



Affiliate Annual Report for Calendar Year 2025

(Complete Attachment B to be considered for one or more 2026 Affiliate Awards.)

To maintain compliance with IAFP Constitution and Bylaws, Affiliates must return this completed report. Please send by email to Susan Smith at: ssmith@foodprotection.org.

Please return the following items **electronically** by **Tuesday, March 3, 2026 (late reports will not be considered for awards)**:

REQUIRED:

- ☐ This completed form (*in English*).
- ☐ Your Association's list of current term officers (complete Attachment A).

OPTIONAL:

- ☐ Attachment B: Completion required **only** if your Association requests to be considered for one or more Affiliate Awards.
- ☐ IAFP accepts **all** Affiliate Annual Reports electronically, including those vying for one or more of the Affiliate Awards. *Affiliates seeking to present the highest quality visual presentation are encouraged to present their Annual Report in the highest quality possible for review by the Selection Committee. To avoid errors and omissions, please limit your submission to ONE email with all attachments.*
- ☐ Digital photos (with names and descriptions) to appear in the *Affiliate View* quarterly newsletter.

Wisconsin Association for Food Protection

1. Your Official Delegate to IAFP Affiliate Council and Contact

Enter in the fields below the information requested for your Association's official Delegate to the IAFP Affiliate Council and your official Contact for IAFP correspondence. **Delegate must be an IAFP Member.**

Official Delegate to IAFP Affiliate Council

Takiyah Ball
Sargento Foods, Inc.
305 Pine St
Elkhart Lake, WI 53020 USA
920-876-3815
Takiyah.ball@sargento.com
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Official Contact for IAFP Correspondence (indicate “same” if person also serves as Delegate)

Kristen Houck
Center for Dairy Research
1605 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706 USA
608-265-6346
houch@cdr.wisc.edu

IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

2. Membership List

- a. Indicate the current total number of members in your Association: 161
- b. How many NEW members joined your Association in 2025? 3

3. Meetings: Annual Meeting/Conference, Educational, Workshops, Webinars, etc.

- a. On what date(s) was your most recent general membership or major meeting (i.e., Annual Meeting/Conference) during the past year? Please list number of attendees.

WAFP Fall Meeting held 12/2-3/25, 25 attendees

- b. Please provide the date(s) and location of your next scheduled major meeting (i.e., Annual Meeting/Conference):

2026 Fall Educational Meeting scheduled for October 6th, at Lakeland University, Plymouth, WI

- c. List all other general membership meetings held in 2025 (excluding board meetings). Include title, dates and attendance numbers.

HTST Pasteurizer Operator License Workshop	March 28, 2025, Eau Claire, WI 45 attendees
HTST Pasteurizer Operator License Workshop	August 28, 2025, Monroe, WI 43 attendees

4. Awards and Scholarships

a. List members honored with an award from your Association and/or IAFP during 2025. Include name of award and qualification for award.

Dave Jelle	WAFP Leadership Award; WAFP Board nomination and vote
Takiyah Ball	IAFP Affiliate Council Secretary- Affiliate Vote at IAFP Annual Meeting

b. List scholarships awarded during 2025; include recipient and qualification for scholarship.

WAFP Technical College Scholarship / \$2,000	Parnia Shamsdivband Parnia is a 2nd-year student in Culinary Management at Waukesha County Technical College. Her accomplishments include: • Honors & Certifications: Parnia has achieved numerous honors, including the MESP Multicultural Student Engagement Scholarship, the MAFSI of Wisconsin Award, and the Pamela Bach Schroeder Fund Award. She also maintains a spot on the Honor Roll and holds a ServSafe Food Protection Manager Certification. • Experience: She has applied her studies practically through an internship at a fine dining restaurant, gaining experience in technical culinary skills.
WAFP College or University Scholarship / \$3,000	Sophia Delgado Sophia is a 4th-year Food Science major attending the University of Wisconsin – Madison. Her academic and extracurricular highlights include: • Leadership & Academics: Sophia has been recognized on the Dean's List throughout her undergraduate career and has served in multiple leadership roles for the Food Science Club, including Communications Chair, Vice President, and President. • Experience: She gained practical experience through an industry internship at a milling and refining company, focusing on project management, chemical analysis, and laboratory validation.
E.H. Marth Scholarship / \$3,000	Jiawen Fan

