


Coles County 4-H



Fair Book 2026



Coles County 4-H Fair Book 2026

Information on Illinois Extension and 4-H

The Illinois 4-H program, managed by the University of Illinois Extension, is supported by a dedicated team of professionals, coordinators, and both adult and teen volunteers.

Illinois 4-H empowers youth to become problem-solvers for the challenges facing our state, cultivating the next generation of leaders, innovators, entrepreneurs, environmental stewards, and builders.

With a broader mission of helping young people gain knowledge, develop life skills, and adopt positive attitudes, 4-H equips youth to become independent, productive, and engaged members of society. Open to all youth, whether they live in rural or urban areas, 4-H offers programs in every Illinois county. While the projects and activities may differ from county to county, the opportunities for growth and learning are endless.

Contact Information

Coles County Extension Staff

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Telephone: 217-345-7034

Web: <https://extension.illinois.edu/ccdms/>

Hours: M-F: 8:00 a.m.-noon; 1:00-4:30 p.m.

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Illinois State 4-H Office

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Letter to 4-H Families

Hello 4-H Families,

I am beyond excited to welcome you to another incredible year with Coles County 4-H! When you enroll in 4-H, you become part of something so much bigger, a vibrant community of youth across Illinois, the nation, and even the world. With more than 80 project areas to explore, the possibilities are endless. This is your opportunity to discover new passions, build skills, and grow into the best version of yourself.

And before we know it, fair season will be here! The Coles County 4-H Fair is truly the highlight of the year. It's a time when all your hard work, creativity, and dedication come to life. There is nothing more rewarding than seeing youth proudly showcase projects they have worked on all year long. The fair is a celebration of growth, confidence, leadership, and perseverance—and I cannot wait to see each of you shine.

As you review the fair book (which also serves as our official 4-H Handbook), be sure to pay close attention to project requirements and updates. Criteria may change from year to year, so checking the fair book and our website regularly will help ensure you're prepared and confident on fair day.

If this is your first fair season, welcome! It may feel overwhelming at first, but please know you are not alone. Our dedicated 4-H leaders and I are here to guide and support you every step of the way. 4-H is a journey and every project, meeting, and experience helps shape your unique path.

Be sure to watch your email and newsletters for important updates. If you're not receiving communications, please contact the Coles County Extension Office at 217-345-7034.

I encourage you to jump in, try something new, and fully embrace all that 4-H has to offer. The more you invest, the more meaningful and rewarding your experience will be. Together, let's live out the 4-H motto: **"To Make the Best Better!"**

I truly cannot wait for fair week and to celebrate all the amazing accomplishments you will achieve this year!



Together in 4-H,

Macey Macey

4-H Program Coordinator

Disclaimer: Any announcements made after the printing of this book will take precedence over the information in the 2026 4-H Handbook.

Illinois 4-H will adapt and adjust events based on evolving guidance from the CDC, the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), and the University of Illinois. Additional guidelines from local venues will also be observed and followed.

2026 Coles County 4-H Fair Schedule

Saturday, March 21, 2026 – Location: SBL Lumpkin Family Education Center

Multi-County Public Speaking Contest with Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, and Moultrie counties.

10 a.m. Public Speaking Contest

Saturday, June 13, 2026 – Location: Coles County Fair Grounds, Swine Barn

Multi-County Dog Show with Coles, Douglas, and Moultrie counties.

9 a.m. Dog Show

Saturday, June 20, 2026 – Location: CCEEBA Horse Arena in Toledo

Multi-County Horse Show with Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, and Moultrie counties.

9 a.m. Horse Show

Monday, July 20, 2026 – Location: CCEEBA Building, Toledo

Multi-County Cat Show with Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, and Moultrie counties.

6 p.m. 4-H Cat Show

Tuesday, July 21, 2026 – Location: Coles County Fair Grounds

5 p.m. Fair Clean-up

Saturday, July 25, 2026 – Location: Coles County Fair Grounds 4-H Center

Cloverbud Show (5-7 year-olds)

10 a.m. Cloverbuds Check-In & Show (5-7 year olds)

Sunday, July 26, 2026 – Location: Coles County Fair Grounds

7 a.m. Swine Check-in @ announcer's booth with volunteer

8 a.m.	Weigh-in (Order: Swine, Goats, Sheep)
8 a.m.	Health Paper Check in Barns (Order: Swine, Goats, Sheep)
12:30 p.m.	Check-in for General Projects (8-18 year-olds)
1 p.m. – 3 p.m.	General Project Show
3 p.m. – 5 p.m.	4-H Center closed to wrap-up and place ribbons
5 p.m. - 6 p.m.	4-H Center Opens (results posted)
5 p.m.	Beef Rate-of-Gain
6 p.m.	Cookout with Rural King
6 p.m.	Rabbit Check-in
6:30 p.m.	Rabbit Show

Monday, July 27, 2026 – Location: Coles County Fair Grounds

8:30 a.m.	Swine Show
11 a.m.	Goat Check-In
12 p.m.	Goat Show
5 p.m.	4-H General Projects Awards Program in Main Arena <i>(Awarding projects shown during the General Projects Show)</i>
5 p.m.	Sheep Check-In
6 p.m.	Sheep Show

Tuesday, July 28, 2026 – Location: Coles County Fair Grounds

9 a.m.	Beef Show
12:30 p.m.	Poultry Check-in & Testing
1 p.m.	Poultry Show
5 p.m.	Kids Pedal Tractor Pull (Hosted by Farm Bureau Young Leaders)

Wednesday, July 29, 2026 – Location: Coles County Fair Grounds Main Show Arena

- 5 p.m. Parade of Champions / Pizza Party
Coles County Young Leaders Livestock Awards Presentation
- 6 p.m. Jr. & Sr. Master Showmanship Contest

Thursday, July 30, 2026 – Location: Coles County Fair Grounds

- 9 a.m. – 11 a.m. General Projects Released
Take down exhibits & clean-up 4-H center
- 5 p.m. Federation Pork Burger Sale (Time may vary)
- 5:30 p.m. Youth Livestock Auction- Hosted by Coles County Fair Board
See Youth Livestock Auction Section for details and contact info.

August 13-23, 2026 – Location: Illinois State Fair Grounds, Springfield

Illinois State Fair

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Mission

Our mission in Illinois 4-H is to champion diversity, advance equity, promote inclusion, and ensure accessibility. We strive to empower the community and partners, regardless of background or abilities, to thrive, learn and contribute to positive change.

Policies

Illinois 4-H policies are established to maintain uniform implementation of the 4-H programs. As University of Illinois Extension employees and volunteers, it is our responsibility to carry out these policies in accordance with the mission and educational goals of 4-H.

Accommodation Requests

If you need accommodation to participate in a 4-H show or event, please contact the Extension office at the following phone number and/or address: University of Illinois Extension-Coles County, 809 Broadway Ave, Mattoon, IL 61938, (217) 345-7034 at least two weeks prior to the event.

Illinois 4-H Participant & Family Code of Conduct

The opportunity to participate in or attend 4-H activities is a privilege and not a right. All 4-H participants – youth and families who participate in or attend any activity or event sponsored by the University of Illinois 4-H Youth Development program are expected to uphold the values of the Illinois 4-H program and conduct themselves according to the following standards. These standards also apply to online 4-H activity, including social media and internet presence.

As a 4-H Youth Development program participant and family, I agree I will:

1. **Represent University of Illinois 4-H program with dignity and pride and be a positive role model.**
2. **Conduct myself in a manner that reflects honesty, integrity, self-control, and self-direction.** Accept the results and outcomes of Extension contests with grace and empathy for other participants. Accept the final opinions of judges and evaluators. Be open to innovative ideas, suggestions, and opinions of others.
3. **Create a Welcoming Environment for All.** Encourage everyone to fully participate in 4-H program. Recognize that all people have skills and talents that can help others and improve

the community. Though we will not always agree, we must disagree respectfully. When we disagree, try to understand why. Our first priority is to create a safe, inclusive space for learning, sharing and collaboration that is welcoming to people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives. Diversity includes, but is not limited to: race, color, religion, political beliefs, national or ethnic origin, immigration or citizenship status, sex, gender identity and expression, transgender status, sexual orientation, age, marital or family status, educational level, learning style, pregnancy, physical appearance, body size, and individuals with disabilities.

4. **Comply with University of Illinois equal opportunity and antidiscrimination policies**, as well as all federal, state, and local laws.
5. **Honor Diversity** - Respect the privacy of persons involved with Extension programs and hold in confidence sensitive, private, and personal information.
6. **Create a Safe Environment.** Not carelessly or intentionally harm or intimidate anyone in any way (verbally, mentally, physically, or emotionally). Not engage in romantic displays or sexual activities in either public or private situations at any Extension sponsored activity or event. Be kind and compassionate toward others. Not insult, harass, or bully others or engage in other hostile behaviors. Be considerate and courteous of all persons and their property.
7. **Be a Team Player.** Work cooperatively with all individuals involved in Extension programs and activities. Be responsive to the reasonable requests of the person in charge. Respect the integrity of the group and the group's decisions.
8. **Be a Positive Role Model.** Act in a mature, responsible manner, recognizing I am a role model for others and that I am representing both myself and the University of Illinois 4-H programs. Be responsible for my behavior, use positive and affirming language, and uphold exemplary standards of conduct at all 4-H activities.
9. **Participate Fully.** Participate in and contribute to planned programs, be on time and follow through on assigned tasks/responsibilities in a manner that fosters the safety, well-being, and quality of the educational experience for myself and others. Have fun!
10. **Obey the Law.** Obey the laws of the locality, state and nation, University of Illinois and University of Illinois Extension policies and guidelines. Commit no illegal acts.

11. Will not possess, offer to others, or use alcohol, illegal drugs, marijuana, or tobacco products, which include e-pens, e-pipes, e-hookah, e-cigars, JUULs, vapes, vape pens or other electronic nicotine delivery systems at 4-H activities or events. Will not attend Extension activities under the influence of alcohol, illegal substances, or marijuana.
12. Will not possess or use weapons or firearms except as expressly permitted as part of supervised 4-H shooting sports programming
13. Not retaliate against individuals, including minors, families, parents, guardians, University of Illinois Extension staff members or other volunteers, who report allegations of inappropriate conduct (including but not limited to abuse; neglect; assault; harassment; sexual assault, abuse, or harassment; possessing child pornography or providing it to a minor; furnishing alcohol, drugs, or sexual materials to a minor; and violations of the University of Illinois antidiscrimination policy).
14. **Uphold and support the responsible use of social media.** In so doing, I will not create or post social media content about Illinois Extension that is abusive, threatening, defamatory, obscene, harassing, or creates a hostile environment.
15. Recognize University of Illinois Extension has the responsibility and authority to remove individuals who are disruptive to the University of Illinois Extension programs, violate the University of Illinois 4-H Code of Conduct, state, or local laws, or for any other reason the University of Illinois Extension deems appropriate.
16. **Humane Treatment of Animals.** Treat animals humanely and teach 4-H youth to provide appropriate animal care.
17. **Mindful Attire:** The dress code is designed to promote safety and inclusion for all. Wear clothing suitable for the activity in which you will participate. Clothing that displays or promotes violence, obscenity, illegal activities, discrimination, or intimidation is prohibited. Private areas must be covered with an opaque fabric, and clothing must cover undergarments; waistbands and bra straps excluded. These guidelines help ensure a respectful and comfortable space for all. Thank you for your cooperation.

It is expected that all University of Illinois Extension participants and families comply with the University of Illinois 4-H Code of Conduct. Failure to comply with any component of the Code or

participation in other inappropriate conduct as determined by University of Illinois Extension representatives may lead to removal from the University of Illinois 4-H program.

Agreeing to the Code of Conduct

Submitting 4-H fair entries indicate you have read the above and that you agree to the following: *“We understand and accept the responsibility for following the “Code of Conduct” for this 4-H event or activity. We further understand that failure to do so will result in disciplinary action as outlined above and forfeiture of any participant’s fees.”*

4-H Show Attire

Participating in 4-H shows is an exciting and rewarding experience. While it’s easy to get caught up in the fun, it’s equally important to remember the value of presenting yourself professionally when exhibiting your project. Dressing appropriately does not require new or formal clothing, it simply means taking care to look neat, clean, and prepared. Clothing that displays or promotes violence, obscenity, illegal activities, discrimination, or intimidation is prohibited. Do not wear revealing clothing, such as short skirts or shorts, midriff-baring tops, or anything showing undergarments. Following these guidelines will help you feel confident and leave a positive impression in the show ring.

General Guidelines:

- Arrive neat, clean, and well-groomed.
- Remove hats while showing (judges prefer to see your face when speaking with you).
- Keep hair combed and tidy; tie back, if necessary, especially when handling livestock.
- Wear closed-toe shoes in the show ring (no sandals or flip-flops).

Please note: Exhibitors wearing open-toe shoes will be disqualified.

- Choose well-fitted jeans or khakis for bottoms (no shorts).
- Wear shirts with sleeves (no spaghetti straps).

A polished appearance not only reflects your dedication and effort but also shows respect for the judge, fellow exhibitors, and the event itself.

Coles County Fair Requirements

Notes on this Section

- In addition to the general 4-H Requirements listed here, rules applying to specific divisions appear in the divisional listings.
- Find Score Sheets at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/events/state-events/illinois-state-fair> near the bottom of the page.

Eligibility Information

1. **COMMUNITY CLUB MEMBER ELIGIBILITY:** Any youth, regardless of race, creed, color, or handicap, who is 8-18 years of age on Sept. 1 of the current 4-H year, maybe a member of a 4-H community club. These members can hold offices, participate in the county 4-H project expo/fair/interview, and participate in the 4-H awards program. A list of available clubs in Coles County can be provided by the Extension Office.
2. **SPECIAL INTEREST CLUB MEMBERS ELIGIBILITY:** Any youth, regardless of race, creed, color, or handicap, who is 8-18 years of age by September 1 of the current 4-H year, may be a member of a 4-H SPIN (Special Interest) Club. 4-H'ers enrolled in SPIN Clubs are eligible for full membership, awards, scholarships, and exhibit opportunities. Current Coles County SPIN clubs are Shooting Sports- air rifle and archery and All Things Paw-sitive (dog SPIN club).
3. **INDEPENDENT MEMBER ELIGIBILITY:** Independent membership is most appropriate for collegiate-age 4-H youth living away from home while pursuing advanced education. All 4-H independent members must meet with the 4-H Extension Program Coordinator. The 4-H member and 4H Extension Program Coordinator should work together and review the content of the 4-H Independent Member Agreement / 4-H Show Exhibit Requirement form.
4. **4-H CLOVERBUD MEMBER ELIGIBILITY:** Youth ages 5-7 years of age by September 1 of the current 4-H year, may enroll in 4-H as 4-H Cloverbuds. Cloverbuds may learn about 4-H by attending club meetings, taking 4-H projects, and participating in 4-H shows and events. Cloverbuds do not hold club offices. Cloverbud members are not allowed to exhibit any live animal. Cloverbud members do not receive premiums but are allowed to exhibit at the 4-H show and receive a ribbon.
5. **ENROLLMENT YEAR:** The 4-H year runs from September 1 through August 31 of the current year. "4-H age" is determined as the age of the 4-H member on September 1, 2025.

6. **ACCESSIBILITY:** Anyone needing reasonable accommodation to participate in a 4-H program should contact the Coles County Extension Office at 217-345-7034.


Member Requirements

1. The member must have met attendance requirements. Members are required to attend the majority (more than half) of their club's meetings and participate in at least one county activity. Attendance is calculated based on regularly scheduled club meetings from September 1 to June 30. If a member misses a meeting, they may make it up by attending another club's meeting within the same month, either before, during, or after the missed meeting, preferably within Coles County. For new members who join in January or later, attendance requirements will be determined based on their enrollment date.
2. All projects, including livestock animals, must have been owned, personally cared for, and completed by the 4-H member within the current 4-H year.
3. The member must have completed a talk or demonstration within their club, school, or other organization.
4. Participate in at least one county activity.
5. All 4-H Fair exhibits are to be entered into the FairEntry system by the deadline.
6. All projects listed as a General Projects should be accompanied by the General Project Discovery Report Form.

Entry Requirements

1. In order to receive premiums, entries for the current 4-H fair into the FairEntry system must be made by the deadline, June 2, 2026.
2. Exhibitors are limited to one entry in any given class, unless otherwise stated.

General Projects Show Requirements

1. Exhibit tags will be provided on show day for General Projects and must be securely fastened to all articles being exhibited.
2. General Project books are brought to show day for specific project areas. (See  icon next to the project guidelines for this requirement.)
3. Use of page protectors is recommended for binder exhibits.
4. Parents, leaders and spectators are strictly prohibited from being in designated judging areas. A judge show superintendent or Extension staff member may reserve the right to stop judging until parents and leaders are out of judging area.

5. Exhibitors will participate in conference judging during which exhibits are critiqued by the judge. Judges consider the knowledge exhibited by the member and the appearance of the exhibit when determining rating.
6. All projects will receive an “A” (blue ribbon), “B” (red ribbon), or “C” (white ribbon) rating. Rating accomplishments are: “A” – project met standards, “B” – project needs improvement, and “C” – project needs much improvement. Grade levels will automatically be lowered if exhibit requirements are not met. Only “A” ratings are eligible for champion selection. All judges’ decisions are final.
7. Champion and Reserve Champion ribbons/recognition may be awarded in all project areas at the discretion of the judge. An exhibitor must be present at the time of judging to be eligible for State Fair. Exception: if a 4-H’er is at another 4-H event, they are still eligible for State Fair by obtaining an excused absence prior to the 4-H show. If 4-H’er cannot be present, a written paragraph describing what was learned must be attached to the project.
8. All exhibits from General Projects judging are to remain in the exhibit building during County Fair. Projects may be picked up at the designated date and time set by the county 4-H Program Coordinator. Food, Vegetable, and Floral exhibits may be picked up the same day after all judging is complete. Pictures of the exhibit must then be displayed for the duration and must be in place prior to removal of the food, floral, or vegetables.

* Club/Group exhibits are to include a 10-minute presentation by a minimum of 3 and not more than 5 club members. Group projects do not receive premiums and are not eligible for the Champion award.

BEHAVIORS THAT MAY RESULT IN REMOVAL FROM ACTIVITY

The University of Illinois Extension reserves the right to restrict participation in future activities for those individuals who have been removed from an activity for any behavior outlined in Category 1 or 2. In all cases, the participant will be responsible for restitution of any damages incurred by his/her actions.

Category 1

- Possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and other drugs*, including tobacco products.
*Prescription drugs must be listed on an Emergency Medical Information form.
- Theft or destruction of public or private property.
- Involvement in sexual misconduct or harassment.

- Possession or use of dangerous weapons or materials (including fireworks).
- Fighting or other acts of violence, actual or implied, that endanger the safety of the participant or others.

Category 2

- Willfully breaking curfew.
- Unauthorized use of vehicles.
- Leaving the site of the event.
- Participation in gambling.
- Absence from the planned program.
- Intentionally interfering with or disrupting the event.
- Use of profane or abusive language.
- Disregard for public or personal property.
- Public displays of affection or inappropriate actions.
- Failure to comply with direction of Extension personnel, including designated adults acting within their duties and guidelines.

4-H Ruling

The Coles County Extension staff, or a designated committee, reserves the right to interpret all 4-H rules. This interpretation shall be final. Complaints should be made in writing and signed. These complaints should be accompanied by the necessary proof to substantiate the complaint. All complaints will be reviewed.

Consequences

University of Illinois Extension reserves the right to restrict participation in future activities for those individuals who have been removed from an activity for behavior, as outlined in Category 1 or Category 2. In all cases, the participant will be responsible for restitution of any damages incurred by his/her actions.

Category 1:

- When notified of any of the actions listed under Category 1, the adult in charge, will ascertain the relevant facts, and, with concurrence from the U of I Extension staff, will notify the affected participant of the action and any supporting evidence. The participant will be allowed an opportunity to answer the allegations and, if necessary, law enforcement officials will be notified. While facts are being verified, the participant will be removed from the 4-H activity/event and be under direct supervision of an adult chaperon.
- The parent or guardian will be notified of the actions of the participant, and upon finding the allegations to be true, must immediately remove the participant from the activity at the parent's or guardian's expense.
- Documentation must be completed on an "Incident Report Form."

Category 2:

- When notified of any of the actions listed under Category 2, the adult in charge, will ascertain the relevant facts, and, with concurrence from the U of I Extension staff, will notify the participant of the action and any supporting evidence. The participant will be allowed an opportunity to answer the allegations and, if necessary, law enforcement officials will be notified. While facts are being verified, the participant will be removed from the 4-H activity/event and be under direct supervision of an adult chaperon.
- The parent or guardian of the participants who violate curfew, use vehicles without authorization or leave the site of the event (as outlined in Category 2, letters a, b, c) will be notified of the actions by the participant.
- The parent or guardian must immediately re-move the participant from the activity, at the parent's or guardian's expense. Participants who willfully disobey conduct as described in Category 2, letters d-i, will receive a verbal and written warning (initialed by the adult and the participant).

*Upon receiving a second warning, the parent or guardian will be notified of the behavior and must make arrangements for removal of the participant from the activity, at the parent's or guardian's expense.

Protest of Results

If another exhibitor or any member of the public has reason to believe that an exhibitor, project, or animal should be disqualified, they must contact the county 4-H program coordinator and file a protest form. The protest form must be completed at least twelve hours before the department show begins or within twelve hours after the conclusion of said show and must include his/her evidence in writing.

A Protest Committee will be formed to determine eligibility of exhibitor, project, or animal exhibited at the fair. If any questions arise that are not covered by the general rules, the Committee shall make the decision. The exhibitor must cooperate fully with the Committee in any action they might see fit to take. Failure to conform to the rules may result in disqualification.

The Committee shall consist of the 4-H Superintendent of the division, three Extension Council members, and Extension staff. The parent or guardian must immediately remove the participant from the activity, at the parent's or guardian's expense. Participants who willfully disobey conduct as described in Category 2, letters d-l, will receive a verbal and written warning (initialed by the adult and the participant). Upon receiving a second warning, the parent or guardian will be notified of the behavior and must make arrangements for removal of the participant from the activity, at the parent's or guardian's expense.

State Fair Eligibility Requirements

General Projects

- 1.) A 4-H'er must be 8 years of age by September 1st of the current year to be eligible to exhibit at the State Fair.
- 2.) To be eligible for State Fair exhibition, the exhibit must have received an "A" rating.
- 3.) Judges may select any number up to specified limits in different project areas, as determined by quality of projects.
- 4.) Exhibitors must be present at the time of county judging to be selected as a State Fair Delegate.
- 5.) State Fair Delegates and State Fair Alternates must fill out the State Fair Form by the date set by the 4-H Program Coordinator for the current year, for their exhibit entry. Forms can be turned in at the 4-H Center (in the white box on the North side), or the Extension office.

- 6.) State Fair Alternates will be contacted after General Projects Day if there are openings and will have until the date set by the Program Coordinator to contact the office regarding their plans on attending State Fair.
- 7.) State Fair exhibitors may exhibit one general project at the State Fair.
- 8.) All general projects State Fair exhibitors will have the opportunity to experience conference judging during the Illinois State Fair.

