



2025 Iowa Master Pork Partner Awards

The Iowa State University Extension Service and the Iowa Pork Producers Association expanded their joint Master Pork award programs in 2014 to recognize individuals who have positive impacts on pork production in Iowa through collaborative and supportive roles. Pork producers recognize they would not be successful without help from industry partners and the Master Pork Partner Awards are designed to recognize individuals demonstrating positive impacts on Iowa pork production through important partnerships with pig farmers.

The Master Pork Partner awards further recognize specific partnerships with the following award categories:

- ❖ **Master Pork Partner:** recognition of a production company employee who has demonstrated positive impacts on the production system and other pork producers. (i.e., field/territory managers, upper-level management, and other influential employees that may not have ownership of their own production site(s).)
- ❖ **Master Pork Partner – Veterinarian of the Year:** recognition of a production company veterinarian or private practitioner who has demonstrated positive impacts on the health and well-being of the pigs in their care as well as the success and knowledge of their clients.
- ❖ **Master Pork Partner – Driver of the Year:** recognition of a TQA-certified livestock hauler who has gone above and beyond to improve the health and well-being of pigs during transportation and has had a positive impact on their peers in the transportation industry.

Nominations:

Nominations may be made by county extension personnel, extension swine field specialists, county pork associations, production companies, or other pork producers. **All nominations are due July 15, 2025.**

Nomination Criteria:

- 1) Nominees must be:
 - a. A member of the Iowa Pork Producers Association
 - b. Iowa residents
- 2) Nominees should have at least five years of experience in pork production.
- 3) Nominees should have demonstrated community involvement (i.e., church, school, commodity associations, extension, other volunteer opportunities, etc.)
- 4) Nominees should have demonstrated excellence within their production system, company, or practice.

Award Rules:

- 1) All nominations must be postmarked by **July 15, 2025**.
- 2) No more than three awards will be given – one per category.

- 3) No more than one nomination per production entity/practice/company will be considered for each category. (Example – a company may not nominate a partner and a veterinarian.)
- 4) Nominations must be accompanied by a letter of recommendation from the nominator detailing why the nominee should be recognized for the award. (i.e., production performance, management skills and capabilities, industry/community involvement, issues and industry knowledge, and other special achievements.)
- 5) Previously honored Master Pork Award program awardees are not eligible to receive the award.

Selection Process:

Date	Activity
July 15 – August 5	Applications will be reviewed by Iowa State Extension and IPPA staff for eligibility.
By August 29	Nominees will be notified of nomination and will begin next steps on selection process
August 25 – September 30	Nominees and IPPA Producer Outreach Director will schedule a zoom call for initial conversation
August 25 – November 1	The selection committee will complete on-site visits with nominees. This will include photos and video interviews. Questions will be provided prior to the visit. Visits are scheduled to best fit nominee's schedule.
By November 15	Final award winners will be notified by the selection committee and on-site visit should be completed.
Jan. 21, 2026	Individuals will be honored at the Master Pork Producer Banquet held during the Iowa Pork Congress.

Nomination Submission:

Applications with letter of recommendation from nominators are due July 15, 2025. They may be:

Mailed:

Iowa Pork Producers Association
Attn. Brielle Smeby
PO Box 71009
Clive, IA 50325

Emailed: bsmeby@iowapork.org

Questions:

Brielle Smeby – bsmeby@iowapork.org or 515-225-7675

2025 Master Pork Partner Award Application

(Please type or print on this form)

☐ Master Pork Partner

☐ Driver of the Year

☐ Veterinarian of the Year

NOMINEE NAME _____

FARM/COMPANY NAME _____

JOB POSITION/TITLE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS _____ CITY _____ ZIP _____

PHONE: (____) _____ EMAIL ADDRESS _____

DATE OF BIRTH _____ YEARS IN PORK INDUSTRY _____

SPOUSE'S NAME _____

CHILDREN'S NAMES AND AGES _____

IS NOMINEE A MEMBER OF THE IOWA PORK PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION? YES NO

If yes, please list county _____

PQA PLUS or TQA (if Driver) CERTIFICATION NUMBER _____

NUMBER OF EMPLOYEES/GROWERS SUPERVISED _____

Please list any local newspapers and radio stations with which we can share press information should nominee be selected for this award.

NOMINATED BY (Name, Phone, Email, Relation to Nominee): _____

Nominators: Please include a letter of recommendation detailing why this individual stands out. (i.e. production performance, management skills and capabilities, industry/community involvement, issues and industry knowledge and other special achievements.)

Please provide a detailed description of nominee's role within pork production and specifically within company/business (Include day-to-day tasks, employees overseen, etc.)

Advancement of the We Care principles is centric to the Master Pork Awards. Please outline how the nominee demonstrates the We Care principles within their role in the swine industry. (ex. producing safe food, protecting and promoting animal well-being, ensuring practices to protect public health, safeguarding natural resources, and contributing to a better quality of life in your community). (You may attach additional pages as needed.)

Community involvement is an important aspect of the We Care principles. Please list any off-farm activities in which you are involved (i.e., church, school, commodity associations, extension, community functions/groups, other volunteer opportunities, etc.).

This application, including letter of nomination, must be completed and submitted to the Iowa Pork Producers Association by July 15, 2025