



Welcome to the 2026 World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute!

We are looking forward to meeting you and more than 100 other youth participants from across Michigan when we come together on May 7 for what will be a fun and engaging experience at the 2026 World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute (WFPMIYI)! Congratulations on completing your research paper and making the decision to register for the Institute. By doing these two things you are joining a community of incredible people from all across the globe who are envisioning, creating, and applying solutions to some of our planet's most significant and challenging topics. We're very excited to meet you and hear your thoughts and ideas!

Mark Your Calendar: April 16 - Participant Orientation Webinar

To help you prepare for the WFPMIYI, please plan to join a Participant Orientation Webinar on April 16, 2026 at 12:30 pm. Students, teachers, and parents are all welcome. A recording of the webinar will be shared for those not able to attend the live webinar.

Join the webinar at: <https://msu.zoom.us/j/92243745762>

ACTION NEEDED: All participants must complete enrollment in 4-H Online by May 1 deadline

All youth who will be participating in the WFPMIYI must complete an enrollment in Michigan 4-H using our 4-H Online website by May 1, 2026 in order to participate in the WFPMIYI. A parent/guardian must complete the enrollment for all youth who are under the age of 18. **PLEASE NOTE: enrollment in 4-H Online is an additional step beyond the registration that has already been completed by each youth participant.** 4-H Online is the system that we use to collect medical, media, and evaluation authorization forms for this event. Completing enrollment in 4-H Online is easiest when done using a screen larger than a phone.

If a parent/guardian **has previously** created an account in 4-H Online for their family, they will be able to sign in to update their child's enrollment information for the 2025 / 2026 4-H program year by going to:

<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>

If a parent/guardian **has not** previously created a family account, go to the 4-H Online sign-up page to create your family account and complete an enrollment for the student who will be participating in the WFP Michigan Youth Institute:

<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-up>

Detailed instructions for completing your enrollment are available here: [4-H Online Family Enrollment Guide](#)

PLEASE NOTE: As part of the enrollment process, you will be required to select a "Club" and a "Project". If you are not already a member of 4-H club in your county, please use the following directions to select your club and project:

When you get to the step in the enrollment process to add a club:

- Select the option titled **"County - General 4-H Experience"**. (Example: "Wayne County - General 4-H Experience")

When you get to the step in the enrollment process to add a project:

- Select the option titled **"Global and Cultural Education"** (or choose a different project option if necessary)

If you have any questions or challenges while completing your enrollment in 4-H Online, please contact your [local 4-H Program Coordinator](#) or **Brian Wibby** at wibby@msu.edu or **906-439-5065**

Event Location and Parking Information

The 2026 World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute will be held in Brody Hall on the campus of Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI. Free parking will be available for all participants in Ramp #4, which is located next to the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center. Please visit <https://maps.msu.edu> to access MSU Campus Maps. The parking ramp is normally a pay-by-plate parking lot, but parking fees will **not** be in effect on May 7.

On site check in will be held in the first-floor lobby of the **Brody Hall (241. W. Brody Rd., East Lansing, MI 48825)**.



Sharing Your Research: The Round Table Discussions

During the morning Round Table Discussions portion of the event, you will share an overview of your research paper with a group of peers and experts. Each group will have 8-9 youth participants, an adult leader, and 4-6 “experts” (MSU faculty, staff, students, World Food Prize Foundation staff, WFPMIYI alumni, and professionals from organizations who do work related to food, hunger, and sustainability). In your Round Table Discussion Group, you and the other youth participants will take turns sharing an overview of the research papers that you wrote. This overview should include what you learned writing your paper and the recommendations you made regarding the global food security factor in the country you selected to focus on. Please prepare a 3 to 5-minute verbal overview that outlines the key points of your research paper. You are welcome to use notes or notecards, but please do not read your paper when you provide your overview. Five minutes goes by faster than you might think, so it will be important for you to practice (and time yourself!) before the Institute.