Showing Livestock

- 1.) Beef, Dairy, Dairy Beef, Goats, Sheep, Swine, Rabbits, Poultry, Horse & Pony, and Dogs are not shown the same day as the other county projects. Any 4-H member meeting the State Fair requirements in the above projects listed in the Illinois State Fair can exhibit their animal at the State Fair. Dogs must qualify during the dog show. Registration for horses is June 1 in the Extension Office and June 15 for all other livestock showing at the State Fair. Illinois State Fair information can be accessed at the following website or by contacting the Extension Office.
<https://www2.illinois.gov/statefair/competitions/Pages/default.aspx>
- 2.) All 4-H members must follow the health guidelines of the Illinois Department of Agriculture Bureau of Animal Health and Welfare when exhibiting any livestock at county and state fairs in Illinois. Those guidelines are updated annually. The current years state and county guidelines can be found at go.illinois.edu/FairHealthRequirements

Horses

- 1.) Copies of the ownership and/or lease papers and one set of the photos for horse/ponies exhibiting at the State Fair must be on file with the Coles County Extension Office by June 1. Any number of pictures with ownership/lease papers may be turned in by the May 13 deadline.
- 2.) State Fair entry forms must be completed and submitted by the exhibitor and family.
- 3.) No replacement animals will be allowed in the State Fair Junior Horse Show unless that animal has already been registered in the Extension Office by the deadline stated above. Replacement animals may be allowed only with a vet certificate and if the exhibitor has pictures on file with the Extension Office. The replacement horse may only be exhibited for the same classes as the horse being replaced was signed up for.

- 4.) Violations of the ownership/leasing rules will not be tolerated. Violations may result in disqualification from current and/or the following year's State Junior Horse Show and forfeiture of all premiums and awards.

Livestock

General Livestock Show Rules

- 1.) A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) is required and must accompany all cattle (except steers and calves under 6 months of age), swine, sheep and goats to the fairgrounds. CVI for Illinois-origin livestock shall be void ninety (90) days after issuance. CVI for out-of-state livestock shall be void thirty (30) days after issuance.
- 2.) Exhibits will be given one of three grades by the judge: "A" (blue ribbon), "B" (red ribbon), "C" (white ribbon). Only "A" rated animals are eligible for Champion and Reserve Champion selection.
- 3.) Animals must remain on the fairgrounds until released by the superintendent. (End of 4-H shows)
- 4.) All animals must be exhibited by the owner or by another Coles County eligible 4-H member (with approval of the superintendent) if it is impossible for the owner to show. In NO case will someone other than a Coles County 4-H member be allowed to show the animal. Spectators and friends will not be allowed in the show ring during judging. **Cloverbuds are not eligible to show livestock.**
- 5.) Purebred animals must be registered or have registration applied for in the member's name or immediate family member as of date project started. (Immediate family includes, Mother, Father, Brother/Sister, or Legal Guardian) Any animal without registration papers will not be allowed to show in the Purebred Breeding Animal Classes. Registration papers may be checked at the show.
- 6.) Animals or livestock must have been owned, personally cared for, and in possession of the exhibitor by the effective ownership date unless otherwise stated.
- 7.) Exhibitors should wear appropriate clothing and closed toe footwear. An exhibitor may be asked to change attire if found inappropriate.

- 8.) 4-H'ers must be totally involved with the grooming of their livestock projects for the 4-H Show. Grooming of animals for Coles County 4-H competition shall be limited to the 4-H member, their family and other Coles County 4-H members. Ethical practices must be used for grooming.
- 9.) Pens, stalls, and alleys must be clean and sanitary at all times. Exhibitors must leave stalls and pens in a clean and orderly condition after the show.
- 10.) Completion of the Quality Assurance & Ethics Clinic (QAEC) is **required once in a 4-H'ers career** for all exhibitors in the horse, dogs, cats, rabbits, and poultry classes. Members complete the Quality Assurance & Ethics Clinic online through Clover Academy in Zsuite **by June 1**.
- 11.) Completion of Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) is required for all exhibitors yearly for only beef, dairy, goats, sheep, and swine) Complete the training online at <https://yqcaprogram.org/> **by June 1**.
- 12.) **Blood Testing Provision** – Illinois Department of Ag personnel may collect blood, tissue or urine samples from any animal being exhibited to test for the presence of illegal drugs.
- 13.) **Physical Abuse Statement** - All exhibitors of animals at any Illinois fair or exhibition shall comply with the provisions of the Illinois Humane Care for Animals Act. If violations are observed, the animals will be excused from exhibition and ordered to be removed from the grounds with all awards being forfeited. As determined by fair officials, superintendents, or veterinarians any practice or deviation from normal humane husbandry practices, including but not limited to artificial manipulations, physical abuse, withholding of feed or water, medical treatments or mechanical applications of any substance, other than on the prescription of a licensed veterinarian, will constitute a violation of show rules and are subject to the above provisions. (The Illinois Humane Care for Animals Act is on file at the Extension Office.)

Youth Livestock and General Auction

Livestock Auction

- 1.) Each youth exhibitor may sell one animal. Meat pens of rabbits and poultry count as one animal.
- 2.) All animals sold must have been exhibited by the 4-Her and approved by the superintendents.
- 3.) No youth may sell a sick animal at the Livestock auction.
- 4.) There will be no substitutions allowed for the grand and reserve champion animals being sold in any species.
- 5.) Youth Exhibitors must sign up for the sale immediately following the species show in the show ring. Final notice of animal to be sold must be made by contacting the Coles County Fair board: Ed McKinney – 217-345-3208 or Mark Grant – 217-246-0015
- 6.) Youth Exhibitors will be responsible for loading their market animal after the auction to accommodate the buyer. Only beef that has been numbered will be transported to market.
- 7.) Selling animals through the auction may retain show rights through the Illinois State Fair, but the seller must return the animal or provide equal reimbursement to the buyer within one week of the conclusion of the Illinois State Fair.
 - a. The youth exhibitor is responsible for gaining permission from the buyer to continue show rights beyond the Illinois State Fair.
- 8.) Exhibitors must be present at the specified time on the day of the Auction to assist in numbering their animals or they will not be sold.
- 9.) Order of Sale by Species: Order is rotated among the species from year to year.
- 10.) Order of Sale in Each Species: Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion and others as per number drawn.

General Projects Auction

- 1.) General Project will be included in the auction.

- a. First 15 to 20 members to sign up will have their general projects included in the Auction.
 - b. Sign up at the Coles County Fair Board Office by Monday, July 27.
- 2.) There will be no substitutions allowed once the designated general project had been entered.
 - 3.) Youth will be responsible for loading their general project after the auction to accommodate the buyer.
 - 4.) Youth selling general projects through the auction may retain show rights through the Illinois State Fair, but the seller must return the General Project sold to the buyer within one week of the conclusion of the Illinois State Fair.
 - a. The youth exhibitor is responsible for gaining permission from the buyer to continue show rights beyond the Illinois State Fair.
 - 5.) Exhibitors must be present at the specified time on the day of the Auction to assist numbering their project or they will not be sold.

For questions regarding the youth auction please contact the Coles County Fair board: Ed McKinney – 217-345-3208 or Mark Grant – 217-246-0015

2026 IDOA State and County Fair Livestock Health Requirements

Visit go.illinois.edu/FairHealthRequirements to see all 2026 livestock fair health requirements. If you need an emailed or printed copy of these requirements, please contact Macey at mvmmaxey@illinois.edu or 217-345-7034.

2025-2026 – Livestock Birth, Ownership and Tattoo Dates

Illinois State Fair Junior Show

STEERS

- Calved on or after January 1, 2025
- Owned & personally cared for by exhibitor since – February 1, 2026
- Weighed, Tattooed, and EID tagged on or between the last Saturday in January (January 31, 2026) and February 28, 2026.

BARROWS

Regular Barrows

- Farrowed on or after January 1, 2026, and must be the property of the exhibitor by June 1, 2026
- No weighing and tattooing required but must submit ear notches and EID 840 tag number when making entry for ISF

Premiere Barrows (carcass class)

- Farrowed on or after February 1, 2026 and must have been the property of the exhibitor by June 1, 2026.
- Weighed and Tattooed with Box A tattoo from February 10 to April 15, 2026
- Tattooed within 35 days of birth and not weigh more than 1.0 lbs./day of age
- Junior exhibitors can purchase pre-nominated barrows

SHEEP

Market Wethers & Market Ewe Lambs: Live Show Wethers.

- Lambled on or after January 1, 2026
- Ownership Date – May 15, 2026
- Self-nomination as follows: Nominations must be signed by local Extension Office.
- Exhibitors fill out and send in nomination form with photo of lamb's ear with scrapie tag installed in ear (close up photo of ear so scrapie tag can be read). This must be completed between March 15 and May 15, 2026. Send to Shelby Carlson, University of Illinois, 180 S. Soangetaha Rd., Ste. 108, Galesburg IL, 61401

Jr. and Open Premiere Wether & Ewe lambs: - Weigh-in, tattoo, and nomination procedures:

- Junior and open premiere lambs will be nominated, tattooed, and weighed at the county level.

- Premiere lambs must be weighed and tattooed with the Box A tattoo followed by a number starting with 1 - This must be witnessed by a local Extension employee or a person they designate, such as a volunteer or local sheep superintendent.
- Completed nomination forms must be signed by the local Extension Office.
- Send nomination forms to Shelby Carlson, University of Illinois, 180 S. Soangetaha Rd., Ste. 108, Galesburg IL, 61401
- Ownership and nomination deadline is March 15 to May 15, 2026.
- Lambed on or after January 1, 2026.

Meat Goat Wethers: Live Show Wethers

- Wethers – Born on or after October 1, 2025
- Ownership dates for Kids & Yearlings not in milk – May 15, 2026
- Self-nomination as follows: Nominations must be signed by local Extension office.
- Exhibitors fill out and send in nomination form with photo of goat's ear with scrapie tag installed in ear close up photo of ear so scrapie tag can be read). This must be completed between March 15 and May 15, 2026. Send to **Shelby Carlson, University of Illinois, 180 S. Soangetaha Rd., Ste. 108, Galesburg IL, 61401**

2026 Breeding Animals

Birth & Ownership Dates for Illinois State Fair Junior Show

BEEF – HEIFERS AND COWS

Heifers

- Age requirement is from September 1, 2024, to March 31, 2026 (w/ addition of Senior Yearling class)
- Owned and personally cared for by exhibitor since June 1, 2026

Performance Cows

- Cows must be born before September 1, 2024 (Cow-Calf Class only)
- Owned and personally cared by exhibitor since January 1, 2026

SWINE – GILTS

- Age requirement is farrowed on or after January 1, 2026
- Owned by exhibitor since June 1, 2026

SHEEP – EWES & RAMS

- Age requirement for yearling ewes is from January 1, 2025 to August 31, 2025
- Age requirement for ewe lambs and ram lambs is after September 1, 2025
- Owned and personally cared for by exhibitor since June 25, 2026

DAIRY – COWS AND HEIFERS

- No age requirements
- Calves and Heifers – Owned since June 1, 2026
- Cows – Owned since January 1, 2026

HORSE & PONY

- On or before June 1 – Copies of the ownership and/or lease papers, and one set of photos sent to **Stephanie Hardy (PH: 217-782-0786) at: ISF.Livestock@illinois.gov**

DOGS

- Dogs must be owned or leased by June 1, 2026
- At this time, no paperwork is required to be on file. County staff must promote qualifying members via FairEntry.

DAIRY GOATS

- Kids and Yearlings not in milk must be owned by exhibitor only by June 1, 2026.
- Milking Does must be owned by exhibitor only by January 1, 2026.

MEAT GOATS

- All meat goats (wethers and all breeding animals) are to be owned by exhibitor only by May 15, 2026.

RABBITS, PYGMY GOATS & POULTRY

- Animals in these species that are to be exhibited at the ISF Jr. Show must be owned by the exhibitor as indicated: Does -- By June 1 of the year exhibiting; All others -- Out of stock owned by the exhibitor prior to June 1.

Showmanship Contests

At the conclusion of the Sheep, Swine, Beef, Rabbit, Poultry, Horse, and Goat Shows, a Showmanship Contest will be held. The contest will feature two divisions: Junior (ages 8-13) and Senior (ages 14-19). Age is determined by the participant's 4-H age as of September 1 of the current 4-H year. For example, if a youth is 14 as of September 1, 2024, they will compete in the Senior division. The following rules govern the livestock species Showmanship contests:

- 1.) Exhibitors must wear their exhibitor number.
- 2.) The 4-H'ers age as of September 1 of the current 4-H year, will be used to determine if they compete in the Junior or Senior division.
- 3.) A Coles County 4-H'er may enter any species showmanship contest if they are exhibiting 4-H livestock projects at the current year's shows.
- 4.) Exhibitors must be registered in each showmanship species in Fair Entry in order to receive premiums for that class.
- 5.) An individual may not win Jr. division for two consecutive years in the same species.
- 6.) Any Sr. division contestant in swine, sheep or beef showmanship can win only in one species in the same year.

A Champion will be selected in the Junior Division. A Champion and Reserve Champion will be selected in the Senior Division. The Champion and Reserve Champion of the Senior Division in Beef, Swine, and Sheep will advance to the Master Showmanship Contest.

Master Showmanship Contest

The Master Showmanship contest is sponsored by the Young Leaders of Coles County Farm Bureau, the following rules govern the overall showmanship competition:

- 1.) There will be two exhibitors selected in each of the beef, swine, and sheep species to participate in the Coles County Master Showmanship Contest.
- 2.) The exhibitor must be fourteen (14) years of age or older at the time of the event. This age is determined by the 4-H age as of September 1 of the current 4-H year
- 3.) The exhibitor must be enrolled in 4-H and be in good standing within their club.
- 4.) To participate in the contest, the exhibitor must have all entry cards, and paperwork filled out correctly with required information. The contest organizers should prepare this information prior to the event.
- 5.) Participants in the Contest must supply their own livestock for the competition. Each exhibitor must own or borrow each: a steer or heifer, a market or breeding lamb, and a market hog or breeding gilt. The Coles County Young Leaders will NOT supply any animals for competition. However, if contestants cannot find their own livestock, we will assist in finding an animal.
- 6.) Exhibitors will be given 15 minutes between species, to prepare each animal prior to coming into the ring. NO Fitting will be done inside the show ring. NO paints or adhesives will be permitted on livestock.
- 7.) Exhibitor will be judged with the same rules and methods of the Illinois State Fair Master Showmanship Contest.
- 8.) Judges will be furnished through the Young Leaders.
- 9.) One overall showmanship winner and one alternate will be selected. The winner will have the opportunity to represent the county at the State Fair Master Showmanship contest held in Springfield Illinois. If the winner is unable to participate, the alternate will be given the right to represent the county.
- 10.) There will be no limit to the number of times any individual may participate in the Master Showmanship contest.
- 11.) Awards for the top two overall winners in the contest will be presented at the conclusion of the contest.
- 12.) Contest organizers withhold the right to expel any individual who has violated any of the rules or regulations or exhibits improper conduct that is unbecoming a 4-H member.

- 13.) The contest will adhere to all guidelines in relation to the Coles County Fair issued by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Jr. Master Showmanship Contest

The Jr. Master Showmanship contest is sponsored by the Young Leaders of Coles County Farm Bureau; the following rules govern the overall showmanship competition:

1. The exhibitor must be under 14 years of age as determined by 4-H age (as of Sept. 1).
2. Any 4-H junior livestock exhibitor is allowed to enter.
3. The exhibitor must be enrolled in 4-H and be in good standing with their club.
4. To participate, the exhibitor must have signed up prior to Monday night of the fair.
5. Participants in the contest must supply their own livestock for the competition. Each exhibitor must own or borrow each: a market hog or breeding gilt and a market or breeding goat (dairy or meat). The Coles County Young Leaders will NOT supply any animals for the competition. However, if contestants cannot find their own livestock, we will assist in finding an animal.
6. Exhibitors will be showing in the breaks of the Master Showmanship Contest.
7. No paints or adhesives will be permitted on any animal. No fitting will be done inside the show ring.
8. Classes will be broken down by age of exhibitor.
9. Judges will be furnished by the Young Leaders.
10. No overall winners will be chosen. Participants will get information from the judges after each species.
11. There will be no limit on number of times an exhibitor participates.
12. Exhibitors will receive a t-shirt to show in and a gift after showing.
13. Contest organizers withhold the right to expel any individual who has violated any of the rules or regulations or exhibits improper conduct that is unbecoming a 4-H members.

14. The contest will adhere to any and all guidelines in relation to the Coles County Fair issued by the Illinois Department of Agriculture.

4-H Premiums

The Agricultural Premium Fund is authorized under the Agricultural Fair Act and administered by the Illinois Department of Agriculture Bureau of County Fairs. The 4-H portion of the Agricultural Premium Fund is administered by University of Illinois Extension. To be eligible to receive 4-H premiums (monetary award) 4-H members must be enrolled in a premium eligible project and exhibit their completed project during Coles County 4-H public exhibitions. Premiums will be provided based on available funds. All exhibits are open for public viewing.

Disclaimer: *“The Department of Agriculture shall use its best efforts to secure sufficient appropriations to fund premiums. In any year for which the General Assembly of the State of Illinois fails to make an appropriation sufficient to pay such premiums, premium amounts may not be accurately reflected in this Premium Book.”*

Classification of Projects and X Factor

There are two classifications of projects—Premium Eligible Projects and Non-Premium Eligible Projects. Premium Eligible Projects are state approved projects with a public exhibit opportunity.

Coles County 4-H uses an X factor to calculate premiums. Each Premium Eligible Project is classified into one of two premium categories. Below is a table that shows the values of “Blue”, “Red,” and “White” ratings in each of the two categories.

Thus a “Blue” rating in Category II is worth three times as much as a “White” rating in that same category. A summary of what category projects are in is listed below. Every attempt has been made to place projects in appropriate categories. Any exclusions are simply an oversight.

Category I: Blue-0X, Red-0X, White-0X

- Non-Premium Eligible Projects—All county level projects, and Cloverbud exhibits.

Category II: Blue- 3X, Red-2X, White-1X

- Premium Eligible Projects—Aerospace, Animal Science, Bicycles, Civic Engagement, Clothing and Textiles, Communications, Computer Science, Consumer Education, Crops &

Soils, Electricity, Entomology, Food and Nutrition, Forestry, Geology, Geospatial, Health, Horticulture, Intercultural, Intergenerational, Interior Design, Leadership, Natural Resources, Photography, Plants & Soils, Robotics, Small Engines, Small Pets, Theater Arts, Tractor, Veterinary Science, Video/Filmmaking, Visual Arts, Welding, Woodworking.
Premium Eligible Group Projects—Citizenship Public Adventures, Passport to the World.

- Beef, Cats, Dairy Cattle, Dogs, Goats, Horse and Pony (all classes), Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep, Swine

Note: Only one premium is paid per class through the 4-H Ag Premium Fund to eligible 4-H'ers.

Tax Implications for Prizes, Gifts or Awards

Program Participants (including minors) will be required to provide their Social Security number or foreign national tax ID number prior to receiving a prize, gift or award to ensure proper IRS reporting as required by law. This sensitive information is kept confidential and handled through security protected software (PEAR). Participants will not be eligible for prize, gift or award if social security or foreign national tax ID information is not provided.

Premium Policies for Members

Policy 1: Eligibility for county 4-H premiums includes youth enrolled in clubs, special interest groups, and independent membership who are 8 to 18 years old (or youth with mental challenges) on or before September 1.

Policy 2: All enrolled members who participate in an exhibit opportunity are eligible for premiums. Premium amounts are adjusted annually based on state funding. Participants will not be eligible for prize, gift or award if social security or foreign national tax ID information is not provided.

Policy 3: Premium checks will be picked up at the Coles Extension Office. Members have 60 days from the check's issue date to cash it. After 60 days, checks will be void and will not be reissued.

Checks

In years when premium checks are issued, 4-H'ers have 60 days, from the date listed on the check, to cash the check. Premium checks will be null and void after 60 days and will not be reissued.

Livestock Divisions

Beef Division

Show Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2026

Show Time: 9 a.m.

Location: Coles County Fair Grounds- Main Arena

Superintendents: Stan Metzger 217-254-7826 & Bryan Metzger 217-273-4198

Note: See “General Livestock Rules” for rules that apply to all species.

- 1.) Review the Following sections:
 - a. Livestock Birth, Ownership and Tattoo Dates for Illinois State Fair Junior Show.
 - b. Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements.
 - c. 4-H Show Attire guidelines for appropriate dress requirements in the show ring.
 - d. Showmanship Guidelines.
- 2.) Ownership Rules: All beef entries must be owned and personally cared for in accordance with the following:
 - a. Beef cows and heifers must be owned by June 1 of the current year.
 - b. Beef market animals must be owned by February 1 of the current year.
 - c. Bucket Calf: Must be born after January 1, 2026, and owned by June 1, 2026.
 - d. Market beef must be calved on or after January 1, 2025
- 3.) Identification Requirements: All cattle must have an 840 EID Tag in place to be eligible for exhibition at both the County and State Fair.
See <https://agr.illinois.gov/animals/animalhealth/premises-registration.html>
- 4.) Tattooing for Market Beef:
 - a. All market steers and market heifers must be tattooed between January 31, 2026 – February 28, 2026.

- b. The tattoo must match the one assigned at beef weigh-in to be eligible for exhibition in the 4-H Show.
 - c. If positive identification cannot be made by the Beef Superintendents, the animal will not be allowed to show.
- 5.) Veterinary Inspection: A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection is required for all breeding stock and market animals over six months old.
- 6.) Entry Limits: Each exhibitor is allowed:
- a. Market beef classes – 2 entries per class
 - b. Breeding classes – 2 entries per class
 - c. Bucket Calf Classes – 2 entries per class
- 7.) Purebred Animal Registration:
- a. All purebred animals must be registered in the name of the exhibitor or an immediate family member.
 - b. Registration papers may be checked. If no papers are available, animals will be shown in crossbred classes.
- 8.) Class Divisions:
- a. Breeding Classes are shown by breed and age.
 - b. Market Steer Classes are shown by breed and weight.
 - c. Bucket Calf Class: Calf must be bottle or bucket fed by 4-H member for at least the first 30 days of life. Calves must be healthy and clean; no fitting or clipping allowed. Please note – these classes will include crossbred beef, crossbred dairy, and purebred beef.
- 9.) 4-H Beef Barn Stalling: Exhibitors are strongly encouraged to stall in the 4-H Beef Barn to support a visible and active 4-H beef program
- 10.) Animal Safety:

- a. The superintendents reserve the right to prohibit an animal from entering the ring if it cannot be safely managed.
- b. The animal will still be viewed and graded by the judge.

11.) Washing Regulations: All cattle must be washed only in the designated wash rack area located east of the 4-H Show & Sale Arena.

12.) Prohibited Grooming Practices:

- a. Dyeing or artificially altering the animal's color is not allowed.
- b. Coloring agents may only be used up to the hock/knee; powders are strictly prohibited.
- c. Cattle must be presented in their natural conformation.
- d. False tail heads, added hair, hemp, or similar substances are not permitted.
- e. Tail ties are prohibited in both breeding and market classes.
- f. Excessive adhesive beyond what is necessary for grooming is grounds for disqualification.

13.) Showmanship Registration:

- a. Showmanship is a paid class.
- b. Exhibitors must register for each Showmanship through FairEntry to receive premiums.
- c. If an exhibitor is not registered in showmanship through Fair Entry, they are still allowed to participate but will not receive premiums for the class.

Exhibitors found breaking the above rules, either prior to entering the ring or while in the ring, will be asked to immediately exit the show ring.

Jr. Calf- calved after January 1 of the current exhibition year.

Sr. Heifer Calf- calved between September 1 of the year preceding the current exhibition year and December 31 of the year preceding the current exhibition year.

