



Fayette County



Dear Fayette County 4-H Members and Parents:

We are excited to announce that we will host the first **Master Showmanship Contest** (MSC) at the 2024 Fayette County 4-H Fair. The contest will be coordinated by the Fayette County Farm Bureau Young Leaders and Fayette County 4-H. The winner of the local competition will represent Fayette County at the state MSC event on Friday, August 9, 2024 at the Illinois State Fair.

The local contest will take place on **Sunday, July 14, 2024 (approximately 30 minutes following the goat show)** in the 4-H Arena at the Fayette County Fairgrounds. Rules are as follows:

1. The exhibitor must:
 - a. Senior Division: Be at least 14 years of age and no more than 18 years of age as of September 1, 2023. (Birthdate between 9/2/2005 and 9/1/2009).
 - b. Junior Division: At least 8 years of age and no more than 13 years of age as of September 1, 2023. (Birthdate 9/2/2009 and 9/1/2015)
2. The exhibitor must be currently enrolled in a Fayette County 4-H livestock project.
3. An exhibitor may participate in the Master Showmanship Contest for more than one consecutive year.
4. The exhibitor must be able to attend and participate in the state contest **Friday, August 9, 2024 @ 7:00 p.m.** (or 30 minutes following the conclusion of the Supreme Heifer Drive) at the Illinois State Fair. If the county winner cannot participate in the state contest, the Reserve Master Showman will attend in his/her place.
5. Each contestant must exhibit one of each: a steer or heifer, a market or breeding lamb, and a market hog or breeding gilt. Participants in the contest must supply their own livestock for the competition. Each exhibitor must own or borrow the livestock from other registered 4-H members. The winner will be responsible for securing their own animals for the state competition (assistance can be provided in identifying local 4-H livestock exhibitors at the state fair who might be able to provide animals).
6. Prizes will be awarded to both the Champion and Reserve Champion Master Showman in each division. The champion of the Senior Division will represent Fayette County at the state level. If he/she is unable to attend the State MSC, the Reserve will go in their place.
7. Contest organizers maintain the right to expel any individual who has violated any of the rules or who exhibits improper conduct that is unbecoming of a 4-H member.
8. In the event of a state contest cancellation, contest organizers (Fayette County Farm Bureau and Fayette County 4-H) are not liable for any lost revenues, expenses incurred, or schedule inconvenience, and are not bound to issue any awards or prizes at the state level.
9. The county and state contests will adhere to any and all guidelines in relation to the Illinois State Fair issued by the Illinois Department of Agriculture
10. Registration for the county event is being coordinated through the University of Illinois Extension – Fayette County and the Fayette County Farm Bureau