Here is a suggested outline to help you plan your time for sharing the overview of your research paper with your Round Table Discussion Group:

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| 15 seconds | Introduction (your name, the country you focused on, and the topic you focused on) |
| 1 minute | Describe your chosen country and a typical family |
| 1.5 minutes | Describe the global challenge topic you selected and the impact of that topic on the country you chose to study |
| 2 minutes | Share the potential solutions and recommendations you made to address the challenge |
| 15 seconds | Conclusion |

After each participant shares their research, there will be 5 minutes for experts and peer participants to ask questions to the presenter. You will receive supportive questions and feedback from others which can help you continue developing your understanding of the challenges and solutions you've identified in your paper. If the thought of a Q&A session with a group of experts and peers gives you any feelings of anxiety (which is a normal feeling to have prior to an experience like this!) please know that this portion of the event is meant to be conversational and educational, and it won't feel like a test on how much you know about your country or topic. The Q&A portion will be conducted in a positive and supportive manner, and will be led by a 4-H staff member or volunteer who is trained as a group facilitator. After all the presentations have been completed, your facilitator will guide your group through a discussion to identify the major points, common themes, and differences across all the presentations from your group.

Diving Deeper with our Immersion Experiences

During the afternoon portion of the Institute, you will participate in an Immersion Experience activity on the campus of MSU. The Immersion Experience will provide you with an opportunity to see first-hand some of the exciting ways that Michigan State University is leading cutting-edge efforts that help to feed Michigan and the world through valuable innovations related to food, hunger, science, art, and sustainability.

Recommended Attire

Business casual or business professional attire is appropriate for this event; FFA members are welcome to wear official attire if they choose.

Examples of Business Casual Attire: Collared shirt, polo shirt or blouse (ties/scarves acceptable, not required), dress pants/capris or khakis, skirts or dresses

Examples of Business Professional Attire: Collared shirt, blouse or sweater (ties/scarves acceptable, not required), blazer or suit jacket, dresses, skirts, or business suits

Please avoid wearing: t-shirts, denim or jeans, athletic wear

A Welcoming, Inclusive, and Supportive Space

If you are someone who likes meeting new people and networking, you're in for a special treat on May 7! The Institute brings together a group of incredible people who share an interest in food, hunger, and sustainability. Youth and teachers from across Michigan, faculty members, professionals, students, and researchers from Michigan State University, WFPMIYI young alumni, business and nonprofit leaders, and staff members from the World Food Prize Foundation are all excited to hear the ideas you've come up with for addressing global challenges. We strive to create an environment and experience at the Institute that is welcoming, inclusive, and supportive for all participants. We are intentional about creating an event where everyone feels safe, comfortable, and respected and where everyone has everything they need to fully participate in the day's activities. Please do not hesitate to let us know if there is anything we can do to help make sure that we achieve these goals for you!

If you have any questions or requests prior to the event, please contact us:

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**WORLD
FOOD
PRIZE**



MICHIGAN YOUTH INSTITUTE

AT MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

**AGENDA
MAY 7, 2026**

**IN-PERSON
BRODY HALL, 241 W BRODY RD
EAST LANSING, MI 48825**

**&
ONLINE/ZOOM**

7:30 - 8:45 a.m.	(Optional) Networking Breakfast Reception
8:30 - 9:00 a.m.	Participant and Expert Check-In
9:00 - 9:20 a.m.	Opening Session of the 2026 World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute
9:20 - 9:30 a.m.	Break & Transition to the Roundtable Discussion Groups
9:30 - 11:00 a.m.	Roundtable Discussion Groups
11:15 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute Luncheon
12:15 - 1:15 p.m.	WFP Michigan Youth Institute Immersion Experiences
1:30 - 2:00 p.m.	Borlaug Scholar Ceremony and Closing Session
2:00 p.m.	Adjourn



**MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY**



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