Summer Yearling Heifer- calved between May 1 of the year preceding the current exhibition year and August 31 of the year preceding the current exhibition year.

Jr. Yearling Heifer- calved between January 1 of the year preceding the current exhibition year and April 30 of the year preceding the current exhibition year.

Sr. Yearling Heifer- calved between September 1, two years preceding the current exhibition year, and December 31, two years preceding the current exhibition year.

Breeding Cow- Cow any age.

Beef Breeding Classes & Bucket Calf Class

Angus Breeding Class

1. Jr. Calf
2. Sr. Heifer Calf
3. Summer Yearling Heifer
4. Jr. Yearling Heifer
5. Sr. Yearling Heifer
6. Breeding Cow

Champion/ Reserve Champion Angus Female

Hereford Breeding Class

7. Jr. Calf
8. Sr. Heifer Calf
9. Summer Yearling Heifer
10. Jr. Yearling Heifer
11. Sr. Yearling Heifer
12. Breeding Cow

Champion/ Reserve Champion Hereford Female

Simmental Breeding Class

13. Jr. Calf
14. Sr. Heifer Calf
15. Summer Yearling Heifer
16. Jr. Yearling Heifer

17. Sr. Yearling Heifer

18. Breeding Cow

Champion/ Reserve Champion Simmental Female

Shorthorn Breeding Classes

19. Jr. Calf

20. Sr. Heifer Calf

21. Summer Yearling Heifer

22. Jr. Yearling Heifer

23. Sr. Yearling Heifer

24. Breeding Cow

Champion/ Reserve Champion Shorthorn Female

All Other Breeds (AOB) Breeding Classes

25. Jr. Calf

26. Sr. Heifer Calf

27. Summer Yearling Heifer

28. Jr. Yearling Heifer

29. Sr. Yearling Heifer

30. Breeding Cow

Champion/ Reserve Champion AOB Female

Grand Champion Female

Reserve Grand Champion Female

3rd-5th Female

(Short break for pictures)

Bucket Calf Class

31. Bucket Calf

Champion/ Reserve Champion Bucket Calf

Beef Market Classes

The classes will be broken into weight divisions depending on the number of entries and weight spreads in each breed. A Champion of each breed will be chosen to compete for Grand Champion Market Beef. (Top 5 Over all selected)

32. Angus Steer

Champion & Reserve Champion Angus Steer

33. Chianina Steer

Champion & Reserve Champion Chianina Steer

34. Hereford Steer

Champion & Reserve Champion Hereford Steer

35. Shorthorn Steer

Champion & Reserve Champion Shorthorn Steer

36. Simmental Steer

Champion & Reserve Champion Simmental Steer

37. AOB Steer

Champion & Reserve Champion AOB Steer

Crossbreed Steer Class

38. Crossbred Steer

Champion & Reserve Champion Crossbred Steer

Market Heifer Class

39. Market Heifer

Champion & Reserve Champion Market Heifer

Grand Champion Market Beef

Reserve Grand Champion Market Beef

3rd-5th Market Beef

Showmanship

40. Junior Showmanship

Champion Junior Showmanship

41. Senior Showmanship

Champion & Reserve Champion Senior Showmanship

Rate of Gain

All steers and market heifers weighed in January/February will be entered in the Rate-of-Gain Class.

Steers and market heifers of the Rate-of-Gain Show will not be shown in weight classes. Instead, all steers and market heifers will compete against each other according to the following formula:

Daily Gain – 60% Quality Grade – 20% Yield Grade – 20%

Each market animal will be evaluated upon leaving the scales at the weigh-in at the fair by a qualified person for quality grade (to the nearest 1/3 grade) and yield grade (to the nearest 1/2 or whole grade.) Each market animal will also be given a score according to the average daily gain since the initial weigh-in.

The Rate-of-Gain Show will be divided into A, B, or C rating groups. In addition, the top 10 will be recognized and will be required to parade in the show ring immediately prior to the selection of the Grand Champion Market Beef. These will be the top ten ranked market animals of the group, and each will be briefly discussed regarding their performance and grades.

Multi- County Cat Show (County Project)

This is a multi-county 4-H show for Coles, Cumberland, and Moultrie-Douglas youth.

Show Date: Monday, July 20, 2026

Show Time: 6 p.m.

Location: CCEEBA- 205 S. New York St. Toledo, IL 62468

Note: See “General Livestock Rules” for rules that apply to all species.

Cat Care

1. Exhibitors shall be limited to two entries in each class.
2. Entries must be made by the designated date.
3. A cat shown in the 4-H cat project must be trained by and belong to the exhibitor or a member of his/her immediate family. Leasing is not allowable for the cat project.
4. All cats must be brought to the show in a cage.
5. Cats do not have to be registered to show in the 4-H Cat Show.
6. Female cats in season cannot participate in the County 4-H Cat Show.
7. Completed Quality Assurance and Ethics training.

ILLINOIS CATS shall be free from communicable diseases and under direct control during the exhibition.

The County 4-H Committee has established the policy that cats for exhibition MUST BE VACCINATED AGAINST RABIES. Verification of this will be required at the Cat Show. Without Verification, the cat will not be allowed to show.

Cat Classes

Class 1 – Kitten Class: ages 6 months and under

Champion Kitten

Class 2 - Short Hair Cats

Champion Short-Hair Cat

Class 3 - Long Hair Cats

Champion Long Hair Cat

Grand Champion Cat- Grand Champion from Classes 1-3

Class 4 - Cat Care

Grand Champion Cat Care

Class 5- Cat Costume: Youth will dress their cat in appropriate costumes (no costumes with themes of violence). Judges will pick their favorite cat costume.

Class 6- Cat Showmanship: This class evaluates the ability of the exhibitor to show the cat well. It includes control, knowledge, and proper grooming of the cat and, most importantly, the poise of the exhibitor; the exhibitor is the one being judged.

Champion Cat Showman

Coles, Moultrie, and Douglas 4-H Dog Show

Show Date: Saturday, June 13, 2026

Show Time: 9 am

Show Location: Coles County Fair Grounds Swine Barn, Charleston
Show schedule will follow the order in which classes are listed below.

What exhibitors need to bring with them to the show: proof of rabies vaccination

Superintendent: Julie Morrissey Cell:217-232-0038 or Home:217-345-2758
Co. Superintendents: Beth Morrissey, Pam Minnis, Kathy Davis

Note: See “General Livestock Rules” for rules that apply to all species.

Show Rules:

1. Dogs must be owned or leased by June 1, 2026.
2. Fair entries for classes must be made on www.fairentry.com by Tuesday, June 2, 2026.
3. No ownership or lease paperwork is required at county level.
4. Exhibitors shall be limited to bringing/showing one dog.

5. All dogs must be brought to the show on a six-foot leather, nylon, or canvas leash. No spike collars, electronic collars, or tags hanging from the collar will be allowed.
6. Treats or clickers can be used in dog care, beginner basics, canine good citizen, showmanship, trick class, and costume class. Treats and clickers cannot be used in the obedience classes.
7. All exhibitors showing at this county show must complete the Quality Assurance & Ethics Clinic (QAEC) to exhibit their dog. Complete the QAEC Training in ZSuite. This training only needs to be completed once 4-H member's show career.
8. Dogs do not have to be AKC registered to show in the obedience show. AKC rules will be used for judging.
9. Female dogs in season cannot participate.
10. Dogs must always be under the exhibitor's supervision.
11. Proof of rabies vaccination must be shown at check-in.
12. Dog obedience and showmanship are the only classes that are eligible to be promoted to the Illinois State Fair. Dog care, beginner basics, tricks, and costume classes are not eligible for State Fair promotion.
13. To be eligible to be promoted to the Illinois State Fair Dog Show in the area of obedience, exhibitors must have a qualifying score of **170 points or above** in the obedience class they showed in.
14. A county-level show may be represented by one junior showmanship dog/handler team and one senior showmanship dog/handler team who have earned/won their county-level competition in the Junior and Senior Showmanship classes. If a county- winning team(s) cannot attend, alternate team(s) may be entered. (Limited to 1 junior and 1 senior team.)
15. If a member is promoted to the State Fair, dog ownership/lease papers, proof of rabies, class judging sheets from the county level, and AKC Good Citizen tests are all required paperwork. County 4-H coordinators will follow up with members who are promoted to the State Fair to see if they would like to show, and if so, assist them in registering.

Show Classes:

- 1) **Dog Care:** The 4-H Dog Care Class evaluates a member's ability to maintain their dog's health, grooming, and behavior. Participants are judged on physical condition, grooming, temperament, and handling. This class promotes responsible pet care and positive youth development through hands-on learning. This class is a county level class and is not eligible for State Fair promotion. A, B, and C ratings will be assigned to this class. Champion and Reserve Champion will be awarded.
- 2) **Beginner Basics:** A, B, and C ratings will be assigned to this class. Champion and Reserve Champion will be awarded. This class will follow the AKC STAR puppy credentials which evaluates the following behaviors of the dog:
 - Allows petting by a person other than the owner
 - Grooming and handling (e.g., ears, feet)
 - Walks on a leash without pulling
 - Walks past other dogs calmly
 - Sits on command
 - Down on command
 - Comes when called
 - Reacts appropriately to distractions
 - Stays on leash with another person
 - Tolerates collar or harness
 - Accepts friendly stranger
 - Doesn't panic at new surfaces
 - Doesn't show aggression
 - Doesn't excessively bark or whine
 - Shows interest in toys or play

If your dog is under a year old, and pass this assessment, they may earn STAR Puppy Certification at the dog show. Dogs do not have to be under a year old to participate in this class.

- 3) **Canine Good Citizen (CGC)**—a 10-step evaluation designed to confirm that dogs are well-mannered, obedient, and safe in real-world situations. A, B, and C ratings will be assigned to this class. No Champion / Reserve Champion Awarded.

Canine Good Citizen Class Overview

- Purpose: Assessment of essential manners and skills to ensure dogs can integrate safely into communities and everyday public life.
- If competing in this class, dogs / handlers must pass all 10 items earns the CGC certificate.

The 10 Test Items

1. **Accepting a Friendly Stranger**
Dog allows a stranger to approach and greet the handler naturally, without fear or aggression.
2. **Sitting Politely for Petting**
Sitting calmly at the handler's side while a stranger pets the dog, with no jumping or agitation.
3. **Appearance and Grooming**
Dog remains relaxed while being brushed, examined, and having their ears and feet handled gently.
4. **Loose-Leash Walking ("Out for a Walk")**
Demonstrates control on a loose leash; dog attends to handler's movements through turns and stops.
5. **Walking Through a Crowd**
Walks past at least three people calmly, without undue excitement, fear, or distraction.
6. **Sit and Down on Command & Stay**
Responds correctly to sit, down, and stay commands, even with distractions.
7. **Coming When Called**
When off-leash at ten feet or more, dog promptly returns to handler upon command.
8. **Reaction to Another Dog**
On-leash, dog and handler pair approach another dog; both should remain calm and respectful during greeting.
9. **Reaction to Distractions**
Dog remains composed when faced with distractions (e.g., dropped items, umbrellas opening).

10. Supervised Separation

Dog stays well-mannered and calm when briefly left alone (under handler supervision).

- Equipment: Standard collars and leashes only—no prong collars, shock collars, or head halters allowed during testing.
 - Behavioral Standards: Any signs of aggression (growling, snapping, lunging) result in immediate dismissal. Dogs must not bark excessively or ignore handler cues.
 - Official Title: Dog owners can apply for the CGC title (with "CGC" added after their name) if the dog is registered with AKC, PAL, or AKC Canine Partners.
- 4) Dog Obedience Novice Classes:** Only Enter in One Class - this class is eligible for State Fair Promotion with a qualifying score of 170. A, B, and C ratings will be assigned to this class. Champion and Reserve Champion will be awarded in each class.

Beginner Novice I Class – Maximum Points

For inexperienced handlers and inexperienced dogs.

1. Heel on Leash (forward, halt, right turn, left turn, about turn, slow, normal and fast). The last order signifies that the handler and dog must break pace. These orders will be given by utilizing posted signs – **40 Points**
2. Figure Eight (on leash) – **40 Points**
3. Sit for Exam (on leash) – **40 Points**
4. Sit Stay (walk around ring) – **40 Points**
5. Recall (off leash front/no finish) – **40 Points**

Beginner Novice II Class – Maximum Points

For experienced handlers and inexperienced dogs or experienced dogs and inexperienced handlers.

1. Heel on Leash (forward, halt, right turn, left turn, about turn, slow, normal and fast). The last order signifies that the handler and dog must break pace. These orders will be given by utilizing posted signs. – **40 Points**
2. Figure Eight (on leash) – **40 Points**
3. Sit for Exam (on leash) – **40 Points**
4. Sit Stay (walk around ring) – **40 Points**
5. Recall (off leash front/no finish) – **40 Points**

Preferred Novice Class – Maximum Points

1. Heel on Leash and Figure 8 – **40 Points**
2. Stand for Examination (off leash) – **30 Points**
3. Heel Free (off leash) – **30 Points**
4. Recall (off leash with finish) – **30 Points**
5. Sit or Down Stay-Walk around the Ring – **30 Points**
6. Sit Stay-Get Your Leash (off leash) – **30 Points**

Novice Class – Maximum Points

1. Heel on Leash and Figure 8 (on leash) – **40 Points**
2. Stand for Examination (off leash) – **30 Points**
3. Heel Free (off leash) – **40 Points**
4. Recall (off leash) – **30 Points**
5. Sit Stay – Get your leash (off leash) – **30 Points**
6. Group Exercise – Sit & Down Stay (on leash) – **30 Points**

5) Showmanship Classes: Only enter in one class based on your 4-H age (age as of Sept. 1, 2025). 4-H Dog Showmanship teaches youth how to present their dogs with confidence, care, and control in the show ring. Participants are judged on their handling skills, knowledge of dog anatomy and health, and the overall condition and grooming of their dog. This class builds responsibility, sportsmanship, and teamwork between handler and dog. These classes are eligible for State Fair promotion at the judge's discretion. A, B, and C ratings will be assigned to this class. Champion and Reserve Champion will be awarded per age division.

1. Jr. Showmanship (8 to 13 years old) as of Sept. 1, 2025
2. Sr. Showmanship (14 and over) as of Sept. 1, 2025

6) Trick Class: The **Freestyle Dog Trick Class** is a fun and flexible event where youth participants showcase their dogs' talents through **any trick or routine they choose**. This class encourages creativity, training, and the special bond between handler and dog. A, B, and C ratings will be assigned to this class. Champion and Reserve Champion will be awarded.

What Makes It “Freestyle”?

- **No set routine or required tricks**—participants can choose **any trick** they've taught their dog.
- Tricks may include:
 - Rolling over

- Playing dead
- Jumping through hoops
- Fetching specific items
- Dancing or spinning
- High-fives or paw shakes
- Coordinated routines with music or props

Participation Details

- Youth handlers present their dog's trick(s) in front of an audience or judge.
- Dogs may perform solo or interact with their handler as part of the routine.
- Costumes, props, or music may be used to enhance the performance, but are not required.

7) **Costume Class:** The **4-H Dog Costume Class** is a fun and creative event where youth participants showcase their dogs in themed or imaginative costumes. This class is designed to celebrate the bond between youth and their pets while encouraging creativity, confidence, and community spirit.

Costume Guidelines

- Participants may dress up their dogs, or both the dog and owner may wear coordinating outfits.
- Costumes can be themed (e.g., superheroes, holidays, storybook characters) or simply playful and fun.
- Safety and comfort of the dog are top priorities—costumes should not restrict movement or cause distress.

Awards and Ribbons

- All participants will receive an A, B, or C ribbon based on presentation, creativity, and sportsmanship.
- 1) No Grand Champion or Reserve Champion will be awarded in this class.

Goat Division

Show Date: Monday, July 27, 2026

Check-in Time: 11 a.m.

Show Time: 12 p.m.

Location: Coles County Fair Grounds- Goat Barn

Superintendent: Stan Metzger 217-254-7826

Note: See "General Livestock Rules" for rules that apply to all species.

- 1.) Review the Following sections:
 - a. Livestock Birth, Ownership and Tattoo Dates for Illinois State Fair Junior Show
 - b. Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements
 - c. 4-H Show Attire guidelines for appropriate dress requirements in the show ring.
- 2.) All goats are to be in place by 8:00 a.m., Sunday of the Fair. Horned goats will be penned in the dairy cattle barn east of the goat barn and shown in the 4-H Show and Sale Arena.
- 3.) All Market animals must be presented with a scrapie tag or breed tattoo with registration papers on the last Saturday in April.
- 4.) All wethers must be castrated, the market class is open to females and castrated males.
- 5.) It is mandatory by the ADGA that ALL dairy animals must be disbudded. Rubber banding just for tip removal is not acceptable. Dairy animals with natural horns shall not be shown. Animals which have been dehorned may be shown without discrimination.
- 6.) A Certificate of Veterinary Inspection must accompany all goats. A veterinarian must inspect the animal(s) within 90 days of time of exhibit in the state of Illinois. If micro-chips are used instead of FED ID tag or breed registration tattoo number, exhibitor must provide own reader.
- 7.) Exhibitors may make 2 entries per class. Exhibitors are not limited to one breed.

- 8.) All dairy does show in milking classes must be shown in milk and must be milked out 12 hours prior to start of show time. If needed, the superintendents will supervise. Nursing young are not allowed in the show ring during judging.
- 9.) Percent Boer Goats and Full Blood Boer Goats (Purebred) must be registered in the exhibitor's name or the name of an immediate family member and exhibitor. Registration papers must accompany the animal to the fair. No registration papers are needed for All Other Meat Goat Breeds.
- 10.) Purebred/Percentage Boer does, and All Other Meat does will be shown in the same class unless the number of entries is large enough to warrant splitting into separate classes. 4- 5 head maximum
- 11.) All dairy goat does must be registered purebred or recorded grade in the name of the exhibitor or the name of an immediate family member and the exhibitor. Registration must accompany animal to the fair.
- 12.) Horned goats are allowed in the 4-H Show.
- 13.) For penning purposes, please declare, when making fair entries, the number of horned and number of disbudded goats exhibitor is bringing to the fair.
- 14.) Exhibitors are responsible for caring for their goats for the duration of their stay at the fairgrounds. Superintendents are not responsible for exhibitor's animals.
- 15.) The health paper checks by the vet and weigh-in will be done Sunday morning. Goat weigh-in will begin after swine weigh-in. See schedule for time.
- 16.) Showmanship Registration:
 - a. Exhibitors must register for Showmanship through FairEntry to receive premiums.
 - b. All entries must be made through FairEntry by June 2.

Dairy Goat Classes

All Other Breeds (AOB)

1. Jr. Kid born on or after April 1 of current year
2. Intermediate Kid born between Mar. 1 – Mar. 31 of current year

3. Senior Kid born between Jan. 1 – Last day of Feb. of current year
4. Dry yearling 1 year and under 2 not in milk

Champion & Reserve Champion AOB Dairy Junior Doe

5. Milking Yearling 1 year and under 2
6. Milking Doe 2 years and under 4 years
7. Milking Doe 4 years and older

Champion & Reserve Champion AOB Dairy Senior Doe

Champion & Reserve Champion AOB Dairy Doe

Nigerian Dwarfs

8. Jr. Kid born on or after April 1 of current year
9. Intermediate Kid born between Mar. 1 – Mar. 31 of current year
10. Senior Kid born between Jan. 1 – Last day of Feb. of current year
11. Dry yearling 1 year and under 2 not in milk

Champion & Reserve Champion Nigerian Dwarf Junior Doe

12. Milking Yearling 1 year and under 2
13. Milking Doe 2 years and under 4 years
14. Milking Doe 4 years and older

Champion & Reserve Champion Nigerian Dwarf Senior Doe

Champion & Reserve Champion Nigerian Dwarf Doe

Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, & 3rd-4th Overall Dairy Doe

Market Dairy

Note: Open to wethers or does by weight. 4 to 5 head per class.

15. Market Dairy

Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion, & 3rd – 5th Overall Market Dairy Goat

Dairy Goat Showmanship

16. Junior Showmanship (8-13)

Champion Dairy Goat Junior Showman

17. Senior Showmanship (14-18)

Champion & Reserve Champion Dairy Goat Senior Showman

Meat Goat Classes

Kids

- 18. Baby Doe Kid, under 3 months
- 19. Jr. Doe Kid, 3 months and under 6 months
- 20. Intermediate Doe Kid, 6 months and under 9 months
- 21. Senior Doe Kid, 9 months and under 12 months

Champion & Reserve Champion Junior Meat Doe

Yearling Does

- 22. Junior Yearling Doe, 12 months and under 16 months
- 23. Intermediate Yearling Doe, 16 months and under 20 months
- 24. Senior Yearling Doe, 20 months and under 24 months

Champion & Reserve Champion Yearling Meat Doe

Senior Does

- 25. 2 year-old Doe, 24 months and under 36 months
- 26. 3 year-old Doe, 36 months and over

Champion & Reserve Champion Senior Meat Doe

Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion & 3rd-5th Overall Meat Doe

Market Meat Goat- By Weight

Note: Open to wethers or does. 4 to 5 head per class.

- 27. Market Meat Goat

Grand Champion, Reserve Grand Champion & 3rd-5th Overall Market Meat Goat

Meat Goat Showmanship

- 28. Junior Showmanship (8-13)

Champion Meat Goat Junior Showman

- 29. Senior Showmanship (14-18)

Champion & Reserve Champion Meat Goat Senior Showman

Horse and Pony Division

Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, & Moultrie County 2026 Horse Show

Show Date: June 20, 2026

Check-in Time: 8:30 a.m.

Show Time: 9:00 a.m.

**Show Location: Cumberland County Extension Education Building Association Horse Arena
205 S New York St., Toledo, IL 62468**

Superintendent: Katie Copeland - katiecopeland76@yahoo.com

1. Horses and ponies must be owned or leased by the 4-H member. The 4-H member must be enrolled in the horse project at zsuite.org. Current ownership or lease papers, with photos of both sides of the animal, must be on file and resubmitted every year at your local Extension Office by May 1, 2026, to be able to participate in the 4-H horse show.
2. Ownership or lease papers for all horses are required by 4-H'ers who plan to exhibit at the IL State Junior Horse Show. If the horse is registered, submit a copy of their registration papers along with the ownership or lease form, with photos of both sides of the animal attached, if planning to show at the IL State Fair Junior Horse Show. IL State Fair Junior Horse Show registrations are due to the IL State fair by June 15.
4. The 4-H member showing is required to complete the Quality Assurance and Ethics Certification (QAEC) (Page 15, rule 3) by June 3, 2026. This is only completed once in the 4-H members show career.
5. Fairent.com will be used for making class entries. When registering in the "Age of Exhibitor" classes (Jr. 8-13), (Sr. 14 to 18) use the exhibitor's age as of September 1 of previous year.
6. Proof of a negative Coggins Test is required for each horse on the day of the show. Coggins Tests are required yearly.
7. No animal may be shown by more than one (1) exhibitor and no exhibitor may enter more than one (1) animal in any class.
8. Each class will be awarded a champion and reserve champion placing.

4-H HORSE & PONY SHOW DAY RULES

Find the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines at <https://go.illinois.edu/IL4-HHorseShowGuidelines>

Please note not all classes in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines are represented at the County 4-H Horse show.