	Jiawen is currently a 4th-year Food Science major at the University of Wisconsin – Stout. Her achievements include: • Leadership: She serves as the President of UW Stout’s Chinese Cultural Association and is an active participant in the Food Science Club. • Experience: Jiawen has completed an industry internship where she honed skills in analytical testing, data analysis, and product development.
WAFP Travel Scholarship	Xingrui Fan Xingrui is a doctoral candidate at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. His achievements include: • Leadership: Lab Manager and Research Assistant in Dr.Jae-Hyuk Yu Lab-UW Madison • Food Science Graduate Student Representative • He has many academic honors and scholarships to his name • Member (past and present): Institute of Food Technologist, Fungal Supergroup, Cornell Food Science Club, Cornell Upcycled Food Club, Cornell CALS Honor Society, Golden Key Honor Society • He has submitted an abstract to IAFP for research finding in the Yu lab, focusing on the use of a food-grade, natural antimicrobial product derived from the fermentation activity of the GRAS fungus <i>Aspergillus oryzae</i>

5. Web Communication

Please be sure to keep the IAFP office on your mailing list for newsletters, email, and other communications to your general membership.

Please provide your existing Affiliate’s Web site address AND date last updated:
wifoodprotection.org, 12/30/25

Did you launch a new Affiliate Web site in 2025? Y ☐ N ☒

Attachment A (completion required)

Association Officers List

Provide the contact information requested below for all current officers of your Association. **Please indicate if each officer is an IAFP Member (reminder: Your President and Delegate are required to be IAFP Members).** The information you provide here is published on our website and in select membership materials. The information may be typed in the fields below or may be sent to our office by email, fax or regular mail.

Indicate the term dates (e.g., 2025–2026) for your current Executive Board:

December 2025- December 2026

President

Leili Afsah-Hejri
Lakeland University
W3718 South Drive
Plymouth, WI 53073 USA
920-565-1000 ext 2340
AfsahHejriL@lakeland.edu
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

1st Vice President

Alex O'Brien
WI Center for Dairy Research
1605 Linden Drive
aobrien@cdr.wisc.edu
6080-598-9977
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Secretary

Kristen Houck
Wisconsin Center for Dairy Research
1605 Linden Drive
Madison, WI 53706 USA
608-265-6346
houck@cdr.wisc.edu
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Past President

Takiyah Ball
Sargento Foods, Inc.
305 Pine St
Elkhart Lake, WI 53020 USA
920-876-3815
Takiyah.ball@sargento.com
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

President Elect

Minto Michael
Hydrosome Labs
640 Blackhawk Dr.
Westmont, IL 60559
875-320-9092
Minto.michael@gmail.com
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

2nd Vice President

Kristy Herlinzga
Kwik Trip
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Treasurer

Tyson Villarreal
WI Dept. of Agriculture, Trade and
Consumer Protection
W7408 Manske Rd
Lake Mills, WI 53551USA
920-342-7256
Abrock@wisconsinidairy.org
IAFP Member? Y ☐ N ☒

Administrator

Jack Burnett
7833 Jackson Park Blvd
Wauwatosa, WI 53213
414 588-3894
Jburnett@vikan.com
IAFP Member? Y ☒ N ☐

Student Liaisons
Dharshita Nellore
1520 Tripp Cir
Adams Hall
Madison, WI, 53706
Phone Number: 6087208198
IAFP Member? Y ☐ N ☒

Alanah Kaufmann
Department of Animal and Dairy
Science
1920 Birge Terrace Apt. 4
Madison, WI 53726 USA
608-386-5516
Ask Kaufmann2@wisc.edu
IAFP Member? Y ☐ N ☒

Before continuing, please check one of the boxes below:

