Attending NAYI for the past two years has been one of the most impactful experiences of my life. Networking with young agriculturalists who share the same passion for advocating for our industry has allowed me to build lasting relationships. The dedication to developing young leaders throughout the week has inspired me to strive for greatness in agriculture. The impact NAYI has had on me encouraged me to apply for NAYC, and now that I am part of the council, I hope to make that same impact on other hard working young men and women. I look forward to giving back to a program that has given me so much and helping inspire the next generation of agricultural leaders.

Preston Beattie, Sumner
2026 NAYI Returning Delegate

Serving alongside these 20 individuals on the NAYC throughout college has been one of my most valuable experiences. This organization has given me some of my best friends and fondest memories. It has allowed me to network with the state's greatest agriculturalists and make a lasting impact on the lives of future industry leaders. NAYI and the NAYC continue to change my life year after year, and I am eternally grateful to all those who continue to support its growth.

Emily Holz, Syracuse
Current NAYC member

The NAYI has been an incredible experience that I have had the privilege of attending for the past two years. This week-long endeavor brings together delegates who share a passion for agriculture, creating opportunities to learn, grow, and make a lasting impact on one another. Having the opportunity to return this past year as a returning delegate made the experience even more meaningful, as I was able to reflect on my own growth while continuing to learn from and encourage others. To me, NAYI is more than just a week of learning; it is an opportunity to build lasting connections, strengthen my passion for agriculture, and develop the leadership skills needed to make a difference in the industry. NAYI has helped shape the leader I strive to become and has inspired me to share my knowledge, advocate for agriculture, and make a positive impact on the next generation.

Gracie Reynolds, Hooper
2026 NAYI Returning Delegate

WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT NAYI?

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NAYI 2027







For 56 years, the **Nebraska Agricultural Youth Council's (NAYC)** main goal has been the promotion of agriculture to Nebraska's youth. The NAYC consists of 21 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-six 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.

NAYI is open to Nebraska high school juniors and seniors with a desire to learn about agriculture. The Institute is held annually in July at the University of Nebraska's East Campus.

The Institute is free of charge for the students to attend thanks to the agricultural businesses, organizations and commodity groups who graciously sponsor the program.

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.