1. An exhibitor (inexperienced rider) entering the “Walk and Trot” class **may not enter** the following classes: western pleasure and horsemanship.
2. Ponies in the 56” and under classes are subject to measurement. No ponies 56” and under will be allowed in the over 56” classes. Miniature horses must measure no greater than 34” for the miniature classes.
3. Superintendents reserve the right to bar any animal from showing in the ring if the animal cannot be managed safely. However, it will be viewed by the judge and graded.
4. Exhibitors with unsportsmanlike conduct will be excused from the class.
5. For safety reasons, the exhibitor will be required to wear boots, preferably with some kind of heel, while exhibiting. It is suggested that the exhibitor wear a long-sleeved shirt.

See following pages in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines for Attire.

- Western Attire – Page 10
 - Hunt Seat Attire – Page 25
 - Saddle Seat/Gaited Horse Attire – Page 36
 - Gaited Horse Pleasure Attire – Page 41
6. Equine Headgear: All 4-H members are required to wear a properly fitted ASTM or SEI standard F1163 (or above) certified equestrian helmet whenever mounted at all 4-H during the horse and pony events, shows, activities, and practices.
 7. There will be a ten-minute time limit for tack changes.
 8. Any disputes should be brought to the attention of Extension Staff or show superintendents. A collective decision among Extension Staff and superintendents will be used to determine a course of action to resolve any disputes.

9. Specific class rules will be adhered to which are listed below in the Show Order. Class rules are taken from the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines. Find them at <https://go.illinois.edu/IL4-HHorseShowGuidelines>

10. All classes will follow Western Tack & Attire Guidelines: See pages 8 – 10 in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines.

SHOW ORDER & CLASS RULES

Class 1 - Foals of current year (horse and pony)

Class 2 - Yearling halter (horse and pony)

Class 3 – Halter 56” and under (mare & gelding)

Class 4 - Mare halter (over 56”)

Class 5 – Gelding halter (over 56”)

Class 6 – Donkey halter (jenny and gelding) – No uncut males to be shown.

Class 7 – Senior Showmanship ages 14-18

Class 8- Junior Showmanship ages 8-13

Class 9 - Beginner Walk and Trot

- Any exhibitor (inexperienced rider) entering the “Beginner Walk and Trot” class may not enter the following classes: western pleasure and horsemanship.

Class 10 – Pony Western Pleasure (56” & under)

- Rules found on page 12 in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines

Class 11 – Senior Western Pleasure – Youth ages 14- 18 (horse over 56”)

- Rules found on page 12 in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines

Class 12 - Junior Western Pleasure – Youth aged 8-13 (horse over 56”)

- Rules found on page 12 in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines

Class 13 – Senior Horsemanship ages 14-18

- Rules found on page 10 - 11 in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines

Class 14 - Junior Horsemanship ages 8-13

- Rules found on page 10 - 11 in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines

Class 15 - Egg & spoon

- Rules found on page 57 in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines

*****Ten-minute break*** Get Water!**

Class 16 – Trail Class

- Rules found on pages 18-19 in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines

Class 17 – Flag Class

- Rules found on pages 55-56 in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines

Class 18 – Pole Bending

- Rules found on pages 53-54 in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines

Class 19 - Barrel Racing

- Rules found on pages 51-52 in the Illinois 4-H Horse Show Guidelines

Class 20 - Costume class (no costumes that refer to violence or political statements)

Poultry

Show Date: Tuesday, July 28, 2026

Check-In: 12:30 p.m.

Show Time: 1 p.m.

Location: Coles County Fair Grounds- Main Arena

Superintendents: Julie Lading 217-276-3515 and Tim Lading

Note: See “General Livestock Rules” for rules that apply to all species.

- 1.) Review the Following sections:
 - a. Livestock Birth, Ownership and Tattoo Dates for Illinois State Fair Junior Show
 - b. Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements
 - c. 4-H Show Attire guidelines for appropriate dress requirements in the show ring.
- 2.) All exhibitors must show proof that the exhibition has originated from a U.S. Pullorum-Typhoid Clean or equivalent hatchery (ie receipt from certified hatchery or breeder, or receipt from a farm store) OR provide a negative pullorum-typhoid test within 90 days prior to show from a veterinary's office or an authorized testing agent. (Except Waterfowl)
- 3.) Each exhibitor will be limited to two entry per class.
- 4.) Each breed (American, English, Mediterranean, Bantam and Other) will consist of the following classes: cockerel, pullet, rooster, and hen.
- 5.) Egg production: exhibit one dozen eggs produced by chicken(s) owned by the exhibitor.
- 6.) The American Standard of Perfection shall be used as the guide for all breeding classes.
- 7.) Birds are defined as follows:
 - a. Cockerel - male hatched after January 1 of the current year.
 - b. Pullet - female hatched after January 1 of the current year.
 - c. Rooster - male hatched prior to the current year.
 - d. Hen - female hatched prior to the current year.

8.) Exhibitors must have poultry market pens weighed before showing during check-in.

9.) Showmanship Registration:

- a. Review Showmanship Guidelines
- b. Exhibitors must register for Showmanship through FairEntry to receive premiums.
- c. All entries must be made through FairEntry by June 2.

Poultry Classes

American

Includes: New Hampshire Red, Rhode Island Red, Plymouth Rocks, Jersey Giant and Wyandotte.

1. Cockerel
2. Pullet
3. Rooster
4. Hen

Champion/ Reserve Champion American

English

Includes: Australorp, Cornish Dorkings, Opringtons, and Sussex.

5. Cockerel
6. Pullet
7. Rooster
8. Hen

Champion/ Reserve Champion English

Mediterranean

Includes: Includes: Anconas, Blue Andalusians, Leghorn, White-Faced Black Spanish.

9. Cockerel
10. Pullet
11. Rooster
12. Hen

Champion/ Reserve Champion Mediterranean

All Other Standard Breeds

Includes: Ameraucanas, Sumatras, Welsummers, Polish, Barnevelders

- 13. Cockerel
- 14. Pullet
- 15. Rooster
- 16. Hen

Champion/ Reserve Champion All Other Standard Breeds

Bantams

- 17. Cockerel
- 18. Pullet
- 19. Rooster
- 20. Hen

Champion/ Reserve Champion Bantams

Other Domestic Fowl & Waterfowl

- 21. Other Domestic Fowl and Waterfowl

Champion/ Reserve Champion Other Domestic Fowl & Waterfowl

Grand Champion/ Reserve Grand Champion Poultry Best of Show & 3rd – 5th Overall

Champion from each breed will compete for overall grand champion chicken.

Pair Class

Exhibit should include a hen and rooster.

- 22. Pair Class

Champion/ Reserve Champion Pair

Market Pen

Maybe be either male or female. These market birds will be weighed by superintendent prior to caging.

- 23. Light Market Pen (4-5.8 lbs.)
- 24. Medium Market Pen (5.9- 7.15 lbs.)
- 25. Heavy Market Pen (8lbs. and up)

Champion/ Reserve Champion Market Pen

Egg Production

Exhibit one dozen eggs produced by chicken(s) owned by the exhibitor.

26. Egg Production

Champion/ Reserve Champion Egg Production

Showmanship

27. Jr. Showmanship (8-13 years old)

Champion Junior Showman

28. Sr. Showmanship (14 years old and up)

Champion/ Reserve Champion Senior Showman

Rabbits

Show Date: Sunday, July 26, 2026

Check-in Time: 6 p.m.

Show Time: 6:30 p.m.

Show Location: Coles County Fair Grounds Large Show Ring, Charleston

Show schedule will follow the order in which classes are listed below.

Superintendents: Elizabeth Daugherty - ecoleman8407@gmail.com and
Sarah Thomas - sarahmichellemetz@gmail.com

Note: See “General Livestock Rules” for rules that apply to all species.

1.) Review the Following sections:

- a. Livestock Birth, Ownership and Tattoo Dates for Illinois State Fair Junior Show
- b. Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements
- c. 4-H Show Attire guidelines for appropriate dress requirements in the show ring.

- 2.) An exhibitor is limited to two entries in each class, and not more than twelve entries for all classes. Excluding Meat pens.
- 3.) Rabbits entered in the fryer class cannot be shown in the buck or doe classes.
- 4.) Fryers must weigh 5 pounds or under; will be weighed by the judge at time of show.
- 5.) Meat pen must weigh 15 pounds or under with each animal weighing between 3-5 pounds; will be weighed by the judge at time of show.
- 6.) See Youth Livestock Auction section for auction information.
- 7.) Showmanship Registration:
 - a. Review Showmanship Guidelines
 - b. Exhibitors must register for Showmanship through FairEntry by June 2, 2026, to receive premiums.

Rabbit Classes

Four-Class/ Small Breeds

Includes: Dutch, Florida White, Havana, Holland Lop, Mini Lop, Mini Rex, Netherland Dwarf, Polish, and Small All Other Breeds (AOB)

1. Junior Buck 6 months and under
2. Junior Doe 6 months and under
3. Senior Buck 6 months and up
4. Senior Doe 6 months and up

Champion/ Reserve Champion Four-Class

Six-Class/ Large Breeds

Include: Palomino, Californian, New Zealand, Satin, and Large All Other Breeds (AOB)

5. Junior Buck 6 months and under
6. Junior Doe 6 months and under
7. Intermediate Buck 6 – 8 months
8. Intermediate Doe 6 – 8 months
9. Senior Buck 8 months and up
10. Senior Doe 8 months and up

Champion/ Reserve Champion Six-Class

Grand & Reserve Grand Champion Rabbit Best of Show & 3rd- 4th Over All

Champions and reserve champions from four and six class compete for Best of Show.

Crossbred Class

11. Crossbred Rabbit of any age

Champion/ Reserve Champion Crossbred Class

Meat Classes

12. Individual Fryer (either sex) 5 pounds or under (Can not be pulled from your meat pen)

Champion/ Reserve Champion Individual Fryer

13. Meat Pen-3 fryer rabbits (either sex) 15 pounds or under (Can not include your individual fryer)

Champion/ Reserve Champion Meat Pen

Grand & Reserve Grand Champion Meat Rabbit

Showmanship

14. Junior Showmanship (8 – 13 years old)

Champion Junior Showman

15. Senior Showmanship (14 years old and up)

Champion/ Reserve Champion Senior Showman

Sheep Division

Show Date: Monday, July 27, 2026

Check-In: 5 p.m.

Show Time: 6 p.m.

Location: Coles County Fair Grounds- Sheep Barn

Superintendent: Brad Homann

Note: See “General Livestock Rules” for rules that apply to all species.

Top 5 Awarded by Coles County Young Leaders.

1.) Review the Following sections:

- a. Livestock Birth, Ownership and Tattoo Dates for Illinois State Fair Junior Show
- b. Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements
- c. 4-H Show Attire guidelines for appropriate dress requirements in the show ring.
- d. Showmanship Guidelines

2.) Ownership Deadlines. Market lambs must be owned by May 15 of the current year. Ewe lambs, yearling ewes, and ram lambs must have been owned by June 25 of the current year. Yearling Ewe – born after September 1 of previous 4-H year and before September 1 of current 4-H year. Fall lamb – born between September 1 & December 31 of current year. Spring lamb – born after January 1 of current 4-H year. Review the Livestock Birth, Ownership and Tattoo Dates for Illinois State Fair Junior Show section for this species.

3.) Market lambs may be of any breed, grade, purebred, or crossbred.

4.) Each exhibitor may make **two** entries in each breeding class. Each exhibitor may show two breeds (including commercial).

5.) Each exhibitor may show up to **four** market lambs, but no more than **two** per division (black face wether, white face wether, speckle face wether, black face ewe, white face ewe, and speckle face ewe).

6.) All market lambs must have a fully healed tattoo or ear tag for identification. Market lambs with fresh ink are subject to disqualification.

- 7.) All sheep in lamb classes, including market lambs, must have their baby teeth still intact.
- 8.) All animals in breeding classes, except commercial, must be registered. Registration papers will be checked and must accompany sheep to the fairgrounds.
- 9.) All market lambs, including ewes, will be weighed on show grounds scales on Sunday morning of the fair. The wethers and ewes will then be divided into, white-face, black-face and speckled face weight classes of equal numbers so far as possible.
- 10.) Grooming of animals for Coles County 4-H competition shall be limited to the 4-H member, their family and other Coles County 4-H members.
- 11.) Artificial coloring of sheep will not be allowed. Market lambs may be white towed before entering the show ring.
- 12.) All market lambs (wethers and ewes) must be slick sheared and show ring ready before the 4-H Sheep weigh-in on Sunday for purposes of lamb fungus identification (no patch shearing is allowed). Note: This does not exclude or restrict additional fitting prior to showing.
- 13.) Muzzles may be used for animal health and welfare at the discretion of the exhibitor.
- 14.) When market lambs are being judged, they must have all 4 feet on the ground. No lifting of the animals. Slapping will not be tolerated.
- 15.) Exhibitors must register for showmanship in FairEntry to receive premiums in this class.

Breeding Sheep Classes

Commercial Breeding Classes

1. Fall Ram
2. Spring Ram
3. Yearling Ewe
4. Fall Ewe
5. Spring Ewe

Champion & Reserve Champion Commercial Ram

Champion & Reserve Champion Commercial Ewe

Dorset Breeding Class

- 5. Fall Ram
- 6. Spring Ram
- 7. Yearling Ewe
- 8. Fall Ewe
- 9. Spring Ewe

Champion & Reserve Champion Dorset Ram

Champion & Reserve Champion Dorset Ewe

Hair Breeding Class

- 10. Fall Ram
- 11. Spring Ram
- 12. Yearling Ewe
- 13. Fall Ewe
- 14. Spring Ewe

Champion & Reserve Champion Hair Ram

Champion & Reserve Champion Hair Ewe

Natural Breeding Class

- 15. Fall Ram
- 16. Spring Ram
- 17. Yearling Ewe
- 18. Fall Ewe
- 19. Spring Ewe

Champion & Reserve Champion Natural Color Ram

Champion & Reserve Champion Natural Color Ewe

Southdown Breeding Class

- 20. Fall Ram
- 21. Spring Ram
- 22. Yearling Ewe
- 23. Fall Ewe
- 24. Spring Ewe

Champion & Reserve Champion Southdown Ram

Champion & Reserve Champion Southdown Ewe

All Other Breed (AOB) Meat Breeding Class

- 25. Fall Ram
- 26. Spring Ram
- 27. Yearling Ewe
- 28. Fall Ewe
- 29. Spring Ewe

Champion & Reserve Champion All Other Breed Meat Ram

Champion & Reserve Champion All Other Breed Meat Ewe

All Other Breed (AOB) Wool Breeding Class

- 30. Fall Ram
- 31. Spring Ram
- 32. Yearling Ewe
- 33. Fall Ewe
- 34. Spring Ewe

Champion & Reserve Champion All Other Breed Wool Ram

Champion & Reserve Champion All Other Breed Wool Ewe

Grand Champion & Reserve Grand Champion Ram & 3rd – 5th Overall

Grand Campion & Reserve Grand Champion Ewe & 3rd – 5th Overall

Market Sheep Classes

Market Ewe Class

35. White Face

36. Black Face

37. Speckle Face

Champion & Reserve Champion Market Ewe

Market Wether Class

38. White Face

39. Black Face

40. Speckle Face

Champion & Reserve Champion Market Wether

Grand Champion & Reserve Grand Champion Market & 3rd – 5th Overall

Pair of Market Lambs

41. Pair of Market Lambs

Champion & Reserve Champion Market Lambs

Rate of Gain Class

42. Rate of Gain Class

Champion & Reserve Champion Rate of Gain

Showmanship

43. Jr. Showmanship (8 -13)

Champion Jr. Showmanship

44. Sr. Showmanship (14-18)

Champion & Reserve Champion Sr. Showmanship

Swine Division

Check-In: Sunday, July 26 @ 8 a.m.- Announcer booth in Swine Barn

Show Date: Monday, July 27, 2026

Show Time: 8:30 a.m.

Location: Coles County Fair Grounds- Swine Barn

Note: See “General Livestock Rules” for rules that apply to all species.

- 1.) Review the Following sections:
 - a. Livestock Birth, Ownership and Tattoo Dates for Illinois State Fair Junior Show
 - b. Exhibition Livestock Health Requirements
 - c. 4-H Show Attire guidelines for appropriate dress requirements in the show ring.
- 2.) A minimum of TWO pigs per pen.
- 3.) All animals should be fed and pens cleaned before 8:00 a.m. every day.
- 4.) All swine entries must have been farrowed on or after January 1 of the current year. Single gilts and barrows must have been owned by the exhibitor since June 1 of the current year.
- 5.) All single purebred animals must be registered in the name of the exhibitor or in the name of an immediate family member and the exhibitor. Exhibitor must be prepared to show registration papers (purebred animals). If registration papers are not presented, animal will be shown in the crossbred class.
- 6.) ALL SWINE, (including barrows) purebred and commercial, must have been ear notched within 10 days of birth. Pigs showing evidence of fresh ear notch will not be allowed to show.
- 7.) A weigh-in/check-in committee will be appointed by the Swine Superintendents. All market animals will be weighed during the Sunday check-in. Immediately following weigh-in, all 4-H’ers must check-in at the announcers stand with health papers and registration papers to designate which swine they will be showing in 4-H. Check schedule for time.
- 8.) All exhibited barrows will have their weight painted on their backs on Sunday morning of the fair.

9.) There will be no weight restrictions on any class. All class breaks will be determined by the Swine Superintendents.

10.) A Grand Champion Breeding Gilt will be chosen from the champion breeding gilts and champion commercial gilts.

11.) A Grand Champion Market Swine will be chosen from the champion purebreds, champion crossbreds, and champion market gilts.

12.) All pens should be cleaned by 10:00 a.m., Friday morning after the livestock auction.

Entries

- Commercial breeding and Purebred gilts are allowed a total of 3 head with 2 entries per breed or class.
- Market animals “barrow/market gilts”, are allowed a total of 3 head with 2 entries per breed or class.
- All purebred classes must have three or more entries. All purebred classes with less than three entries may be placed in a Purebred AOB class.
- Only gilts and barrows may be shown in Showmanship classes.

Swine Divisions

Breeding gilt: a female hog bred for production of litters.

Market gilt: a female hog bred for meat quality on the market.

*A judge may use different judging standards for a breeding gilt than that of a market gilt.

Breeding Swine Classes

1. Berkshire

Champion/Reserve Champion Berkshire

2. Duroc

Champion/Reserve Champion Duroc

3. Chester White

Champion/Reserve Champion Chester White

4. Hampshire

Champion/Reserve Champion Hampshire

5. Hereford

Champion/Reserve Champion Hereford

6. Landrace

Champion/Reserve Champion Landrace

7. Poland China

Champion/Reserve Champion Poland China

8. Spotted

Champion/Reserve Champion Spotted

9. Tamworth

Champion/Reserve Champion Tamworth

10. Yorkshire

Champion/Reserve Champion Yorkshire

11. All Other Breeds (AOB)

Champion/Reserve Champion AOB

12. Crossbred

Champion/Reserve Champion Crossbred

Grand & Reserve Grand Champion Breeding Gilt & 3rd – 5th

Market Swine Classes

13. Berkshire

Champion/Reserve Champion Berkshire

14. Duroc

Champion/Reserve Champion Duroc

15. Chester White

Champion/Reserve Champion Chester White

16. Hampshire

Champion/Reserve Champion Hampshire

17. Hereford

Champion/Reserve Champion Hereford

18. Landrace

Champion/Reserve Champion Landrace

19. Poland China

Champion/Reserve Champion Poland China

20. Spotted

Champion/Reserve Champion Spotted

21. Tamworth

Champion/Reserve Champion Tamworth

22. Yorkshire

Champion/Reserve Champion Yorkshire

23. All Other Breeds (AOB)

Champion/Reserve Champion AOB

24. Crossbred

Champion/Reserve Champion Crossbred

25. Market Gilt

Champion/Reserve Champion Market Gilt

Grand Champion/Reserve Grand Champion Market Swine & 3rd – 5th Overall

Showmanship Classes

26. Junior Showmanship

Champion Junior Showmanship

27. Senior Showmanship

Champion/Reserve Champion Senior Showmanship

General Projects

4-H General Project Exhibit Guidelines


Exhibiting in the 4-H Exhibit is a privilege. It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to follow the general rules of this division and the exhibit requirements for the specific class entered. The University of Illinois Extension personnel or their assigned agents do not assume liability for loss, theft, or damage to any exhibit. To see the complete list of rules for the Illinois State Fair General Project Show, please visit the Illinois State Fair page on the Illinois 4-H Website:

go.illinois.edu/4HGeneralProjectGuidelines

Exhibitors:

- Exhibitors must be currently enrolled as a 4-H member and have been at least 8 years old as of September 1, 2025. Parents and leaders should make provisions for the adequate care and supervision of exhibitors.
- Exhibitors must be enrolled in the project or have participated in the activity in which they are exhibiting during the current year. Due to the nature of the conference judging process, exhibitors must be present.
- For youth and families: Conference judging is not about preparing a presentation. Judging is meant to be a conversation between the judge and 4-H member (or group) about the project and the learning experience. You may bring notes if you wish. Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips.
- Accommodation requests must be received in advance by contacting your local Extension office.

General Exhibit Guidelines:

- All exhibits must be products of the current 4-H year (September 1, 2025 - August 15, 2026).
- Exhibits illustrating inappropriate subject matter and/or graphics are not acceptable. The Superintendents reserve the right to remove exhibits deemed inappropriate or dangerous for youth audiences. The content of any 4-H competitive presentation does not necessarily reflect the beliefs or views of the Illinois State Fair or the University of Illinois Extension 4-H program.
- Some exhibit areas may have size limitations. Read the descriptions carefully. Please choose a display size which is most appropriate for the exhibit you are bringing. Larger does not always mean better; use good judgement in creating your exhibit. Exhibitors will need to carry their project. Tables are provided.
- Innovation classes are open to all 4-H members in the project areas listed. Members choosing to exhibit in the Innovation class may be enrolled in any level of the project they are studying. Members choosing to exhibit in the Innovation class decide the best way to show off their project mastery and knowledge for the year in that project category. Some suggestions are provided for each category, but members may choose any method they want for demonstrating project learning as long as it does not fit in any other class in that category. Only selected projects categories have an Innovation option.
- Group project opportunities have expanded: They include Civic Engagement, Diversity and Cultural Awareness, Leadership, Passport to the World, Service Learning, and Video.
- Project manuals: Some projects require a project manual, book, workbook, or guide. These are indicated with a book icon. . Project books can be purchased from shop4-h.org or in some cases, have a free PDF resource available on the [project's page on the Illinois 4-H website](#).

Copyright and Clover Usage:

- **Copyright Reminder:** It is illegal for youth to use an image or brand that someone else owns as part of their 4-H project exhibit without the permission of the copyright/trademark holder.
 - Copyrighted or trademarked designs are not acceptable; this includes team logos, school logos, and/or characters from television, movies such as Disney characters, Iron Man etc.
 - More details in the new "Copyright Guidelines Tipsheet: go.illinois.edu/ll4HCopyrightGuidelines.
- **Use of the 4-H Name and Emblem:** Chartered 4-H Clubs and enrolled 4-H members are authorized to use the 4-H Name and Emblem. This includes permission for an enrolled 4-H member to use the 4-H name and emblem in exhibits you create for personal use as part of 4-H sponsored events. This includes 4-H decorated cookies, a 4-H Clover printed out for use in a scrapbook, etc.
- **Please note:** Any use of the 4-H name and emblem on items intended as gifts or for sale require prior permission using this [UNIVERSITY AGREEMENT](#). This should be signed by the County Director. Any uses of the 4-H name and emblem for sale or promotion online, and/or in statewide events should be signed by the Illinois 4-H Director (illinois4H@illinois.edu).
- Use of the green clover shaped image is not protected. The 4-H Emblem is distinguished by the four H's that signify Head, Heart, Hands, and Health. No creative rendering, changing in color or shape of the official 4-H emblem is allowed.