☒ **CHECK HERE and return electronically by 3/3/26 IF YOUR AFFILIATE REQUESTS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ONE OR MORE 2026 AFFILIATE AWARDS. (You are required to complete Attachment B.)**

☐ **CHECK HERE IF YOUR AFFILIATE DOES NOT WANT TO BE CONSIDERED FOR A 2026 AWARD. (You are done! It is not necessary to complete Attachment B.)**

Attachment B (optional)

Affiliate Award Considerations

*To be considered for one or more of the five Affiliate Awards to be presented at IAFP 2026, Affiliates are **required** to check the box next to the award(s) for which you wish to be considered and provide the related criteria (in English). (REMINDER: Please confirm IAFP Membership of your Affiliate President and Delegate **before** completing Attachment B to avoid award disqualification.)*

☐ Affiliate Membership Achievement Award

How did your Affiliate grow **AND** retain members during the past year? Please provide details on:

- how new members were recruited throughout the year;
- the number of new members joining the Affiliate;
- the percent of increase in membership from 2025 to 2026;
- specific efforts on how you retained existing members; and
- other methods related to helping grow and maintain your membership.

You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type.

X ☐ Affiliate Communication Award

How did your Affiliate communicate information to your Members during the past year? Please provide a description of the types of communication sent to your general membership and include samples with your Annual Report. Samples can be printed copies/screen shots of blast emails, website (include frequency of updating), electronic/print newsletters, brochures, etc., along with respective dates sent. If available, provide how effective specific communication was toward meeting your goals. You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type.

During the past year, WAFP expanded and strengthened its communication efforts to better inform and engage members, students, and prospective members. With the addition of two student liaisons, we increased our use of digital platforms to reach members where they are and in the formats they prefer.

WAFP used LinkedIn as a primary communication tool, averaging one post per month. These posts highlighted upcoming WAFP events and organizational news (see Set A). We have increased our followers from 120 in 2024 to 193 in 2025. We have set a goal of reaching 200 followers by 2027.

For each LinkedIn post, a companion email was sent to WAFP members to reinforce the message and ensure broader reach (see Set B). The effectiveness of these communications was enhanced by an updated membership list, which the WAFP Board completed this year, allowing us to reach a more accurate and complete audience.

Our student liaisons also plan to set up an WAFP Instagram account, focused on increasing awareness of WAFP among prospective student members. This platform would allow us to share timely updates and visually engage future professionals in food safety

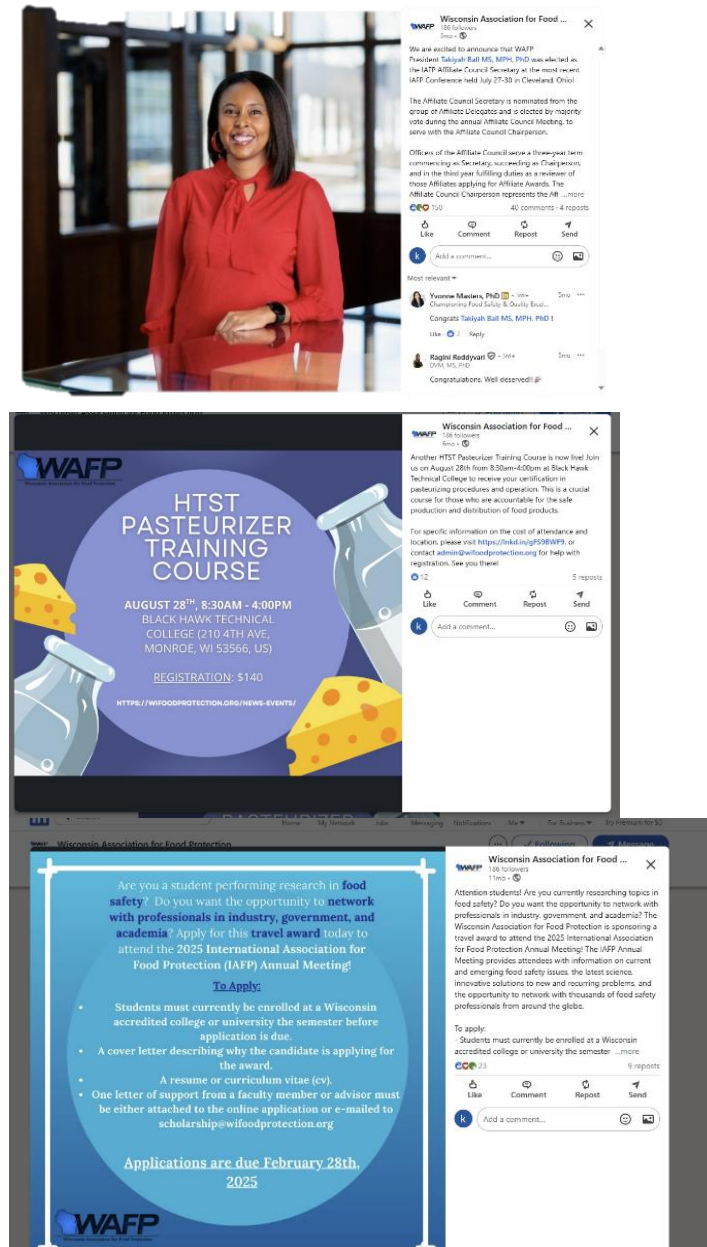
Beginning in 2025, WAFP reactivated its Facebook page as an additional communication channel. This platform is used to share organizational updates, event information, and relevant industry news with members and the broader community.

