

Dear School Personnel:

The World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute (WFP MIYI) is an annual one-day conference for high school youth throughout Michigan who are interested in leadership, community change, and global food security/access.

This year's conference will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2026 on campus at Michigan State University.

During WFP MIYI, through experiential learning, teen participants will:

- Discover how they can address critical global challenges
- Present independent research that they conducted prior to the event
- Explore academic and career paths related to global food security
- Learn about global challenges and transdisciplinary work to find solutions
- Network with peers, MSU faculty and staff experts, as well as community organization experts

This conference also creates a space for participants to have a variety of pre-college experiences. From eating in the cafeteria to dialogues with renowned faculty, visiting sites of outstanding MSU research and interacting with representatives; the youth who attend the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute have a true pre-college experience.

Upon completing the programming for the day, all participants are officially designated as World Food Prize Borlaug Scholars. This earns them the opportunity to be considered for the role as Michigan Delegate to the Global Youth Institute (October, 2026 in Des Moines, IA), to apply for scholarships to MSU, and to apply for the prestigious WFP Borlaug Ruan International Internship experience.



MSU EXTENSION

Justin S. Morrill Hall
446 W. Circle Drive
East Lansing, MI 48824
Phone: 517-355-2308
Fax: 517-355-6574
msuedir@msu.edu

Working towards a common goal, to provide a sustainable and secure global food supply, the World Food Prize MI Youth Institute bridges interests across English language arts, social studies, culture, economics, sciences, health, and nutrition, as well as agriculture, natural resources, and conservation. The WFPMIYI provides learning opportunities and interactions that are interdisciplinary and foster life and career skills. To learn more about how the WFPMIYI aligns with major standards and practices, including Common Career Technical Core Career Ready Practices, 21st Century Skills, the Michigan Department of Education Career Development Model, MI K-12 Standards for English Language Arts, MI K-12 Standards for Science, and MI K-12 Standards for Social Science please visit bit.ly/47Scvg9

By emphasizing these standards, WFP MIYI supports what Michigan students learn in school through hands-on, impactful experiences. For more information on this program you can visit the World Food Prize Michigan Youth Institute webpage at <https://www.canr.msu.edu/wfpmiyi/>

We hope you will join us in recognizing the outstanding effort and leadership shown by students from your school who are participating in the WFP MIYI by excusing their absence on 5/7/2026.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me at 906-439-5065 or wibby@msu.edu.

Sincerely,

Brian Wibby
MSU Extension Educator
WFPMIYI Co-Director

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.

Michigan State University, U.S.
Department of Agriculture and
counties cooperating.