General Projects

Aerospace

Model Rocketry (SF 50130)

Open to youth in Aerospace 1, Aerospace 2, Aerospace 3, and Aerospace 4

Exhibit one model rocket assembled or made by the member. The exhibit will be a static display.

The model rocket should be in good flying condition. DO NOT include the rocket engine with your

exhibit. The rocket will not be launched. Attach the printed directions for construction of the rocket if any were used.

Aerospace Display (SF 50131)

Open to youth in Aerospace 1, Aerospace 2, Aerospace 3, and Aerospace 4

Prepare a display related to the aerospace project that does not fit in the model rocketry class. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters that you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Agronomy (Formerly Crops)

Soybeans (SF 50170) *Record Book – Required* 

Exhibit five fresh plants (include root system that is washed) that are representative of member's 4-H project field; **OR** exhibit an experimental or educational project related to one experience from your project. Include explanation of the project in a report for public understanding. Include the member's crop records with the exhibit, such as the 4-H crop record found online at go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord, or an FFA crops record.

Corn (SF 50171) *Record Book – Required* 

Exhibit two fresh plants of field corn (include root system that is washed) that are representative of member's 4-H project field; **OR** exhibit an experimental or educational project related to one experience from your project. Include explanation of the project in a report for public understanding. *Sweet corn should be exhibited in Vegetable Gardening unless being raised under commercial contract by the exhibitor.* Include the member's crop records with the exhibit, such as the 4-H crop record found online at go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord, or an FFA crops record.

Small Grains (SF 50172) *Record Book – Required* 

Exhibit one gallon of the current year's crop of oats, wheat, rye, or barley that is representative of the member's 4-H project field; **OR** exhibit an experimental or educational project related to one experience from your project. Include explanation of the project in a report for public

understanding. Include the member's crop records with the exhibit, such as the 4-H crop record found online at go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord or an FFA crops record.

Hay (SF 50191) *Record Book – Required*

Exhibit one flake from a small bale (or the equivalent volume from a large or round bale) of dry hay in a clear plastic box with a lid or heavy-duty clear bag of the current year's hay crop that is representative of the member's 4-H project field; **OR** Exhibit an experimental or educational project related to one experience from your project. Include explanation of the project in a report for public understanding. Include the member's crop records with the exhibit, such as the 4-H crop record found online at go.illinois.edu/4HCropsRecord or an FFA crops record.

Agronomy Innovation Class (SF 50173)

Open to youth enrolled in any Agronomy project

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Agronomy project. This could be related to, but not limited to crop production, crop utilization or topics of interest to the member related to agronomy. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Animal Science

For youth enrolled in Beef, Cat, Dairy Cattle, Dog, Horse, Goat, Llama/Alpaca, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, Small Pets, and Swine. Youth participating in the Animal Science General Project Show are not required to complete QAEC or YQCA.

Prepare a display focusing on any activity related to an animal project. Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the animal project you studied. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a

printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Live animals are not permitted as exhibits in this area. For safety reasons, exhibits cannot include glass, syringes with needles, or any other sharp objects.

Animal Science 1 (SF50133a)

For youth enrolled in this project 1-2 years.

Animal Science 2 (SF50133b)

For youth enrolled in this project 3 or more years.

Babysitting

Babysitting Display (SF 50141a)

Prepare a display that demonstrates the skills and knowledge you have gained studying babysitting. Topics might include, but are not limited to, selecting age-appropriate toys and activities, explaining child behavior, or recognizing child safety concerns. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters that you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. For safety reasons, exhibits cannot include glass, syringes with needles or any other sharp objects.

Babysitting Video Tutorial (SF 50141b)

Create a short (1-5 minute) tutorial video intended for internet publishing that teaches the general public about a topic you learned about in your project learning. Topics for the tutorial video might include, but are not limited to, preparing healthy snacks for kids, looking for hazards in the home, things to avoid when selecting toys for kids, age-appropriate games or activities to use when babysitting, how to change a diaper, basic child first aid, etc.

As part of the video, youth must cite the sources of the information they present (either vocally or on screen as text). Videos should not include video or photo content not recorded by the 4-H'er. Videos should not promote any products and should follow all copyright guidelines. Videos in this

category will be judged on the quality and accuracy of the information shared, as well as clarity of presentation, and how engaging they are to a general audience (not on filmmaking techniques).

Youth should have a signed model release for anyone appearing in the video besides themselves, and those should be brought to judging. Forms are available at go.illinois.edu/modelrelease.

You must furnish any equipment you need to show your video to the judge (laptop, tablet, etc.). Internet service is not guaranteed, so please have a hard copy of the video downloaded to your device to play. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. All Exhibitors should also bring a copy of their video to be judged on a USB flash drive and saved in .MP4 format as a backup. In order for something to be on display at your local fair or show, fill out the video information sheet and bring it with you to judging: go.illinois.edu/4HBabysittingVideo.

Note: While exhibitors are encouraged to post their video on YouTube.com in advance of the fair, they are not required to do so. If they choose to upload to YouTube they may choose whether to make the video “public” (the video is searchable on the site), or “public, unlisted” (someone must have the link to view it). This will allow fairgoers to view the exhibits on display. Youth ages 13 to 17 should only be posting content to the internet with parental permission. Youth under 13 would need their parents to post the video for them.

Career Development

Build Your Future (SF 50365) *Build Your Future Notebook – Required* 

Develop a career portfolio which includes the items listed below. Members are encouraged to spend more than one year involved in this project, so they have time to thoroughly explore the learning modules and develop a greater understanding of planning and preparing for their future and develop a comprehensive career planning portfolio. The original OR photocopies of the completed activities from the project manual should be included in the portfolio. Each year enrolled in the project should build on the previous year’s learning experiences.

- **First Year** – Complete a minimum of Activities 1-4 from the Build Your Future project manual which includes: Skills...Choices...Careers; Making Career Connections; Build Your Future Through Portfolios; and Education Pay\$.

- **Second Year** – Complete a minimum of Activities 5-7 from the Build Your Future project manual which includes: Career FUNds; Turn Your 4-H Passion Into Profit; and Pounding the Pavement.
- **Third Year** – Complete a minimum of Activities 8-9 from the Build Your Future project manual which includes: Putting the Pieces Together: Goals for the Future; and Pathways to Success.

Civic Engagement

Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36” x 48” and 15” deep.

Civic Engagement 1 (SF 50145)

Exhibit a display illustrating one of the following options: 1) personal information about yourself – who you are, things you like to do, things you are good at, your favorites; 2) your feelings and how you handle these feelings; 3) your family, their responsibilities, how you work together.

Civic Engagement 2 (SF 50146) *Citizenship: Level 2 – My Neighborhood – Required*

Exhibit a display illustrating one of the following options: 1) your neighborhood; 2) how you were a good neighbor or led a service project for your community; **OR** 3) a Citizenship Challenge that you helped organize and lead (see the project book for details).

Civic Engagement 3 (SF 50147) *Citizenship: Level 3 – My Community and Me – Required*

Exhibit a display illustrating one of the activities that you completed within your project as it relates to one of the following categories in the manual: 1) Government; 2) Business and Industry; 3) Transportation, Communication & Utilities; 4) Culture & Heritage; 5) Natural Resources & Environment; 6) Education; 7) Organizations within your community; 8) Tourism; **OR** 9) Support Systems within your community.

Civic Engagement Group Exhibit (SF 50148)

Open to groups whose members are enrolled in any Civic Engagement project.

Exhibit a display illustrating how your group led a service project in your community. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time

and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 and no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. Groups wishing to include more than 10 members must ask for an accommodation, one week prior to judging. Group members should make a 5- to 10-minute presentation to the judge. All group members present for the judge's critique should be able to discuss the project and answer questions. Only group members present for judging who participate in the actual critique and presentation are eligible for ribbons and premiums.

Clothing and Textiles

Costume Design & Clothing Embellishment

All exhibits entered in the Costume Design & Clothing Embellishment projects will be judged based on their creativity, planning, and execution. Exhibitors bringing garments should not wear their garments when they arrive for judging. The garment will be reviewed by the judges for construction first. Exhibitors will be asked to change into the garment as the second step of the judging process. **For complicated costumes, judges may decide to waive the requirement to try on the outfit if they feel photos included in the Costume Design Workbook show the fit.** If the garment was created for another individual, that person can come to judging to model the outfit, or photos of that person in the outfit can be supplied. (Only the exhibitor who made the garment is eligible for ribbon and premium.) If a pattern was used to make the item, the pattern instructions, either written or electronic, are to be included with the exhibit. Exhibit tags should be attached to the garment (preferably with a safety pin and string), not to the hanger. Garments may be worn before exhibiting but should be in good, clean condition. Both projects require youth to complete a project workbook and bring it to judging.

All clothing projects in these categories should follow copyright guidelines. See project resource guides for additional details.

Costume design members wishing to be judged primarily on the sewing construction techniques and fit of their costume should consider entering the Sewing projects instead of Costume Design. The level to be entered will depend on the sewing techniques used.

Costume Design (SF 50157a, 50157b) Costume Design Workbook – Required

Exhibit one costume, created by the member. The costume may contain multiple items. The costume may include supporting accessory pieces (shoes, jewelry, hats, etc.) that complete the look. Accessory items will not remain on display. If the member created any prop weapons as part

of their costume (e.g. swords, firearms, bows, etc.) they may not bring them to judging. Those props can be included in the photographs of the completed look in the Illinois 4-H Costume Design Workbook. Bring a completed copy of the Costume Design Workbook (go.illinois.edu/4HCostumeWorkbook) to show your project journey. Youth should enter the class that aligns with their experience with costume design in any form (including outside of 4-H).

Costume Design Beginner (SF 50157a) – For members with 2 or less years of experience in costume design (including this year)

Costume Design Advanced (SF 50157b) – For members with 3 or more years of experience in costume design (including this year)

Clothing Embellishment


Clothing Embellishment (SF 50158a, 50158b, 50158c) Clothing Embellishment Workbook – Required 

Exhibit one look or outfit, consisting of no more than three coordinated pieces that have been embellished with 1 or more clothing embellishment techniques. Bring a completed copy of the Clothing Embellishment workbook (go.illinois.edu/4HEmbellishmentWorkbook) to show your project journey. No accessory items (such as shoes, jewelry, hats, etc.) should be brought to judging (they can instead be used in the final look photos in the project workbook). Youth should enter the class that aligns with the technique(s) used in their outfit.

Clothing Embellishment Applied (SF 50158a)

Decoration is attached by gluing, fusing, or painting. Examples: jewels, puff paints, appliqués, tie dye.

Clothing Embellishment Stitched (SF 50158b)

Decoration is hand- or machine-stitched. Examples: machine or hand sewing, such as adding a collar or skirt, appliqué, satin stitch, embroidery, quilting, beading, knitting or crochet (4-H'er does not need to create the knit or crochet piece themselves, it could be purchased or made by others but attached by the 4-H'er).

Clothing Embellishment Combination (SF 50158c)

Decoration includes any combination of both applied **and** stitched techniques across the outfit.

Sewing 1-3

All exhibits entered in Sewing 1-3 will be judged based on their construction and fit (if applicable). Exhibitors bringing garments should not wear their garments when they arrive for judging. The garment will be reviewed by the judges for construction first. Exhibitors will be asked to change into the garment as the second step of the judging process. If the garment was constructed for another individual, that individual must be present to wear the garment for the judge. (Only the exhibitor who made the garment is eligible for ribbon and premium.) Construction and appearance will both be considered during judging. If a pattern was used to make the item, the pattern instructions, either written or electronic, are to be included with the exhibit. Exhibit tags should be attached to the garment, not to the hanger.

Members wishing to exhibit knitted items should enroll in Visual Arts Fiber (if original) or Visual Arts Heritage Arts (if made from a pattern). **We strongly encourage youth interested in pursuing quilting to enroll and exhibit in the Visual Arts Quilting project area.** Youth may still exhibit quilts in any level of Sewing as a “Sewn Non-Clothing” item, but these quilts will be judged using the Sewing rubric that evaluates the sewing skills and construction of the item. If exhibiting quilts in the Sewing area, all work on the quilt **MUST** be completed by the 4-H member. You cannot exhibit a quilt that was quilted by someone else. Quilts can be hand OR machine quilted as long as ALL work is completed by the exhibitor.

Sewing 1 (SF 50151a, 50151b)

Exhibits in Sewing 1 must be made from medium weight woven fabrics that will sew and press smoothly, flannel/fleece is acceptable. Solid color fabrics or those having an overall print are acceptable. We strongly advise youth do not select fabrics with plaid or stripe patterns as judges will expect stripes to match at seams, which is a more advanced-level skill. **NO NAPPED or JERSEY KNIT fabric.** Patterns should be simple **WITHOUT DARTS, SET-IN SLEEVES, and COLLARS.** Raglan and loose flowing sleeves are acceptable.

Exhibit one of the following in either the Non-Clothing, or Clothing exhibit divisions:

Non-Clothing Exhibits (SF 50151a)

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- Pillowcase

- Simple Pillow – no larger than 18” x 18”
- Bag/Purse – no zippers or button holes
- Other non-clothing item using skills learned in project manual

Clothing Exhibits (SF 50151b)

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- Simple top
- Simple pants, shorts, or skirt – no zipper or button holes
- Simple Dress – no zipper or button holes
- Other – other wearable item using skills learned in project manual (apron, vest, etc.)

Sewing 2 (SF 50152a, 50152b)

Exhibit one of the following in either the Non-Clothing, or Clothing exhibit divisions:

Non-Clothing Exhibits (SF 50152a)

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- Recycled Clothing Accessory – Create a clothing accessory made from a used item. The item must be changed in some way in the redesign process. The finished accessory must reflect at least one skill learned in the project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skill used. A before picture and a description of the redesign process must accompany the exhibit. Clothing accessory may include: hat, bag, scarf, belt, etc. **OR**
- Non-Clothing Item OR Clothing Accessory – Create a non-clothing item or clothing accessory using at least one skill learned in this project. Exhibitor should be able to identify the skill used.

Clothing Exhibits (SF 50152b)

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- Recycled Clothing – Create a garment from used textile-based items. The original used item must be redesigned (not just embellished or decorated) in some way to create a new

wearable piece of clothing. The finished garment must reflect at least one skill learned in this project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skill used. A before picture and a description of the redesign process must accompany the exhibit. **OR**

- **Constructed Garment** – Any garment with facings or curves. Should use at least one skill learned in this project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skills used. Garment should be appropriate for the age and experience of the member.

Sewing 3 (SF 50153a, 50153b)

Exhibit one of the following in either the Non-Clothing, or Clothing exhibit divisions:

Non-Clothing Exhibit (SF 50153a)

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- **Recycled Clothing Accessory** – Create a clothing accessory made from a used item. The item must be changed in some way in the redesign process. The finished accessory must reflect at least one skill learned in the project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skill used. A before picture and a description of the redesign process must accompany the exhibit. **OR**
- **Non-Clothing Item OR Clothing Accessory** – Create a non-clothing item or clothing accessory using at least one skill learned in this project. Exhibitor should be able to identify the skill used.

Clothing Exhibit (SF 50153b)

Exhibit one of the following sewn items:

- **Recycled Clothing** – Create a garment from used textile-based items. The original used item must be redesigned (not just embellished or decorated) in some way to create a new wearable piece of clothing. The finished garment must reflect at least one skill learned in this project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skill used. A before picture and a description of the redesign process must accompany the exhibit. **OR**
- **Constructed Garment** – Any garment constructed by the member which is appropriate for the age and experience of the exhibitor. Should use at least one skill learned in this project and exhibitor should be able to identify the skills used. Possible examples are wool

garment, dress or jacket with set in sleeves and zipper or buttons and button holes, suit, evening gown or sport outfit.

Shopping in Style (SF 50154, 50155, 50156) Shopping in Style Digital – Required

Members are encouraged to spend more than one year involved in this project, so they have time to learn what clothing styles look best on them while they also gain skills in building a versatile wardrobe and staying within their budget. Each year enrolled in Shopping should build on previous year's learning experience. For all levels of this project, participants should bring a garment to display and model for the judge.

Exhibit one of the following options that align with the Shopping in Style level:

Shopping in Style: Beginning (Levels 1 & 2) (SF 50154) Shopping in Style Digital – Required


Choose **one** of the following activities from Unit 1 or Unit 2 of the project book to exhibit:

- Exhibit should consist of a garment that reflects your personal style along with a poster or report that 1) explains how this garment reflects your style and how it influences what others think of you; **OR** 2) how your personal style either aligns or contradicts what is “in style” today. **OR**
- Exhibit should include a garment you purchased along with a poster or report that explains or illustrates how this garment is either 1) a modern version of a fad or fashion from an earlier decade; **OR** 2) how this garment reflects a different ethnic or cultural influence. Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that provides 1) a body shape discussion and how body shape influences clothing selections; **OR** 2) a color discussion that provides an overview of how different colors complement different hair colors and skin tones and how that influenced garment selection. Poster or report may include pictures from magazines, the internet or actual photos of garments. **OR**
- Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that 1) explains how this garment uses the principles of design lines to create an illusion to alter appearance; **OR** 2) explains how color and texture of fabrics can complement or enhance appearance. Poster or report may include pictures from magazines, the internet, or actual photos of garments.

Shopping in Style: Intermediate (Levels 3 & 4) (SF 50155) Shopping in Style Digital – Required

Choose **one** of the following activities from Unit 3 or Unit 4 of the project book to exhibit:

- Exhibit should include two clothing items that were previously a part of your wardrobe that still fit but you don't wear anymore and pair them with something new to make them wearable again. Also include a report that explains why the garment was not being worn and what you did to transform it into a wearable garment again. **OR**
- Exhibit should include at least five pieces of clothing that exhibitor can mix and match to create multiple outfits. Include a poster or report that includes a clothing inventory AND describes what you have learned by completing this activity. Please bring at least one complete outfit from the selected clothing to display and model for the judge. **OR**
- Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that 1) includes a wardrobe inventory which indicates why you selected the garment you did, clothing budget, and cost of garment; **OR** 2) explains how advertising influences clothing purchases making a distinction between wants and needs; and how the purchase of this garment complements and/or extends your wardrobe. **OR**
- Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that 1) describes a cost comparison of this item completed by the exhibitor when purchasing the garment; should include variety of shopping options and/or price tracking at stores over a period of time; **OR** 2) provides a quality comparison rating the specific clothing item purchased based on care, construction, cost and unique features; should include construction quality details, design features that influenced selection, cost per wearing, and garment care.

Shopping in Style: Advanced (Level 5 & 6) (SF 50156) Shopping in Style Digital – Required 

Choose **one** of the following activities from Unit 5 or Unit 6 of the project book to exhibit:

- Exhibit should include garment you purchased along with a poster or report that summarizes care requirements not only for this garment but also for garments made of other natural and synthetic fibers; exhibit should also include a care cost analysis for garments of different fibers. **OR**
- Exhibit should include garment you purchased which you have repaired or altered along with a poster or report that provides a clothing inventory list which includes cost savings for repaired items as compared to purchasing replacement garments. **OR**

- Exhibit should include multiple garments you purchased along with a poster or report that provides plans and commentary for a fashion show that would capture the attention of an audience. Fashion show plans should identify target audience, include show venue, purpose of the show, and logistical plan for the fashion show. This should also include a financial plan. Exhibitor should be prepared to demonstrate modeling skills and bring at least one garment to display and wear.

Cloverbuds

Requirements:

- Youth who are 5 through 7 years of age on or before September 1, 2025, may enroll in 4-H Cloverbud groups.
- Cloverbuds must be enrolled in the Cloverbud project on ZSuite.
- Cloverbuds must pay the required program fee.
- Cloverbud **MUST** attend three local 4-H club meetings.

Exhibiting at the fair:

- Cloverbuds may bring up to **two** projects to display in the 4-H Center.
- Cloverbud members may not receive premium money.
- Cloverbud participation ribbons will be awarded.
- Cloverbud members may make projects related to Cloverbud project areas.

State 4-H Rule—Livestock Projects

- Per the State 4-H Office, Cloverbud members **MAY NOT** exhibit any type of animal projects.

Chit Chat with a Cloverbud

Chit Chat with a Cloverbud will take place on General Project Day at the 4-H Center. Participants will need to bring their projects (up to 2) with them on General Project Day. Cloverbuds will participate in a conversation with an adult about their project. Special awards will be awarded to those members who participate. This isn't an actual judging event, but an opportunity for Cloverbuds to experience conference judging to prepare them for their first year in 4-H. Attendance is not mandatory. Cloverbuds may bring projects in the following categories.

- Little Roots Gardening Program
- Poster Board
- Show and Tell

Little Roots Gardening Program

1. Exhibit should include at least 1 single vegetable plate. (Exhibitor will furnish the disposable plates. Sturdy plates with raised sides work best.) Multiple plates are allowed; however only include one variety of vegetable per plate. Plates should be labeled with name and variety of vegetable. **OR**
2. Exhibit in one container, a display of cut flowers. (Exhibitor will furnish the vase.)
 - **Choices Include:** 3 Blooming Stems of Zinnia OR 1 Blooming Stem of a Sunflower **OR**
3. Present a poster that focuses on some aspect of vegetable gardening/floriculture which does not require the vegetable/bloom to be present at the exhibition.

Posterboard


- Members may make a poster that includes pictures and information about anything they would like. The poster will be displayed in the 4-H Center. Reminder: No live animals.

Show and Tell

Cloverbuds can bring their favorite thing. (Example: a toy, stuffed animal, doll, picture, shirt.) The following are not allowed.

- No live animals
- Nothing valuable
- Nothing breakable
- No weapons

Communications

Communications 1, 2, 3 (SF 50368) Communications Module 1, 2 or 3 – Required 

For 1st year enrolled in project: Exhibit a binder portfolio showcasing at least three activities from the project manual. Show basic activities and anything that extended lessons. For 2nd and 3rd years

in project: Include everything from earlier years' work and add a section showcasing at least four additional activities per year.

Journalism, News & Social Media (SF 50369) Journalism, News & Social Media – Required 

Exhibit a binder portfolio showing the results of the appropriate year's activities noted below:

- **Year 1:** Results of doing a minimum of 5, 2-star activities, answering all the questions in the activities.
- **Year 2:** Results of doing a minimum of 5, 2-star activities, answering all the questions in the activities.
- **Year 3:** Results of doing a minimum of 5, 3-star activities. One of the activities must include writing an advance story, a follow-up story, or a feature story.
- **Year 4:** Results of doing at least 2, 2-star activities and 3, 3-star activities. If the activities include making an audio or videotape, State Fair will provide a way for the judge to view or listen to it.

Communications: Public Speaking

Enrollment in the Public Presentations project is required to participate in this section. No live animals are allowed in speeches. **Counties may advance a total of 3 speech entries from any category to the state contest.** A 4-H member may advance in one individual category and one team category. **Participating** youth turning 14 years of age on or before **September 1, 2025, must** enroll as advanced.

Resources:

Youth looking for resources to help prepare for this contest can reference the following:

- [Finding your Voice: Public Speaking made Easy](#) (Public Speaking)
- Refer to the AI policy at go.illinois.edu/4hai for Public Speaking specific guidance

Formal Speech

Self-written | Notes Allowed | No props | Individual | 4-5 minutes for beginners; 5-6 minutes for advanced

Formal Speech - Original Beginner Ages 8-13 (SF 50501A)

Formal Speech - Original Advanced Ages 14 & Up (SF 50501B)

Formal Speeches share the presenter's own unique view and are intended to motivate, persuade, or inform an audience and may include a call to action. Youth may deliver a speech on any topic they wish.