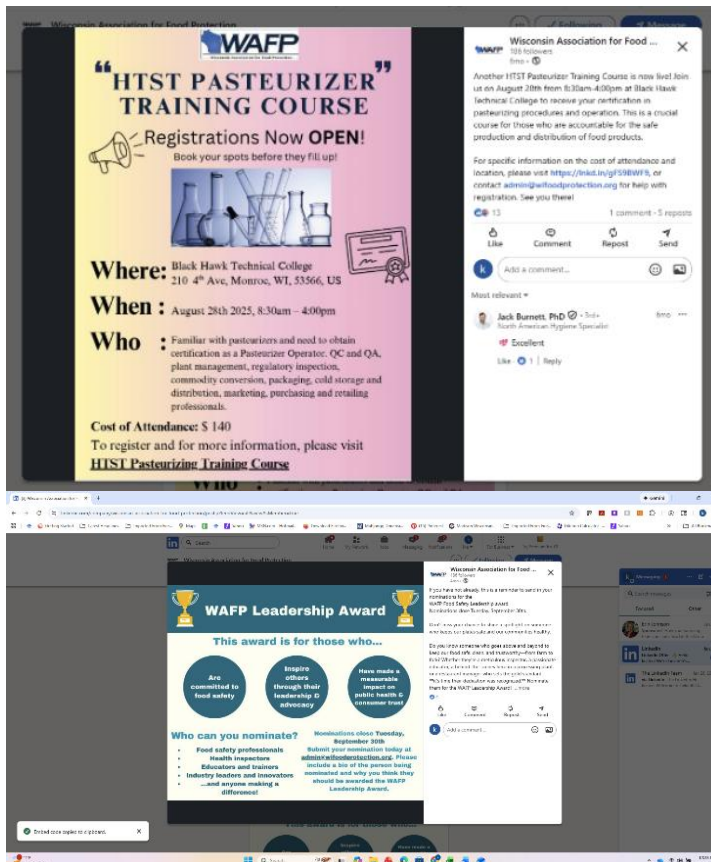
WAFP also updates its website regularly, ensuring members have access to current information regarding events, resources, and organizational activities. The website serves as a central hub for official communications and archived materials.

In addition, WAFP works collaboratively with other Wisconsin-based professional organizations, including the Wisconsin Laboratory Association and the Wisconsin Institute of Food Technology. Through mutual promotion of events and activities, these partnerships increase awareness of WAFP throughout the state and extend the reach of our communications beyond our immediate membership.

