life-changing experience at Michigan State University where students in grades 7-12 engage with leading experts on critical global challenges, participate in engaging activities and tours, and explore exciting ways to make a difference in Michigan and around the world!

At the event, participants will:

- Present their own research and recommendations on how to solve key global challenges in a short speech and small group discussions with MSU faculty, staff, students, peers, and other experts.
- Connect with other student leaders from across Michigan to share ideas, identify solutions to global challenges, and build lasting friendships.
- Take part in educational sessions to explore current research and issues in food, agriculture, natural resources, energy, STEM, international policy, and sustainable development.
- Qualify to apply for domestic fellowships and international internships, and to be nominated for a \$2000 Spartan Youth Programs Pre-College Scholarship from MSU.

Registration and paper due March 15, 2026.



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Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status.



**For more information, please
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HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORLD FOOD PRIZE MICHIGAN YOUTH INSTITUTE

1

Using the World Food Prize Foundation's [Global Challenge Paper Instructions](#), youth select a country and research a pressing challenge in that country related to global food security, agriculture, and sustainability.

Each participant writes a three to five page paper outlining their research findings, as well as their ideas for addressing the global challenge in their country of choice .

Resources to help students research and write their papers are available on the [World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute webpage](#).

2

Youth participants submit their completed research papers and register to attend the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute by March 15, 2026 by going to:

https://www.worldfoodprize.org/en/youth_programs/global_youth_institute/michigan/

Teachers and adult mentors who would like to attend the Institute with their student(s) must also register by March 15, 2026.

There is no registration cost to participate in the Institute and meals will be provided at the event, however, students and teachers/mentors must organize their own transportation to the event.

3

Attend the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute on May 7, 2026 in East Lansing, MI (or via Zoom).

Participants will earn recognition as Borlaug Scholars, qualify to apply for international and domestic internships, and may be selected to represent Michigan at the 2026 World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa!

The World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute is sponsored with a grant from the Michigan 4-H Foundation.

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