Illustrated Speech

Self-written | Notes Allowed | Illustrations Required | Individual | 4-5minutes for beginners; 5-6 minutes for advanced

Illustrated Speech - Beginner Ages 8-13 (SF 50503A)

Illustrated Speech - Advanced Ages 14 & Up (SF 50503B)

Illustrated Speeches may be used to inform, persuade, or motivate the audience while using a visual aid. Visual aids may be two dimensional, three-dimensional, or digital. Youth may include audience participation. Digital visual aids must be stored on a USB flash drive. Illustrated speeches may be:

- How-to demonstrations show the audience how to do something.
- Object lessons which use objects as metaphors to share a message.
- Educational models where drawings or diagrams help explain a topic.

Original Works

Self-written | Notes Allowed | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Youth must provide manuscripts to judge | 4-6 minutes

Original Works – Individual (SF 50504)

Original Works – Team (SF 50505)

Original works must be written entirely by the presenter. It may be presented as an individual or a two-person team entry. Manuscripts must be brought to the contest. Presentations may be designed for TV, radio, or online media and must be presented live. The types of entries could include:

- Prose and Short Stories
- Poetry/Spoken Word
- Broadcast Media Program

- Theatrical
- Combined Program: Combine any number of the above elements along with other creative presentation forms

Oral Interpretation

Published Work | Props and Costumes Allowed | Individual or 2-Person Team | Youth must provide manuscripts to judge | 4-6 minutes

Oral Interpretation – Individual (SF 50506)

Oral Interpretation – Team (SF 50507)

Presentations in Oral Interpretation must be published works, and manuscripts or transcripts must be brought to the event. They may be presented as an individual or a two-person team entry. The types of entries could include:

- Prose and Short Stories
- Poetry
- Theatrical Interpretation
- Published Speech Recitation: Excerpt from a spoken presentation delivered by a public figure, such as Winston Churchill, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., or Maya Angelou
- Combined Program: Combine any number of the above elements along with other creative presentation forms

Computer Science

Exhibitors may bring computer equipment for demonstration purposes. Computers will not be furnished. Internet connections are not available for use by exhibitors. Any member found to be using computer software in a manner that infringes on copyright laws will be disqualified.

Beginning Visual Programming (SF 50135)

Open to youth in Computer Science Visual Based Programming.

Exhibit a simple program using Scratch (or other simple visual programming language). The program should include 8 different commands including looping and getting input from the keyboard and mouse. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a poster or printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment

will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Intermediate Visual Programming (SF 50136)

Open to youth in Computer Science Visual Based Programming.

Exhibit a program using Scratch (or other simple visual programming language) that you have downloaded from the internet and modified. Compare the two programs and demonstrate the changes you made to the original program; **OR** create an animated storybook using Scratch (or other simple graphical programming language). All exhibits must include something visual, such as a poster or printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Advanced Visual Programming (SF 50137)

Open to youth in Computer Science Visual Based Programming.

Exhibit a video game you have created in Scratch (or other simple visual programming language). All exhibits must include something visual, such as a poster or printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Website Design (SF 50138)

Open to youth in any Computer Science Project Area.

Exhibit an original website that you have designed using a programming language such as HTML (cannot be made with website builder like Wix or Squarespace). Internet access will not be provided, so exhibitors must supply their own internet hotspot or the website must be hosted on the exhibitor's computer. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a poster or printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Text-Based/Open Source Computer Science (SF 50139)

Open to youth enrolled in any Computer Science or Robotics project

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Computer Science project using a text-based programming language (Python, Java, C, etc.). The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites,

games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. Exhibits in this class may also demonstrate successful application of open source (publicly available) computing software and/or hardware, such as Raspberry Pi and Linux, to accomplish a task. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a poster or printed copy of a digital presentation or programming flowchart, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Exhibits in this area will be judged on the computer science programming. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Exhibits in this class must be able to fit on no more than a 3' x 2' space (or ground footprint).

Consumer Education



Entrepreneurship: Be the E! (SF 50166) Be the "E" Entrepreneurship Guide – Required 

Exhibit a binder portfolio or display that includes the results of at least two completed activities from each year the exhibitor has been enrolled in the project. Completed activities from previous years should be included.

My Financial Future 1 Beginner (SF 50168) My Financial Future Beginner Youth Notebook – Required 

Develop a Financial Planning portfolio which includes the items listed below. This project can be completed all in one year; or a member may take several years to explore each of the activities and develop a more detailed financial plan. The original OR photocopies of the completed activities from the project manual should be included in the portfolio. Each year enrolled in the project should build on previous year's experiences.

- **First Year** – Complete a minimum of Activities 1-6 from the My Financial Future – Beginner project manual which includes: Who Needs This?; Let's get SMART; Bringing Home the Bacon; Managing Your Money Flow; My Money Personality; and Money Decisions.
- **Second Year and Beyond** – Complete a minimum of Activities 7-11 from the My Financial Future – Beginner project manual which includes: Banking your \$\$\$\$\$; Charging it Up; Check it Out; Better than a Piggy Bank!; and My Work; My Future.

My Financial Future 2 Advanced (SF 50169) My Financial Future Advanced Notebook – Required



Building on your previous work in My Financial Future – Beginner project, continue adding to your Financial Planning portfolio which includes the items listed below. Members are encouraged to spend more than one year involved in this project, so they have time to thoroughly explore the learning modules and develop a greater understanding of financial literacy, planning for their future, and develop a comprehensive career and financial planning portfolio. The original OR photocopies of the completed activities from the project manual should be included in the portfolio. Each year enrolled in the project should build on previous year’s learning experiences.

- **First Year** – Complete a minimum of two activities from Module 1: Earning Income and Career Planning and Module 2: Organizing Your Flow.
- **Second Year** – Complete all activities not previously completed in Module 1: Earning Income and Career Planning and Module 2: Organizing Your Flow; **AND** a minimum of two of the activities from Module 3: Working with Banks and Credit Unions: Bank on It and Module 4: Making Your \$ Work 4 U.
- **Third Year and Beyond** – Complete all activities not previously completed in Module 3: Working with Banks and Credit Unions: Bank on It and Module 4: Making Your \$ Work 4 U; **AND** a minimum of two activities from Module 5: Credit and Consumer Breadcrumbs.

Creating with Building Bricks

All exhibits entered in the Creating with Building Bricks project must follow these guidelines:

- All projects must be original designs by the exhibitor built entirely with building brick elements (no kits or following build directions created by others are allowed). Exhibitors can use techniques learned from kits, build directions, and guides to create their own original designs.
- All projects should follow copyright guidelines. No re-creating copyrighted characters or logos out of bricks. No recreating copyrighted images in brick form, including as mosaics. Legally sourced branded items can be used as part of the exhibit (i.e. licensed minifigures and licensed printed parts). See project resource guide for additional details at go.illinois.edu/4HBuildingBrickResources.
- All physical builds (with the exception of hangable art) must be 30” by 30” (table space length and width) or less (i.e. 4 total of the 48 by 48 stud baseplate in a square formation or smaller). Pieces of the build should not extend horizontally beyond the maximum size.

There is no height limit. Mosaics or other entries in the art category that are intended to be hung from a wall have a maximum size of 32” by 42” and a depth no greater than 3 inches. Virtual builds have no size restrictions.

- Builds should be 4-H appropriate and aligned with principles in the 4-H Code of Conduct.
- Youth should exhibit in only one build category.

Creating with Building Bricks: Art (SF 50101)

Exhibit one visual art piece created with building bricks as the medium. This includes things like sculptures and mosaics. Pieces in this category are judged on art principles.

Creating with Building Bricks: Building (SF 50102)

Exhibit one building constructed with building bricks, such as a house or skyscraper. Replicas of existing buildings, such as a personal home, are allowed in this category.

Creating with Building Bricks: Creature (SF 50103)

Exhibit one real or imaginary animal, monster, or person created with building bricks. This category includes domestic animals (like pets and farm animals), wild animals (current or extinct), as well as fantasy creature builds (like dragons, aliens, monsters, and unicorns. All creatures must be brick built (no mixed and matched minifigures are allowed).

Creating with Building Bricks: Functional (SF 50104)

Exhibit one non-mechanical item built from building bricks that can be used in the real world, like a jewelry box, pencil cup, or phone charging stand. Bring a printed picture of the build in use.

Creating with Building Bricks: Mechanical (SF 50105)

Exhibit one device constructed with building bricks, which includes mechanical movement to accomplish a real-world task. Use of gears and technic style elements is encouraged. Example builds include a functioning clock, candy vending machine, etc. Mechanical builds will frequently combine various simple machines like levers, pulleys, screws, and axles to achieve tasks. Mechanical builds can use motor elements.

Creating with Building Bricks: Object (SF 50106)

Exhibit one full-size or scaled (shrunk down or enlarged) replica of a real-world object, like a food item, household object, or plant, built from building bricks. Leave any brand logos off your replica. Bring a printed picture of the item you are replicating to judging so judges can compare your build to the real thing.

Creating with Building Bricks: Scene/Storytelling (SF 50107)

Exhibit one scene that tells a story built with building bricks. Scenes will typically display some type of action (or implied action). Scenes can be realistic or set in imaginary worlds. Builds can incorporate items from the other exhibit categories (such as creatures, buildings, and vehicles) as well as minifigures.

Creating with Building Bricks: Vehicle (SF 50108)

Exhibit one vehicle built with building bricks. This category includes things like cars, boats, trains, airships, and spaceships.

Creating with Building Bricks: Virtual (SF 50109)

Create an original build using virtual building brick software such as BrickLink Studio, MecaBricks Workshop, or LeoCAD. Exhibits in this category can be of anything that would fit in any of the other build categories but are instead built digitally. Export or screenshot a minimum of 6 images of the entire build from different angles (top, bottom, both sides, front, and back images are required) and bring printed copies of the images in a standard size pocket folder or 3-ring binder. Youth may include additional images (beyond the required 6) from different angles that they feel help capture the entirety of the build and may include shots focused on important build details that are not easy to see in the required images. Please label each image (i.e. “front view”, “back view”, “bottom view”, “detail of front” etc.). Youth should be prepared to discuss what software they used with the judge.

Creative Writing

Creative Writing (SF 50367)

Submit one of the following. The entry is to be typewritten on 8 ½ x 11 paper and include exhibitor’s name. Entries must be original and **written for the 4-H project**. Stories should be double-spaced. If you want to be judged on the artistic aspects of your graphic novel, this project should be entered in Visual Arts: Chalk, Carbon, Pigment.

- **Short Story** – A fiction piece comprised of three basic elements: a theme, a plot, and characters. Submit one story, maximum length – 2,000 words.
- **Essay** – A short nonfiction composition in which a theme is developed, or an idea is expressed. Submit one essay, maximum length – 500 words.

- **Feature Story** – Nonfiction human-interest story judged on interest to readers, writing style, readability, and thoroughness of coverage. Submit one story, maximum length – 1,000 words.

State Level Creative Writing: If promoted to state, follow the instructions below to submit your entry by August 1 to the State 4-H Office.

- Members are strongly encouraged to upload their submission to the State Communications Box folder by August 1, prior to the beginning of State Fair. Members need to include their name and county in the title of the file. Upload files to: go.illinois.edu/StateFairSubmissions
- Members are also required to bring a hard copy of their project to drop off the morning that their county is exhibiting at the state fair.

Poetry (SF 50371)

Submit one of the following. The entry is to be typewritten on 8 ½ x 11 paper and include exhibitor's name. Entries must be original and **written for the 4-H project**. Poems may be single-spaced. The entries should be submitted by August 1 to the state 4-H office.

- **Rhymed Poetry** – An interpretation of a subject in rhymed verse. Submit a collection of three poems.
- **Free Style Poetry**– An interpretation of a subject in unrhymed verse. Submit a collection of three poems.

Drones: Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/Systems

Choose one of the following classes based on your interest and skill level. Each exhibitor must complete the first 2 sections, and at least 3 Real World Missions in the Quads Away Curriculum and display a completed mission logbook.

UAV Display (SF 50375) Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/Systems: Drones – Required

Prepare a display related to the Drones/UAV project on the topic of your choosing. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include

something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Non-UAV/ Drone projects should not be entered in this class (see Aerospace Display).

UAV Unmanned Aerial Systems (SF 50376) Unmanned Aerial Vehicles/Systems: Drones – Required

Exhibit one unmanned aerial vehicle and associated system assembled or made by the member. UAV or drone exhibits in this class must be either originally designed or built from a kit of reconfigurable parts and components. These displays are limited to multicopters (tri, quad, hex, and octocopters), as well as FPV airplanes and flying wings with wingspans up to 36". A detailed build log with pictures, as well as a mission logbook must be included. The UAV MUST have a flight controller and utilize a camera/video transmission system. The exhibit will be a static display. The drone should be in good flying condition with batteries fully charged, and all UAS components (including video system) ready to demonstrate. DO NOT display your UAV with the propellers on, but rather on the table to the side of your UAV. The drone will not be flown. Attach the printed directions/instructions of the UAV if any were used.

Electricity

Electricity 1 (SF 50177)

May only be battery-powered projects using battery components and wiring. Exhibit a momentary switch, simple switch, basic circuit, electromagnet, galvanometer, **OR** an electric motor. All projects must include a report explaining how the project was constructed and the principles demonstrated. Projects using paper clips, cardboard, thumbtacks, and brads are not eligible for state fair exhibits in electricity. Members wishing to exhibit these types of projects should consider exhibiting in Junk Drawer Robotics 1 or 2.

Electricity 2 (SF 50178)

May only be battery-powered projects using battery components and wiring. Exhibit a circuit board demonstrating parallel and series switches, including a circuit diagram; 3-way or 4-way switch circuit using DC/battery; **OR** a basic electrical device (examples: rocket launcher, burglar alarm, etc.). All projects must include a report explaining how the project was constructed and the principles demonstrated. Projects using paper clips, cardboard, thumbtacks, and brads are not eligible for state fair exhibits in electricity. Members wishing to exhibit these types of projects should consider exhibiting in Junk Drawer Robotics 1 or 2.

Electricity 3 (SF 50179)

Exhibit a 120V lighting fixture or other appliance that uses a switch; **OR** two electrical household circuits using 120V materials to comply with National Electrical Code, one with a simple on/off switch to control bulb, and one using 3-way switches to control light from two locations; **OR** other project which demonstrates principles in the *Wired for Power* book. All electricity projects must include a report, explaining how the project was constructed, and principles for its operation.

Electricity 4 (SF 50180)

Exhibit any electronic or solid-state appliance. Exhibitor must be able to explain how the project was constructed, how it is to be used and how it works. When a project is being constructed, general safety and workmanship should be considered. All Electricity 4 projects must include a report explaining how the project was constructed, and principles for its operation.

Entomology

Size and number of exhibit cases should relate appropriately to the number of insects being displayed for a specified class. Cases should be no deeper than 4". Exhibitors should note that Entomology exhibits may be placed UPRIGHT for display. All displays should be comprised of non-living specimens properly prepared for display. Rules for pinning and labeling insects are available at the following site: <https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/401Book/default.php?page=home>. Projects focused on Arachnids (Spiders) should be displayed in Nature: Natural Resources & Outdoor Adventures in the Exploring Your Environment (50257a or 50257b) class.

Entomology 1 (SF 50183) *Teaming With Insects 1* – Required

Exhibit 15-29 or more species representing four or more orders. The collection must be accurately labeled. Exhibitors must also include the Entomology 1 project manual, *Teaming With Insects 1*, with at least one completed activity for each year enrolled. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

Entomology 2 (SF 50184) *Teaming With Insects 2* – Required

Exhibit 30-59 or more species representing eight or more orders. Collection must be accurately labeled. Exhibitors must also include the Entomology 2 project manual, *Teaming With Insects 2*, with at least one completed activity for each year enrolled. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

Entomology 3 (SF 50185) Teaming With Insects 3 – Required

Exhibit 60 or more species representing twelve or more orders. Collection must be accurately labeled. Exhibitors must also include the Entomology 3 project manual, *Teaming With Insects 3*, with at least one completed activity for each year enrolled. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

Entomology Display (SF 50186)

Open to youth enrolled in Entomology 1, 2 or 3.

Exhibit any activity or display related to Entomology that does not fit into Entomology Classes 1, 2 or 3 above. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Beekeeping

Create an exhibit that shows the public what you learned in the beekeeping project this year. **Note:** No beehives may be exhibited. Honey moisture content will be measured at the State Fair for Level 2 & 3. Fill level: the honey should be filled to the jar shoulder, not over, nor under. Chunk honey should go in a wide-mouth jar, preferably one specially made for chunk honey (see beekeeping catalog [HillCo LLC Beekeeping Equipment Catalog](#)). Be careful to distinguish “chunk honey” (comb in jar) from “cut comb” (comb only in plastic box). *Honey exhibited (including chunk, cut comb, and sections) must be collected since the previous year's fair.*

Beekeeping 1 (SF 50188) Exhibit an educational display for one (1) of the following:

- Flowers used to make honey. Display pressed flowers from ten (10) different Illinois plants that bees use for making honey.
- Uses of honey and beeswax.
- Setting up a beehive.

- Safe handling of bees.
- Equipment needed by a beekeeper.

Beekeeping 2 (SF 50189)

Exhibit one (1) of the following:

- Extracted honey: Three (3) pint jars (glass, screw-top), holding 1lb. of honey each.
- Chunk honey (comb in jar): Three (3) pint jars (wide-mouth, glass).
- Cut-comb honey: Three (3) 1lb. boxes (boxes are usually 4 ½” x 4 ½” in size).
- Section honey: Three (3) sections of comb honey (in basswood boxes or Ross rounds).
- Working with honey bees. Present a topic from your manual to teach fairgoers about working with honey bees. Use your knowledge and creativity to display this information on a poster or in a notebook.

Beekeeping 3 (SF 50190)

Exhibit three (3) of the five (5) kinds of honey listed below (#1-5) or prepare an educational display about honey bees or beekeeping (#6).

1. Extracted honey: Three (3) pint jars (glass, screw-top), holding 1 lb. of honey each.
2. Chunk honey (comb in a jar): Three (3) pint jars (wide-mouth, glass) .
3. Cut-comb honey: Three (3) 1 lb. boxes (boxes are usually 4 ½” x 4 ½” in size).
4. Comb honey: Three (3) sections (honey built by bees in frames of wood commonly called “sections”) (boxes are usually 4 ½” x 4 ½” in size).
5. Section honey: Three (3) sections of comb honey (in basswood boxes or Ross rounds) **OR**
6. Prepare an educational display about honey bees or beekeeping.

Esports


All exhibitors must complete all activities in the Illinois 4-H eSports Curriculum.

Esports (SF 50378) Illinois 4-H Esports Curriculum – Required 

Compete in at least 1 ranked tournament online or in person (either as a team or solo), and fully


document your progress throughout. Any game with a documentable bracket system, and at least 3 rounds counts. Be sure to include a description of the tournament, your match information, your win-loss record, and description of the game and platform being used to play the game (RAM requirements/capabilities of your machine, video card specs., etc.). Prepare a PowerPoint presentation describing your journey through Esports (including your 1 mandatory tournament), what you have learned about gaming/Esports, and why you think more youth should be involved. Also include a detailed description of your most important win, explaining your strategy in that victory. Be sure to include screenshots and video, if possible. Load your presentation to a USB drive. Must include a visual presentation.

Exploratory (not eligible for state fair)

Exploratory - Welcome to 4-H - Required  (not eligible for state fair)

Youth ages 8 – 10 may exhibit a display on one of the following topics from the project book:

- Windowsill gardening; **OR**
- 4-H animals; **OR**
- 4-H family; **OR**
- Coat of arms

Collectibles My Favorite Things (Collectibles) - Required  (not eligible for state fair)


Bring your completed project book and your collection or examples of your collection (if it's too large to bring) with pictures of total collection, OR an exhibit or poster illustrating one feature of the project.

Family Heritage

Family Heritage (SF 50197)

Prepare an exhibit of items, pictures, maps, charts, slides/tapes, drawings, illustrations, writings or displays that depict the heritage of the member's family or community or 4-H history. Please note: Exhibits are entered at 4-H'ers own risk. 4-H is not responsible for loss or damage to family heirloom items or any items in this division. **Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36" x 48" and 15" deep.**


Foods & Nutrition

4-H Cooking 101 (SF 50200a, 50200b, 50200c) 4-H Cooking 101 – Required 

Using the recipes included in the project manual (*which are also available at go.illinois.edu/Cooking101Recipes*), prepare an exhibit for **one** of the classes below. No icing should be on any products. **No ingredient additions or substitutions should be made to the recipes**, unless they are to accommodate food allergies, sensitivities, or special diets (i.e. nut allergy, gluten intolerance, vegetarian/vegan diet, etc.). If you make changes to the recipe due to the reasons listed above, bring a copy of the recipe with your changes and be prepared to discuss them with the judge. Bars, coffeecake, or cookies should be displayed on a disposable plate placed in a zip-sealing plastic bag. In addition to your food exhibit, complete the What's on Your Plate? Activity on pages 10-11 in the 4-H Cooking 101 project manual (*and for download at go.illinois.edu/Cooking101Activity*). Bring a document with printed pictures of your 3 or more plates and the answers to questions 1-7 to remain on display with your project. The words on the plates must be legible and clearly visible in the picture. Pictures, graphics or photos are acceptable. Due to space limitations at State Fair, the size of the activity document should be no larger than an 8 ½" x 11" binder or folder.

- **Cereal Bars** (SF 50200a) - 3 cereal marshmallow bars
- **Coffeecake** (SF 50200b) - ¼ of 8" square or round coffeecake
- **Cookies** (SF 50200c) - 3 cookies

Youth interested in exhibiting a food item from the project book not listed above, making changes to the provided recipes, or exhibiting a display related to information in the project manual should investigate the Foods Innovation class.


4-H Cooking 201 (SF 50201a, 50201b, 50201c) 4-H Cooking 201 – Required 

Using the recipes included in the project manual (*which are also available at go.illinois.edu/Cooking201Recipes*), prepare an exhibit for **one** of the classes below. **No ingredient additions or substitutions should be made to the recipes**, unless they are to accommodate food allergies, sensitivities, or special diets (i.e. nut allergy, gluten intolerance, vegetarian/vegan diet, etc.). If you make changes to the recipe due to the reasons listed above, bring a copy of the recipe with your changes and be prepared to discuss them with the judge. Bread, biscuits, or scones should be displayed on a disposable plate placed in a zip-sealing plastic bag. In addition to your food exhibit, complete Experiment with Meal Planning Activity on

page 91 in the 4-H Cooking 201 project manual (*and for download at go.illinois.edu/Cooking201Activity*). Bring either page 91 with your completed answers or a document with the answers to remain on display with your project along with a picture of the meal you prepared. You do not need to complete the Challenge Yourself section on page 91. Due to space limitations at State Fair, the size of the activity document should be no larger than an 8 ½” x 11” binder or folder.

- **Biscuits** (SF 50201a) - 3 rolled biscuits
- **Scones** (SF 50201b) - 3 scones
- **Nut Bread** (SF 50201c) - ½ loaf (9” x 5”) of basic nut bread (no variations)

Youth interested in exhibiting a food item from the project book not listed above, making changes to the provided recipes, or exhibiting a display related to information in the project manual should investigate the Foods Innovation class.