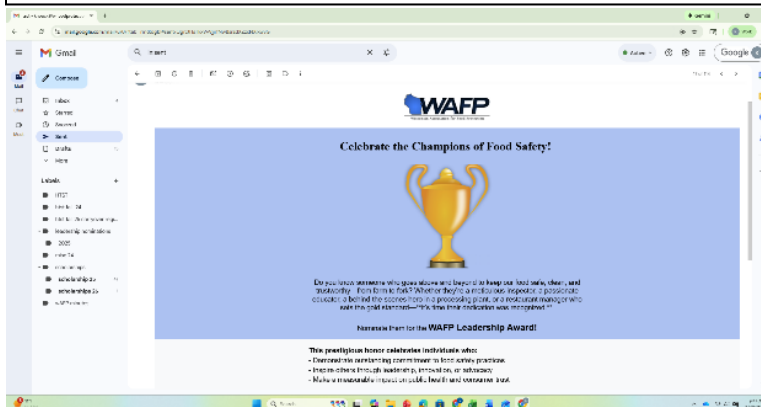
Samples of email communications, social media posts, and website updates with respective dates are included with this submission.

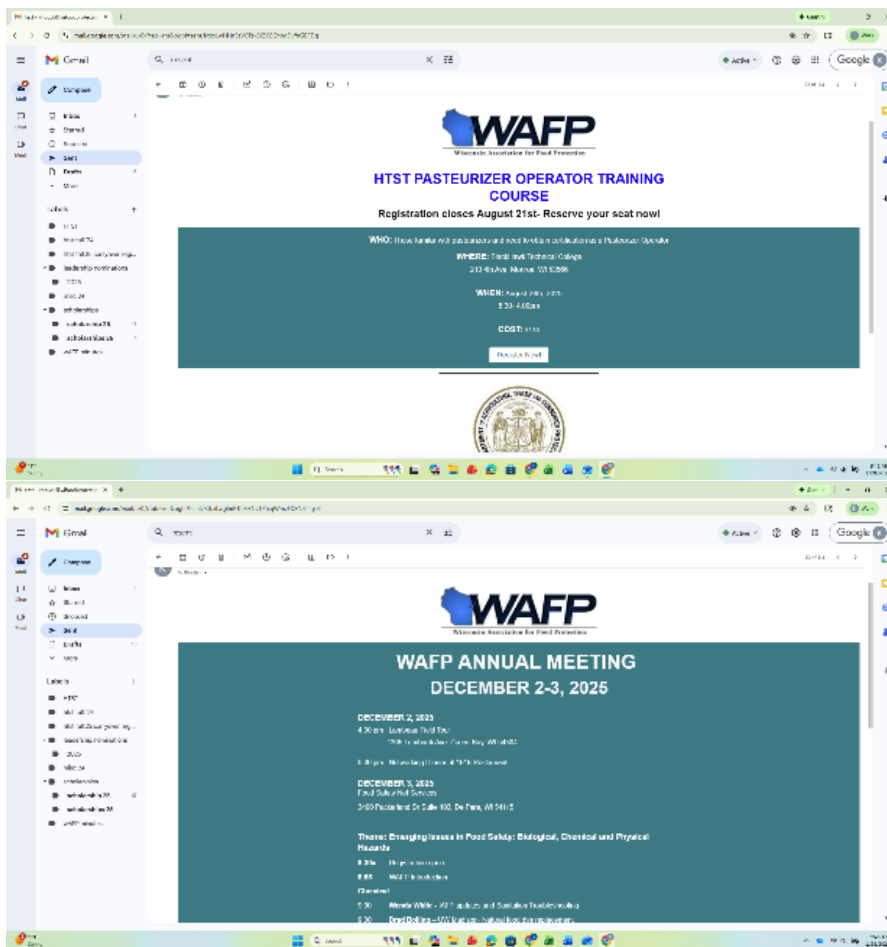
Set A: Examples of Linked In Posts throughout 2025





Set B: Examples of emails sent to WAFP members





X ☐ **Affiliate Education Award**

What types of food safety education program(s) did your Affiliate provide to its members during the past year? Provide the following details on all technical meetings, educational conferences, webinars, workshops, classes, and other methods pertinent to the interests of the membership:

- Background;
- Objectives;
- Agenda;
- Target audience;
- Dates held; and
- Numbers of attendees.

