

The people involved with NAYI are dedicated to making your NAYI experience one to remember. The opportunities they give you to learn about our number #1 industry in Nebraska from all different angles is truly incredible. It was these same people who made my NAYI experience one I will never forget. They were the ones who showed me all the different roads and avenues I can take to be a part of Nebraska agriculture. It doesn't matter if you come from an ag background, there is a place for you, and NAYC does a great job showing you that you, too, can have a place in agriculture.

Kirk Hebda, Silver Creek  
2024 NAYI Returning Delegate

NAYI and NAYC have made huge impacts on my life. I couldn't be more grateful for the opportunities that I have been presented through both of these amazing organizations. Being a member of the NAYC has allowed me to connect with future leaders in the agricultural industry, interact with business professionals, help make a difference in the lives of so many young people, and so much more. NAYI and NAYC have changed my life in so many ways, and I couldn't be more blessed to be a part of such an amazing organization and community.

Seth Wert, Hordville  
Current NAYC member

NAYI is a unique experience any high school student is privileged to attend. It has a professional atmosphere while still maintaining fun and team building aspects. This institute helps kids of every background to improve themselves, and find their passions in agriculture, so they can use that passion to fuel their future in agriculturally related careers. Those who attend NAYI are driven, ambitious people, and it is the perfect place to network with like-minded peers! NAYI truly is something you don't want to miss out on!

Jadyn Tidyman, Chadron  
2024 NAYI Delegate

## WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT NAYI?

For more information, contact:

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# NEBRASKA

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DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

## Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute

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# NAYI 2025



Applications due April 15

For 54 years, the **Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council's (NAYC)** main goal has been the promotion of agriculture to Nebraska's youth. The NAYC consists of 23 college-age men and women who have dedicated their time and energy to educating youth about agriculture. The Council is selected annually to serve a one-year term. Membership is limited to three years.

Throughout their year, the NAYC participates in an array of agricultural programs including Elementary Classroom Visits, National Ag Week, the Nebraska State FFA Convention, mentorship programs, as well as their premier event, the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute (NAYI). All of these events give Council members a chance to learn more about agricultural opportunities available right here in Nebraska, as well as share their knowledge with the youth of this great state. The Council also holds an annual Industry Tour, which gives members the opportunity to learn more about Nebraska's diverse agricultural industry.



Fifty-four years ago, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture realized it had to do something about the ever-increasing problem of young people leaving the farms and ranches of Nebraska.

The idea of an Institute to expose young people to the opportunities available in agriculture was tried for the first time in 1972. The original **Nebraska Agricultural Youth Institute** program was developed through cooperation between the Nebraska Department of Agriculture and 18 college-age young men and women who formed the Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council which now carries on the NAYC tradition of passion for the agricultural industry.

The delegates are what make NAYI what it is. Their enthusiasm and genuine interest make the week an unforgettable experience. Delegates are chosen through an application process highlighting their interest, involvement,

leadership and achievement in agriculture. These delegates have the opportunities to share their ideas with local, state and national speakers, along with young people from all across Nebraska.

Funding for NAYC activities comes from the former Rural Rehabilitation Corporation. These funds have been invested and the interest drawn from them is released to programs.

Agricultural businesses and commodity organizations graciously sponsor the vast majority of the expenses for NAYI.

Just as agriculture is an ever-changing industry, NAYI is an ever-changing program, keeping pace with today's agriculture. Even though the program is constantly being developed, the original goal will remain the same – to keep Nebraskans involved and interested in agriculture.