4-H Cooking 301 (SF 50202a, 50202b, 50202c, 50202d, 50202e) 4-H Cooking 301 – Required 

Using the recipes included in the project manual (which are also available at go.illinois.edu/Cooking301Recipes), prepare an exhibit for **one** of the classes below. If icing is used on the tea ring or sweet rolls, the recipe for the icing must also come from the book. The yeast bread/roll dough may be prepared in a bread making machine; however prepared mixes are not permitted. **No ingredient additions or substitutions should be made to the recipes**, unless they are to accommodate food allergies, sensitivities, or special diets (i.e. nut allergy, gluten intolerance, vegetarian/vegan diet, etc.). If you make changes to the recipe due to the reasons listed above, bring a copy of the recipe with your changes and be prepared to discuss them with the judge. Display exhibit on a disposable plate or pie tin and place in a zip-sealing plastic bag. In addition to your food exhibit, complete one of the six experiments: Experiment with Flour p. 33-34, Experiment with Kneading p. 35-36, Experiment with Yeast p. 37-38 or 39, Experiment with Butter p. 62-63 or Experiment with Cheese p. 104-105. Copies of all experiments are available to download at go.illinois.edu/Cooking301Experiments. Bring a document with a printed picture of your experiment and the answers to the experiment questions to remain on display with your project. Due to space limitations, the size of the experiment document should be no larger than an 8 ½” x 11” binder or folder.

- **Dinner Rolls** (50202a) - 3 dinner rolls

- **Yeast Bread** (50202b) - loaf of yeast bread
- **Tea Ring** (50202c) - 1 tea ring
- **Sweet Rolls** (50202d) - 3 basic sweet dough rolls
- **Cake** (50202e) - one layer of a rich white cake or rich chocolate cake, top side up (*without frosting*)

Youth interested in exhibiting a food item from the project book not listed above, making changes to the provided recipes, or exhibiting a display related to information in the project manual should investigate the Foods Innovation class.

4-H Cooking 401 (SF 50203a, 50203b, 50203c, 50203d) 4-H Cooking 401 – Required 

Using the recipes included in the project manual (which are also available at go.illinois.edu/Cooking401Recipes), prepare an exhibit for **one** of the classes below. **No ingredient additions or substitutions should be made to the recipes**, unless they are to accommodate food allergies, sensitivities, or special diets (i.e. nut allergy, gluten intolerance, vegetarian/vegan diet, etc.). If you make changes to the recipe due to the reasons listed above, bring a copy of the recipe with your changes and be prepared to discuss them with the judge. Display exhibit on a disposable plate and place in a zip-sealing plastic bag. In addition to your food exhibit, pick one of the recipes from Cooking 401 that is not a choice for exhibit. Make the recipe and take a picture of the results. Bring a document with a printed picture of the food you made from the recipe and the answers to the following two questions: 1.) If you made this recipe again, what would you do differently? 2.) What did you learn that can help you in other ways besides preparing food? Due to space limitations at State Fair, the size of the activity document should be no larger than an 8 ½” x 11” binder or folder.

- **Focaccia Bread** (50203a) - ¼ of a 15” x 10” loaf of focaccia bread (do not include dipping oil)
- **Pie Shell** (50203b) - one baked pie shell – traditional, oil, or whole wheat (no graham cracker)
- **Sponge Cake** (50203c) - ¼ golden sponge cake, top side up, without frosting
- **French Bread** (50203d) - ½ loaf French bread

Youth interested in exhibiting a food item from the project book not listed above, making changes to the provided recipes, or exhibiting a display related to information in the project manual should investigate the Foods Innovation class.

Food Preservation (SF 50209a, 50209b, 50209c, 50209d, 50209e)

Prepare an exhibit using ONE of the following food preservation methods: canning; drying; pickles/relishes; jams, jellies and preserves **OR** a combination of these (see Preservation Combination option below). Be sure to review all of the Food Preservation rules that follow the class list so you can follow all exhibit requirements.

Fruits/Vegetables (SF 50209a)

The exhibit should include two different canned foods in appropriate jars for the products. Food may be fruit, vegetable, or tomato product (i.e. salsa, juice, etc.).

Drying (SF 50209b)

Exhibit two (2) different dried foods packed in plastic food storage bags. Choose from fruit, vegetable, fruit leather or meat jerky.

Pickles and Relishes (SF 50209c)

Exhibit two (2) pint jars of different recipes of pickles and/or relishes made from produce.

Jams, Jellies, and Preserves (SF 5020d)

Exhibit two (2) half-pint jars of two different jams, jellies, and/or preserves. **Freezer jams are not permitted.**

Preservation Combination (SF 50208e)

Exhibit two (2) different preserved food products from two different categories above, in appropriate jars/packaging (Drying). For example, exhibit 1 jar of tomatoes (Fruits/Vegetables) and 1 half-pint of jelly (Jams, Jellies, and Preserves).

All preserved products should be prepared and processed according to the current USDA/Extension information. USDA information on preserving food, including recipes, can be found at: www.homefoodpreservation.com or <https://extension.illinois.edu/food-preservation/food-preservation>.

Recipes must be processed in a water-bath or pressure canner. Per the 4-H general show rules, entries must be produced (preserved) this 4-H year (between September 1, 2025, and August 31, 2026).

All food preservation exhibits must be labeled with: 1) The name of the food; 2) The date preserved; 3) Appropriate method(s) of food preservation (For canned projects: boiling water bath or pressure canner; For drying projects: Specify equipment used (food dehydrator, oven, etc.)).

Examples:

- Strawberry jam, boiling water bath. July 13, 2026.
- Green beans, pressure canner. July 13, 2026.
- Beef jerky, food dehydrator and oven. July 13, 2026.

All food preservation exhibits must be accompanied with the recipe(s) – typed or written, with the source of the recipe(s) listed. Required recipes and sources for food preservation exhibits – all food preservation recipes must be from an approved source. Those sources are:

- PUT IT UP! Food Preservation for Youth website or manuals
- National 4-H Home Food Preservation Project Manuals
- U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- National Center for Home Food Preservation
- Ball/Kerr Canning (recipes after 1985)
- Mrs. Wages

DO NOT BRING RECIPES FROM: Magazine or newspaper clippings, Pinterest (unless it is from a source listed above), a recipe from a family member or friend without a source, cookbooks (excluding the Ball, Kerr, Put It Up!, and 4-H Home Food Preservation books).

Canning Equipment Requirements: All canned products must be canned in clear, standard jars in good condition (no chips or cracks). Jars must be sealed using two-piece canning lids (flat lid and band). Must use a new, unused flat lid. Bands must not be rusty or severely worn.


Youth interested in exhibiting a food item from the project book not listed above, making changes to the provided recipes, or exhibiting a display related to information in the project manual should investigate the Foods Innovation class. Freezing exhibits, including freezer jams, should be entered in Foods Innovation.

Global Gourmet (SF 50205) Global Gourmet – Required 

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster exhibit that demonstrates the knowledge and understanding gained through the completion of the Global Gourmet project. Your exhibit should include at least two activities to highlight what you learned from completing this project. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared the information you learned with others. Examples include talks and demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

Kitchen Boss (SF 50206) Kitchen Boss – Required 

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster exhibit that demonstrates the knowledge and understanding gained through the completion of the Kitchen Boss Gourmet project. Your exhibit should include at least two activities to highlight what you learned from completing this project. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared the information you learned with others. Examples include talks and demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

Science Fun with Dairy Foods (SF 50207) Science Fun with Dairy Foods – Required 


Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster on one of the activities you completed from the manual. Share 1) the topic you investigated; 2) process used to conduct the experiment; 3) results and observations; 4) what you learned; and 5) how you have applied this information. You must furnish any equipment you need for the exhibit. Internet service is not provided. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared this information with others. Examples include talks and demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

Science Fun with Kitchen Chemistry (SF 50208) Science Fun with Kitchen Chemistry – Required



Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster on one of the activities you completed from the manual. Share 1) the topic you investigated; 2) process used to conduct the experiment; 3) results and observations; 4) what you learned; and 5) how you have applied this information. You must furnish any equipment you need for the exhibit. Internet service is not provided. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared this information with others. Examples include talks and

demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

What's on Your Plate, Exploring Food Science 1-4 (SF 50204) What's on Your Plate? Unit 1-4 Youth Science Journal – (Choose appropriate Level) - Required 

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster on one of the food science experiments from the manual that you completed. Share 1) the food science question you investigated; 2) process used to conduct the experiment; 3) results and observations; 4) what you learned; and 5) how you have applied this information. You must furnish any equipment you need for the exhibit. Internet service is not provided. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation. Electronic equipment will only be used during your judging time and will not remain on display during the exhibit period. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

Foods Innovation Class (SF 50211)

Open to youth enrolled in any Foods project.

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the project. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original recipes, results of experiments not in the foods project books, variations on recipes or experimenting with unique cooking or baking methods. Your work can be displayed by a food product, demonstrations, digital presentations, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. If you bring a food product, the food will NOT be tasted.

Forestry


Forests of Fun 1 (SF 50212) Level 1: Follow the Path – Required 

Exhibit any product or display illustrating an activity from the book. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a

printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Forests of Fun 2 (SF 50213) Level 2: Reach for the Canopy – Required

Exhibit any product or display illustrating an activity from the book. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Forests of Fun 3 (SF 50214) Level 3: Explore the Deep Woods – Required

Exhibit any product or display illustrating an activity from the book. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Forestry Innovation Class (SF 50215)

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through your Forestry project. Exhibit may be the result of knowledge gained from project manuals; independent study, interaction with natural resource or conservation professionals. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be

used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Geology

The size and number of exhibit cases should relate appropriately to the number of specimens being displayed for a specified class. Specimens are not limited to Illinois locations. All levels of Geology use the same manual, *Geology-Introduction to the Study of the Earth*. Do not identify your specimens any further than phylum and class. There is one exception to this for fossils that are identified to phylum OR class. Class should only be used for fossils of mollusks, back-boned animals, and arthropods.

Pebble Pups 1 (SF 50218)

Display 8 to 19 rocks and mineral specimens with three minerals in the collection. Collection may include duplications that show variations. Label collection and note where found. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

Pebble Pups 2 (SF 50219)

Display at least 20, but no more than 29, rocks and mineral specimens with seven minerals in the collection. Collection may include duplications that show variations. Label collection and note where found. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

Rock Hounds 1 (SF 50220)

Display at least 30, but no more than 40, rocks and mineral specimens with ten minerals in the collection. Rocks should include at least three igneous, two metamorphic, and three sedimentary groups. Label collection and note where found. For youth exhibiting the same collection over multiple years, at least 25% of the specimens in the collection must have been collected in the current 4-H year.

Rock Hounds 2 (SF 50221)

Display no more than 50 specimens that have been selected to illustrate a specific theme of the exhibitor's choosing. Be creative. Sample categories could include (but are not limited to): industrial minerals and their uses; a specific rock group and the variety that occurs in that group, including some minerals that occur in that environment; select fossils traced through the geologic ages; minerals and their crystal habits; rocks and minerals used in the lapidary arts.

Geology Innovation Class (SF 50222)

Open to youth enrolled in Geology.

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Geology project. Exhibit may be the result of knowledge gained from project manuals; independent study about Illinois rock(s) and mineral(s), interaction with geology professionals; and/or individual exploration in the area of geology. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Health

All display boards must include a reference list indicating where information was obtained, giving credit to the original author, to complete the 4-H member's exhibit. This reference list should/might include website links, people and professionals interviewed, books, magazines, etc. This reference list should be attached to the back of a poster or display board or included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed. Display boards should be no larger than 36" x 48" and 15" deep.

Everyday Food and Fitness (SF 50226) Replaces Health 1-3 Everyday Food and Fitness – Required




Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster exhibit that demonstrates the knowledge and understanding gained through the completion of the Everyday Food and Fitness project. Your exhibit should include at least two activities to highlight what you learned from completing this project. You may also include live demonstrations of physical activities. Do not bring food made using the recipes but consider adding pictures of the completed recipes to your exhibit. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared the information you learned with others. Examples include talks and demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

Sports Nutrition: Ready, Set, Go (SF 50228) Sports Nutrition: Ready, Set, Go - Required 


Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster exhibit on one of the activity chapters in the manual that you completed. The activity chapters are listed by page number in the table of contents. Your exhibit should include, at minimum, information on one physical fitness component and one food/recipe component from the activity chapter.

- Example A: Make a video of yourself practicing flexibility, strength and endurance physical fitness activities and making pasta salad with different vegetable, pasta and dressing ideas. Bring a screenshot and brief description of your video to leave on display.
- Example B: Make a poster of pictures of flexibility, strength and endurance physical fitness activities and information on the results of making the spinach and mandarin orange salad. Include answers to the questions in the book.

The exhibit should include the project manual with the pages of the activity completed. You may also include live demonstrations of physical activities. Do not bring food made using the recipes but consider adding pictures of the completed recipes to your exhibit. You must furnish any equipment you need for the exhibit. Internet service is not provided. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation. Electronic equipment will only be used during your judging time and will not remain on display during the exhibit period. Be sure to bring your completed project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during the conference judging.

Your Feelings Matter – Navigating Mental Health (SF 50229) Your Feelings Matter Guide – Required 

Prepare a display, digital presentation, or poster exhibit that demonstrates the knowledge and understanding gained through the completion of the *Your Feelings Matter Member Project Guide*. Your exhibit should include at least two activities to highlight what you learned from completing this project. Be ready to answer questions about how you shared information you learned with others. Examples include talks and demonstrations and hosting or assisting with a workshop. Bring your project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during conference judging.

Your Thoughts Matter – Navigating Mental Health (SF 50230) Your Thoughts Matter Guide – Required 

Prepare an exhibit that demonstrates the knowledge and understanding gained through

completion of the *Your Thoughts Matter Member Project Guide*. Exhibit the following 1) a poster or display that highlights activities and knowledge gained as you completed any two of activities 1 – 9 included in the curriculum; AND 2) the item you created in Activity 10 - the flyer, website, video, or other promotional tool that points individuals to the resources you found. Bring your project guide for others to see and for you to share as needed during conference judging.

Health Innovation Class (SF 50227)

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Health project. **Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project.** The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Horticulture: Floriculture

For youth in any level of Floriculture.

Floral Design

The art of arranging flowers and plant materials in a creative and visually pleasing way. Learn about color, balance, and shape while making beautiful arrangements for a variety of occasions. Flowers used can be purchased or harvested by the exhibitor.

Round Arrangement (SF 50111)

Exhibit a round fresh flower arrangement no larger than 12"x12"x15". Arrangement should be viewable from any side.

Wearable Flowers (SF 50112)

Exhibit a wearable fresh flower arrangement such as a corsage, boutonniere, pocket square flowers, floral crown, or other. The piece should demonstrate skills in wiring or gluing flowers appropriately.

Wedding Bouquet (SF 50113)

Exhibit a fresh wedding or special event bouquet at least 8" in diameter. A bouquet can be hand-

tied or created using a foam holder. The bouquet should be finished and ready for use by the bride. The bouquet should be displayed in a clear vase with water accessible to the stems (if not in a foam holder).

Centerpiece Display: Live activity (SF 50114)

Exhibitor must make two arrangements suitable for use as a centerpiece(s) within one hour in front of the judge. Arrangements can be made from fresh and/or dried materials. No silks are permitted. The centerpiece should follow a cohesive theme. Final arrangements must fit on a tabletop and not exceed 2.5 ft x 2.5 ft. Exhibitors are not allowed to interact with anyone other than the judge and superintendent during the judging process. The judge may choose to ask the exhibitor about their process and other questions during the design time. The exhibitor is responsible for furnishing their own flowers, containers, and other supplies. Exhibitor is responsible for cleaning up their workspace at the end of judging. Table will be provided.

Landscape Design

Recommended for ages 14 and up

Small Landscape Design (SF 50115)

Develop a landscape design/drawing for a 10'x15' garden bed. Hand drawing is to be completed in top view (plan view) at a 1 in = 1 ft scale. Plan must include a title block showing: designer, scale, north arrow, sun exposure, numbered plant list of plants and shrubs/trees, and how many of each plant were used. Example: 1-Rose (6), 2-Hydrangea (3). The bed can be designed for a sunny, part-sun, or shady application.

Large Landscape Design (SF 50116)

Develop a color landscape design/drawing for a residence using required basemap. Residence basemap drawing will be provided for youth via the state 4-H website. Hand drawing is to be completed in top view (plan view) at a 1 in = 10 ft scale. Drawing must include 2 hardscape elements. Walkways should be 3 - 5 ft wide. Plan must include a title block showing: designer, scale, north arrow, sun exposure, numbered plant list of plants and shrubs/trees, and how many of each plant were used. Example: 1-Rose (6), 2-Hydrangea (3). The bed can be designed for a sunny, part-sun, or shady application.

Plant Propagation

Photo Collage (SF 50117)

Create a photo collage or a collection of pictures of flowers that you have raised. Label your

flowers by name and tell if you started with a seed, cutting, or transplants. Mount pictures on a poster board.

Cut Flower Specimens (SF 50118)

4-H members must bring 3 containers, each featuring a different flower variety.

Each container must include:

- 3 stems of the same flower variety (unless specimen list states otherwise)
- All stems must match in variety, color, shape, and size
- Keep natural foliage attached (foliage below waterline may be removed)
- Flowers must be grown by the exhibitor from seed, seedlings, bulbs, or rhizomes

Specimen List:

Bachelor Buttons-3 stems	Petunia (single)-3 stems
Celosia-3 plumes	Phlox-1 stalk
Cleome-1 bloom	Rose-1 bloom
Cockscomb-1 bloom	Rudebekia-3 stems
Coneflower-3 stems	Snap Dragons-3 stems
Dahlia-1 large bloom	Sunflower-1 bloom
Dahlia-3 small blooms	Zinnia (large)-3 stems
Daisy-3 blooms	Zinnia (small)-3 stems
Gladiola-1 spike	Other small bloom (not listed above)-3 stems or 3 blooms
Lilies-1 stalk- Remove 1/3 of the foliage before exhibiting.	Other large bloom (not listed above)-1 stems or 1 blooms
Marigold (dwarf)-3 stems	
Marigold (large)-3 stems	
Petunia (double)-3 stems	

Propagated Plants Cuttings/Layer/Division/Seed (SF 50119)

Exhibit a plant that you propagated from cuttings, layering, or division, or started from seed. Create a photo board showing the progression of growth. Tips for vegetative propagation of houseplants can be found in the University of Illinois Extension Gardener's Corner (<https://extension.illinois.edu/newsletters/gardeners-corner>). Any type of house plant or outdoor plant is appropriate here.

Forced Bulbs (SF 50120)

Create an exhibit of forced bulbs in a pot. Bulbs should be budding out or in bloom at the time of the exhibition.

Plant Propagation Poster (SF 50121)

Poster on a topic related to plant propagation. Such as: Kinds of propagation, propagation methods, etc.

Flower Preservation**Posterboard - Dry/Preserve Flowers (SF 50122)**

Create a display focusing on an aspect of drying/preserving flowers. Topics may include, but are not limited to, different drying/preserving methods, tools used in preservation, experiments you completed & results.

Artistic Display - Dried Flowers/Herbs (SF 50123)

Create an artistic display using dried flowers or herbs. The dried material used must have been dried by the exhibitor. Be prepared to discuss the drying process behind your piece.

*Ornamental Displays***Fairy Garden (SF 50124)**

Create an artistic mini garden of plants, flowers and/or herbs. Explain the process you utilized to prepare your fairy garden. Label your plants by name and explain how the plants were chosen to fit the theme. Fairy gardens must not exceed 18" x 18" x 18". Exhibitor responsible for transporting the planter to indoor judging space.

Outdoor Mixed Planter (SF 50125)

Display a mixed planter that may include herbs with foliage plants and/or flowering plants. The planter should include three or more kinds of plants. Include a list of the names and varieties of all plants used. The container exhibit space must be larger than 18"x18" and not exceed 3' x 3'. Exhibitor responsible for transporting the planter to indoor judging space.

Indoor Mixed European Planter (SF 50126)

Display a mixed European planter (mostly green plants/ house plants). The planter should include three or more kinds of plants. Include a list of the names and variety of all plants used. The container exhibit space must not exceed 18" x 18" x 24". Exhibitor responsible for transporting the planter to indoor judging space.

Closed Terrarium (SF 50127)

Create a terrarium. Selected plants should be started by the exhibitor from cuttings or seeds or purchased plugs. The terrarium must be cared for by the exhibitor for at least 5 months. Exhibitor should be able to explain the different plant, soil, and environmental needs and watering requirements of a closed system. The container exhibit space must not exceed 18" x 18" x 24". Exhibitor responsible for transporting the planter to indoor judging space.

Ornamental Poster (SF 50128)

Poster explaining the process of creating a terrarium/mini garden/or other related topic

Floriculture Innovation (SF 50129)

Present an exhibit of the member's choice that focuses on some aspect of floriculture that does not fit in the categories above. The exhibit may include, but is not limited to, dish gardens, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters that you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Horticulture: Vegetables, Herbs, and Fruits**For youth in any level of Vegetable Gardening.**

All exhibits must have been grown by the exhibitor as part of their current gardening 4-H project. Exhibitors should be knowledgeable about various aspects of the produce, including but not limited to different varieties, soil testing, fertilizers used, etc. Exhibits should be prepared according to the Illinois Vegetable Garden Guide:

go.illinois.edu/4HVegetableGuide.

Waxes and oils may not be used on vegetables or fruits. Any plant infested with insects will be removed from the exhibit area and will not be eligible for champion awards. General gardening advice and information can be found at:

<https://extension.illinois.edu/gardening>.

Herb Container Display (SF 50313)

Herbs should be grown in pots (8" maximum diameter). Categories: Mint, Oregano, Rosemary, Sage, Thyme, and all other herbs. Herbs should be labeled with common and Latin names. Herbs should be in your care for a minimum of three months for state fair exhibits. Remove dead leaves from plants and check that the soil is clear of debris such as dead leaves. When exhibiting herb plants, be sure to grow the plants in the container to be displayed to avoid transplant shock. Exhibits will be evaluated based on cleanliness, uniformity, condition, quality, and trueness to variety. Additional herb resources are located on the project resources section of the Illinois 4-H website.

- Display must include 4 or more different kinds of herbs. There may not be more than 2 different varieties of any herb. For example, peppermint and chocolate mint would be classified as two different herb varieties.
- In instances where containers display more than one variety of herb, special care should be taken that each distinct variety is accessible and clearly visible to the judges to ensure full points for cleanliness.

Vegetable/Fruit Display (SF 50314)

- This class is allowed a 2'6" x 2'6" space for each display.
- Display must include 6 or more different kinds of vegetables or fruits. There may not be more than 2 different varieties of any vegetable/fruit. For example, red and white potatoes would be classified as two different varieties. Acorn squash and zucchini would be classified as two different vegetables.
- The number and type of vegetables/fruits used must conform to the Vegetable/Fruit Plate/Display List. Fruit Plate list is below Vegetable Plate list.
- Exhibitors must provide the name and variety of all vegetables/fruits used. (i.e. Cabbage – Golden Acre; Cucumber, slicing – Straight Eight; Tomatoes, slicing – Rocky Top; Snap Beans – Contender, etc.).

Vegetable Plates (SF 50315)

- Exhibit must include 2 single vegetable plates. (Exhibitor will furnish the disposable plates.)
- Exhibitors must provide the name and variety of all vegetables/fruits used. (i.e. Cabbage – Golden Acre; Cucumber, slicing – Straight Eight; Tomatoes, slicing – Rocky Top; Snap Beans – Contender, etc.). Number of vegetables on plates must conform to plate list below.
- Only one variety on each plate.
- An exhibitor cannot show two plates of the same type vegetable. (i.e.: Cannot exhibit red and white potatoes or zucchini and straight-neck summer squash.)