Describe any awards provided to students or young professionals. You may cut and paste copy in the space below or use a separate page if necessary; please limit your explanation to 500 words or less in 12-point type. *(Do not submit copies of speaker Power Point slide presentations.)*

The Wisconsin Association for Food Protection (WAFP) delivered multiple food safety education programs during the past year to support professional development, knowledge exchange, and workforce competency across industry, academia, and regulatory agencies.

Annual Meeting

Date Held: December 3, 2025

Target Audience: Food safety professionals from industry, academia, government, and students

Attendance: 25 (including Board Members)

An evening Lambeau Field tour and networking dinner preceded the meeting.

Agenda

Theme: Emerging Issues in Food Safety: Biological, Chemical and Physical Hazards

8:30a Registration open

8:55 WAFP Introduction

Chemical:

9:00 Wendy White - IAFP updates and Sanitation Troubleshooting

9:30 Brad Bolling – UW Madison- Natural food dye replacement

10:00 Break-networking

Biological:

10:30 Nicole Martin-Cornell- HPAI in Raw Milk

11:00 Adam Brock-DATCP update

11:30 2025 IAFP Student Travel Award Winner-Xingrui Fan

12:00 Lunch

Physical

1:00pm Steve Oswald – FlexXray: Physical Contaminants and Detection

1:30 WAFP updates and introduction of Incoming President

2:00 Dave Jelle- Food Safety Leadership Award Winner

New this year was a presentation by our student travel award winner in addition to the networking dinner.

WAFP also co-hosts the **Pasteurizer Operator Certification Workshop** biannually with the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Agency.

Dates Held: March 28 & September 28, 2025

Target Audience: Those familiar with pasteurizers and need to obtain certification as a Pasteurizer Operator

This is a one-day workshop and culminates with an exam to become a certified pasteurizer operator.

Attendance: 45 attendees at each workshop.

The pass rate increased from 85% in 2024 to 93% in March and 94% in September.

Pasteurizer Operation and Procedures Training and Certification of Pasteurizer Operators

Agenda

8:00 AM Registration Desk Opens, Breakfast

8:25 AM WAFP Welcome

8:30 AM Introduction to Microbiology and Pasteurization

Alex O'Brien, Center for Dairy Research

9:00 AM Cleaning and Sanitation of Pasteurization Systems

Kara Mikkelsen, ChemStation

9:30 AM Batch Pasteurization Systems

Annie Hagopian, DATCP

10:00 AM Break

10:15 AM HTST Operation Video

10:30 AM HTST Pasteurization Overview

Laurie Sippel, DATCP

10:45 PM Pasteurization Time, Temperature, and Flow

Nicholas Brost, DATCP

11:15 PM Flow Diversion Devices

Michelle Steinmetz, DATCP

11:45 PM Lunch

12:30 PM Pasteurization System Pressure Relationships

Ali Collins, DATCP

1:00 PM Pasteurization Broken Seals and Records

Margot Dahling, DATCP

1:30 PM Pasteurization Operator Course Summary

David Lang, DATCP

2:00 PM Break

2:15 PM Examinations

5:00 PM Grading Exams concluded

Pictures from Pasteurizer Operator Certification Workshop (March 2025):



WAFP also provided multiple awards to support student education and professional development in 2025:

Jiawen Fan- E.H.Marsh Award Recipient \$3000

Sophia Delgado-Undergraduate Award Recipient \$3000

Parnia Shamsdivband-Technical School Award Recipient \$2000

Xingrui Fan- IAFP Student Travel Award Winner

These awards recognize academic excellence, encourage participation in food safety programming, and support the next generation of food protection professionals.