VEGETABLE PLATE/DISPLAY LIST

When selecting vegetables for exhibition, keep in mind that the judge will evaluate them on the basis of cleanliness, uniformity, condition, quality, and trueness to variety. (Lists are provided by UI Extension Horticulturists; Items are listed according to the correct definition of vegetables).

Asparagus (5 spears)	Lettuce (1 head or plant)
Beans, Lima (12 pods)	Muskmelon incl. cantaloupe (1)
Beets (5)	Okra (12)
Broccoli (1 head)	Onions, large, dry (5)
Brussels sprouts (12 sprouts)	Onions, green or set (12)
Cabbage (1 head)	Parsnips (5)
Cauliflower (1 head)	Peas, (12 pods)
Carrots (5)	Peppers, large fruited (bell/banana) (5)
Cucumber, pickling or slicing (5)	Peppers, small fruited (chili/cherry) (12)
Eggplant (1)	Popcorn (5)
Garlic (5)	Potatoes (any variety) (5)
Kohlrabi (5)	Pumpkin (1)

Rhubarb, trimmed stalks (3)	Tomatoes, slicing (5)
Rutabaga (5)	Tomatoes, small fruited (12)
Salsify (5)	Turnip (5)
Squash, summer (any variety) (3)	Watermelon (1)
Sweet corn, in husks (5)	
Squash, winter (Acorn, butternut, buttercup, spaghetti, Hubbard, Turks's Turban) (1)	
Beans, Snap, Green Pod or Golden Wax (12 pods)	
Greens (collard, endive, escarole, kale, mustard, spinach, Swiss chard) (1 plant)	
Horseradish Root (1 marketable root specimen harvested this year)	

Vegetable Gardening Display - Other (SF 50316)

Present an exhibit of the member's choice that focuses on some aspect of vegetable gardening which does not fit in the categories above. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Fruit Plates (SF 50317)

- Exhibit must include 2 single fruit plates. (Exhibitor will furnish the disposable plates.)
- Exhibitors must provide the name and variety of all fruits used. Number of fruits on plates must conform to plate list below.
- Only one variety on each plate.
- An exhibitor cannot show two plates of the same type fruit. (i.e.: Cannot exhibit Gala & Jonathan Apples, Mazzard & Gisela Cherries, etc.)

Fruit Plate List

Fruit will be judged using the same general criteria used for vegetables. Fruit will be judged for the stage of maturity normal for that season and growing location. Emphasis will be placed on how well fruit approaches market quality. When selecting fruits for exhibition, keep in mind that the judge will evaluate them on the basis of cleanliness, uniformity, condition, quality, and trueness to variety. (Lists are provided by UI Extension Horticulturists; Items are listed according to the correct definition of fruit varieties at go.illinois.edu/fruittrees.)

Apples – 5

Strawberries (Everbearers) – 1 pint

Grapes – 2 bunches

Wild Plums – 1 pint


Pears – 5

Other Small Fruit or Berries (Do not duplicate entries from the above fruits) – 1 pint

Other Fruits or Nuts (Do not duplicate entries from the above fruits) – 5

Intercultural

Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36” X 48” and 15” deep.

Passport to the World, Individual (SF 50233a) *Passport to the World – Required* 

Prepare a display illustrating what you have learned about a country. This might include topics such as geography, economy, agriculture, people, language, housing, culture, music, crafts, clothing, environment, or holidays. Exhibits can focus on one or two topics in depth or cover more topics in brief. Exhibit should be educational in nature and should not promote one’s beliefs over another person’s beliefs. The exhibit may include, but isn’t limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you’ve learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips. In addition to their display, youth should bring a copy of their Passport to the World project manual to judging. Sections of the book related to what they focus on in their display should be

completed. **Please note:** judging for the individual project should **not** include a planned presentation about the chosen country. Judging is meant to be a conversation between the judge and member about the project and the learning experience.

Passport to the World, Group (SF 50233b) Passport to the World – Required

Exhibit a display illustrating what your group has learned about a country. This might include topics such as geography, economy, agriculture, people, language, housing, culture, music, crafts, clothing, environment, or holidays. Exhibits can focus on one or two topics in depth or cover more topics in brief. Exhibit should be educational in nature and should not promote one's beliefs over another person's beliefs. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Tips on creating an engaging display board are available at go.illinois.edu/4HDisplayTips. In addition to their display, groups should bring a copy of their group's Passport to the World project manual to judging. Sections of the book related to what the group focuses on in their display should be completed. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 but no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. Groups wishing to include more than 10 members must ask for an accommodation, one week prior to judging. Group members should prepare a short (5 minutes maximum) presentation about their learning for the judge. The presentation should focus on key concepts learned and takeaways from the project experience. All group members present for judging should be able to discuss the project and answer questions. Only group members who participate in the judging are eligible for ribbons and premiums. Presentations will occur in the space designated by the fair or show. Groups should not bring extra tables or items (beyond those that fit within the exhibit size requirements) for their presentation.

Diversity & Cultural Awareness, Individual (SF 50234a) Diversity: The Source of Our Strength – Required

Create a display or binder portfolio that illustrates the results of a minimum of three (3) completed activities from the project book.


Diversity & Cultural Awareness, Group (SF 50234b) SEEING i2i Adventures – Required 

Exhibit a display illustrating the steps that the group has completed on the project selected for the year, including reflection on activities completed. Include a written outline or report of accomplishments and future goals. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what the group members have learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 or no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. Groups wishing to include more than 10 members must ask for an accommodation, one week prior to judging. Group members should make a 5-7-minute presentation to the judge. All group members present for the judge's critique should be able to discuss the project and answer questions. Only group members present for judging who participate in the actual critique and presentation are eligible for ribbons and premiums.

Interior Design

All interior design divisions (beginning, intermediate, and advanced) are required to provide visual documentation of their project process. This can include photos or videos showing the steps they took to create, refinish, or redesign their furniture items.

Design Decisions, Beginning (SF 50242)

For members with 2 or less years of experience in project area or related experiences. Any exhibit must have been created or redesigned by the exhibitor as part of their current Interior Design 4-H project. Exhibitors should be knowledgeable about various aspects of the project. Exhibits could include items such as, but not limited to, comparison studies of different products or techniques; made accessories, wall-hangings, window coverings, or furniture items; refinished or redesigned furniture; or a plan to solve some type of interior design problem

Design Decisions, Intermediate (SF 50243)

For members with 3 to 4 years of experience in project area or related experiences. Any exhibit must have been created or redesigned by the exhibitor as part of their current

Interior Design 4-H project. Exhibitors should be knowledgeable about various aspects of the project. Exhibits could include items such as, but not limited to, comparison studies of different products or techniques; made accessories, wall-hangings, window coverings, or furniture items; refinished or redesigned furniture; or a plan to solve some type of interior design problem.

Design Decisions, Advanced (SF 50244)

For members with 5 or more years of experience in project area or related experiences. Any exhibit must have been created or redesigned by the exhibitor as part of their current Interior Design 4-H project. Exhibitors should be knowledgeable about various aspects of the project. Exhibits could include items such as, but not limited to, comparison studies of different products or techniques; made accessories, wall-hangings, window coverings, or furniture items; refinished or redesigned furniture; or a plan to solve some type of interior design problem.

Interior Design Innovation Class (SF 50245)

Open to youth enrolled in Interior Design.

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Interior Design project. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Leadership

Due to space limitations, exhibits are limited to 36" X 48" and 15" deep.

Leadership 1 (SF 50249) Skills You Never Outgrow 1 – Required

Create a binder portfolio with a minimum of four (4) completed activities each year from the areas noted below. Build upon your previous year's work. Photocopies or original pages of the completed activities from the book should be included in the portfolio.

- **First Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Understanding Self; Communication; and Getting Along with Others, plus one activity of exhibitor’s choice from the manual.
- **Second Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Getting Along with Others; Learning to Learn; and Making Decisions, plus one activity of exhibitor’s choice from the manual.
- **Third Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Making Decisions; Managing; and Working with Groups, plus one activity of exhibitor’s choice from the manual.

Leadership 2 (SF 50250) Skills You Never Outgrow 2 – Required

Building upon your previous work, continue adding to your binder portfolio with a minimum of four (4) completed activities each year from the areas noted below. Photocopies or original pages of the completed activities from the book should be included in the portfolio.

- **First Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Understanding Self; Communication; and Getting Along with Others, plus one activity of exhibitor’s choice from the manual.
- **Second Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Getting Along with Others; Learning to Learn; and Making Decisions, plus one activity of exhibitor’s choice from the manual.
- **Third Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Making Decisions; Managing; and Working with Groups, plus one activity of exhibitor’s choice from the manual.

Leadership 3 (SF 50251) Skills You Never Outgrow 3 – Required

Building upon your previous work, continue adding to your binder portfolio with a minimum of four (4) completed activities each year from the areas noted below. Photocopies or original pages of the completed activities from the book should be included in the portfolio.

- **First Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Understanding Self; Communication; and Getting Along with Others, plus one activity of exhibitor’s choice from the manual.

- **Second Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Getting Along with Others; Learning to Learn; and Making Decisions, plus one activity of exhibitor’s choice from the manual.
- **Third Year** – One activity from each of the following sections: Making Decisions; Managing; and Working with Groups, plus one activity of exhibitor’s choice from the manual.

Leadership Innovation Class (SF 50252)

Open to youth enrolled in Leadership 1, 2, or 3.

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Leadership project.

Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. The exhibit may include, but isn’t limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you’ve learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Leadership Group Exhibit (SF 50254)

Open to groups whose members are enrolled in any Leadership project.

Exhibit a display illustrating how your group has used the Teens As Leaders model effectively in your club, community, school, or state. Leadership activities might include planning, advising, promoting, mentoring, teaching or advocating for change. The exhibit may include, but isn’t limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you’ve learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 or no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge’s critique. For a larger group please reach out to staff with an accommodation request at least one week prior to the exhibit event. Group members should make a 5- to 10-minute presentation to the judge. All group members present for

the judge's critique should be able to discuss the project and answer questions. Only group members present for judging who participate in the actual critique and presentation are eligible for ribbons and premiums. More information on Teens as Leaders Model found here: go.illinois.edu/4-HLeadershipModel

Maker

Maker (SF 50400) go.illinois.edu/DIYMakeBuild – Required 

Open to youth in all projects.

Exhibits in this category are designed to be multi-disciplinary in nature, innovative, and must not fit into any other exhibit category. To qualify for this category, your project **MUST** abide by the following guidelines:

- Exhibitors must complete at least two activities in the DIY Make & Build Curriculum and answer all the questions at the end of each lesson. You must display your answers to these questions, as well as your Maker Log from the DIY Make and Build curriculum.
- Exhibits must be an object or device that has an intended purpose and uses technology in either a mechanical way, digital (computer) way, or combination of the two. Your device or object **cannot** be one of the included activities in the DIY Make and Build Curriculum.
- The device must be something that can be used in everyday life by multiple people (a target audience) and **MUST** be manufactured/built by the exhibitor (If not fully manufactured by the exhibitor, the device **MUST** be modified structurally or be reprogrammed to perform a different function other than what it was designed to do).
- Exhibits **MUST** be able to interact with the outside world. (e.g. an on off switch, input sensors, feedback, etc.)
- Exhibits **MUST** include a detailed build log with instructions on how to make or build the exhibit **AND** contain either a 3D rendering or detailed and labeled sketches of the device/product.

- All parts and software used in the design/build MUST be listed in a detailed Bill of Materials including cost per item and total cost. Total time spent on the build must be documented in your build log.

In addition, exhibitors are HIGHLY encouraged to use tools such as 3-D printers, laser cutters, routers and/or other hand/power tools to help in the manufacturing process (Note: Simply 3-D printing or laser cutting an object without the other specifications does not qualify as a Maker Project). It is also HIGHLY encouraged that exhibits use Open Source software and/or hardware in the build.

Nature: Fish and Wildlife

Sportfishing 1 (SF 50260) Level 1: Take the Bait – Required

Exhibit a product or display made to complete an activity in the *Take the Bait* project manual. This could include, but is not limited to, displays on: different types of fishing tackle, identifying different baits and their uses (no actual bait, please) or identifying the anatomy of a fish. For safety reasons, lures must be placed in a plastic case.

Sportfishing 2 (SF 50261) Level 2: Reel in the Fun – Required

Exhibit a product or display made to complete an activity in the *Reel in the Fun* project manual. This could include, but is not limited to, displays on: different types of knots or rigs and their use; a collection of fishing lures, labeled with their use; or information on preparing and cooking fish (not recipes). For safety reasons, lures must be placed in a plastic case.

Sportfishing 3 (SF 50262) Level 3: Cast Into the Future – Required

Exhibit a product or display made to complete an activity in the *Cast into the Future* project manual. This could include, but is not limited to, displays on: making artificial flies and lures; researching effects of water temperature; sportfishing careers; or identifying insects that fish eat. For safety reasons, lures must be placed in a plastic case.

Wildlife 1 (SF 50263) Wildlife Science Level 1 Digital – Required

Exhibit any activity developed from the project manual. Be able to explain the importance of and concept behind the exhibit.

Wildlife 2 (SF 50264) Wildlife Science Level 2 Digital – Required

Exhibit any activity developed from the project manual. Be able to explain the importance of and concept behind the exhibit.

Wildlife 3 (SF 50265) Wildlife Science Level 3 Digital – Required

Exhibit any activity developed from the project manual. Be able to explain the importance of and concept behind the exhibit.

Fish and Wildlife Innovation Class (SF 50266)

Open to youth enrolled in any Sportfishing or Wildlife project.

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through your Sportfishing or Wildlife project. Exhibit may be the result of knowledge gained from project manuals; independent study, interaction with natural resource or conservation professionals. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Nature: Natural Resources and Outdoor Adventures

Electricity and water are NOT available for these displays. All displays should be comprised of non-living specimens properly prepared for display.

Exploring Your Environment 1 (SF 50257a) Exploring Your Environment - Ecosystem Services – Required

Exhibit any item, project, or display made as it relates to an activity in the *Exploring Your Environment - Ecosystem Services* project manual. The display should demonstrate an understanding of natural and/or manmade environments, how humans affect the environment, or how the environment affects our lives. Include your project manual that documents activity recordkeeping, your answers to activity questions, and details personal thoughts and ideas.

Exploring Your Environment 2 (SF 50257b) Exploring Your Environment – Earth's Capacity – Required

Exhibit any item, project, or display made as it relates to an activity in the *Exploring Your Environment – Earth's Capacity* project manual. The display should demonstrate an understanding of one of the following: stewardship of natural resources, investigating

greenhouse effects on living organisms, methods of reducing or managing waste in your home or community, or calculating your ecological footprint. Include your project manual that documents activity recordkeeping, your answers to activity questions, and details personal thoughts and ideas.

Outdoor Adventures 1-3 (SF 50256) Choose the correct level project manual – Level 1: Hiking Trails, Level 2: Camping Adventures or Level 3: Backpacking Expeditions – Required



Exhibit a display illustrating an activity completed from the project manual.

Natural Resources or Outdoor Adventures Innovation Class (SF 50258)

Open to youth enrolled in any Natural Resources or Outdoor Adventures project.

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through your Natural Resources or Outdoor Adventures project. Exhibit may be the result of knowledge gained from project manuals; independent study, interaction with natural resource or conservation professionals. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Photography

All photos in exhibits must have been taken by the exhibitor. Photo/Model releases from individuals pictured in the exhibitor's photographs are required unless the photograph is of a group in a public place where identification would not be an issue. Metadata must be included on the back of the picture. The photo release and metadata tip sheet can be obtained at: go.illinois.edu/PhotographyProject. Photos may be taken with a camera, an electronic tablet (i.e. iPad), or a cell phone.

All photos must be accompanied by details of the camera settings that include:

- Camera/device used
- Aperture (F-stop)

- Exposure time (shutter speed)
- ISO (film/sensor sensitivity)
- Lighting used (flash, artificial, sunlight, other)
- Lens Filters (Ultra-Violet, Polarizing, etc.) if used.

Additional details required for Photo Editing ONLY:

- Photo editing software/application used (required for ALL edits and retouches except for cropping)
- Filters used (lens filters and or digital/software filters)

Members are allowed to shoot on a camera's automatic setting but should be able to find the metadata information on the photo to discuss the information above.

All exhibitors must include unframed (taped to the back of the framed exhibit or attached to the project booklet) **original or un-edited** versions of either the same subject or the examples of the same technique that the framed image represents. This will assist the judge in understanding the choices made by the photographer to build the exhibited composition.

Note: Images taken with devices that apply an automatic filter will not be eligible for award.


Photography 1 (SF 50268) Level 1: Photography Basics – Required 

Exhibit one framed photo which demonstrates your understanding of a technique you learned from your Photography 1 project manual. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating. Exhibits for this class should be a framed 5"x7" or 8"x10" picture.

Photography 2 (SF 50269) Level 2: Next Level Photography – Required 

Exhibit one of the options listed below:

- Exhibit one framed 8" x 10" close-up photograph using the skills learned on pages 58-61(section: Bits and Pieces) of the project manual titled Level 2 *Next Level Photography*. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating. **OR**

- Exhibit one framed 8” x 24” or smaller panorama photograph using the skills learned on pages 62-65(section: Panorama) of the project manual titled *Level 2 Next Level Photography*. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating. **OR**
- Exhibit one framed 8” x 10” photo which demonstrates your understanding of a technique you learned from your Photography 2 project manual. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating.

Photography 3 (SF 50270) Level 3: Mastering Photography – Required

Exhibit one of the options listed below:

- Exhibit one framed 8” x 10” still-life photo that demonstrates good composition, including color, form, texture, lighting and depth of field. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating. **OR**
- Exhibit one framed 8” x 10” photo which demonstrates your understanding of a technique you learned from your Photography 3 project manual. No photo editing is allowed in this class except cropping and red eye removal. Be prepared to show the page in the manual of the technique you are demonstrating.

Photo Editing (SF 50271)

Open to members in Photography 1, Photography 2, and Photography 3.


Exhibit one framed 8” x 10” photo that has been altered using digital photo-editing techniques (beyond cropping and red-eye reduction). Include a print of the original photo(s), taped to the back of the photo frame. Photos in which an automatic filter was applied at the time the photograph was taken will not be eligible for award.

Plants and Soil


Cover Crops (SF 50280)

Exhibit an experimental or educational activity related to one experience from your project; **or** prepare a display focusing on any activity related to the cover crops project. This could be related, but not limited, to plant growth & development, cover crop benefits, land management, sustainability, or other topics of interest to the member related to cover

crops. A cover crop might include any plant that is sown in between primary production crops for the benefit of overall farm health rather than crop yield (examples: pennycress, clover, radish, annual ryegrass, etc.). The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Plants & Soils 1 (SF 50281a) It's More Than Just Dirt – Required 

Prepare a 36" X 48" display or a poster no larger than 36" X 48" and 15" deep that illustrates an activity from the project manual. The display should demonstrate an understanding of environmental and internal factors that affect plant growth and the function and characteristics of soil. Include your project journal that documents activity recordkeeping requirements, answers activity questions, and details personal thoughts and ideas in response to each activity.

Plants & Soils 2 (SF 50281b) Stems and Stamens – Required 

Prepare a 36" X 48" display or a poster no larger than 36" X 48" and 15" deep that illustrates an activity from the project manual. The display should demonstrate an understanding of the composition of plants, the functions of individual plant parts, plant life cycles, and the many ways plants reproduce. Include your project journal that documents activity recordkeeping requirements, answers activity questions, and details personal thoughts and ideas in response to each activity.

Plants & Soils 3 (SF 50281c) Sprouting Out and Growing UP – Required 

Prepare a 36" X 48" display or a poster no larger than 36" X 48" and 15" deep that illustrates an activity from the project manual. The display should demonstrate an understanding of the relationship between soil and other cycles found in nature. Displays should also provide an example of a leadership or service learning experience focused on environmental stewardship. Include your project journal that documents activity recordkeeping requirements, answers activity questions, and details personal thoughts and ideas in response to each activity.

Ready4Life

Ready4Life Career (50366a)

Open to 11- to 18-year-olds in all projects.

Exhibits in this category must include the following: a) a physical representation of the career such as a model, prototype or display/portfolio that includes images of accomplished work; b) verbal or written explanations that demonstrate knowledge of the related career or business fields, potential careers, and the appropriate requirements for achievement in those fields. The judging criteria for this class values thoroughness of career exploration and pursuit above the workmanship of the physical specimen on display.

Ready4Life Entrepreneurship (50366b)

Open to 11- to 18-year-olds in all projects.

Exhibits in this category must include the following: a) a physical representation of the business product such as a model, prototype or display/portfolio that includes images of accomplished work; b) verbal or written explanations that demonstrate knowledge of the related business fields, potential business opportunities, and the appropriate requirements for achievement in those fields. The judging criteria for this class values thoroughness of the business exploration and pursuit above the workmanship of the physical specimen on display.

Robotics

Note: If applicable for their class and display, exhibitors must bring their own computers for demonstration purposes; computers will not be provided. Exhibits in classes 50285, or 50286 are designed to be used with LEGO Mindstorms (NXT, EV3, Lego Inventor, Lego Spike Prime).


- Any other programmable robot kit such as Arduino or Raspberry Pi, should be exhibited in Robotics 3 (50292).
- Members should bring their robot to the fair.

Robotics 1 (SF 50285) Robotics 1 with EV3 or go.illinois.edu/RoboticsActivities1 – Required



Exhibitors will design, build and program a robot that uses at least one sensor to autonomously follow a path, respond to and/or avoid obstacles. **The robot must be**

autonomous and cannot be controlled remotely. Exhibitors in this class must use at least one sensor in their robot design. Exhibiting youth must complete and display a build log which contains a diagram (drawing or 3D rendering) of their robot with each of the key components labeled, an explanation of why they made the design/programming decisions they made, and a short journal sharing what they learned about the engineering design process and programming throughout their work in the project (as well as while preparing the exhibit). In addition, each youth must bring their program code (on laptop or on paper), and their robot to demonstrate. The robot and obstacles must be able to fit on a 4' x 8' robotics table when being judged, and a 2' x 2' area when being displayed.

Robotics 2 (SF 50286) *Robotics 2: EV3 N More* or go.illinois.edu/RoboticsActivities2 – Required 

Exhibitors will design, build and program a robot that uses sensors and programming to complete two of the selected challenges from the 2025 4-H State Robotics Challenge. **The robot must be autonomous and cannot be controlled remotely.** Eligible challenges will be marked in the Challenge Documents and on the Illinois 4-H Robotics website (go.illinois.edu/4HRoboticsProjectPage). Exhibiting youth must complete and display a build log which contains a diagram (drawing or 3D rendering) of their robot with each of the key components labeled, an explanation of why they made the design/programming decisions they made, and a short journal sharing what they learned about the engineering design process and programming throughout their work on the project (as well as while preparing the exhibit). In addition, each youth must bring their program code (on laptop or on paper), and their robot to demonstrate. The robot and obstacles must be able to fit on a 4' x 8' robotics table when being judged, and a 2' x 2' area when being displayed.

Robotics 3 (SF 50292) go.illinois.edu/4HRoboticsProjectPage – Required 

Open to youth enrolled in Robotics 3 but may also include youth in Robotics 1 or 2 if the exhibit meets the guidelines.

Exhibit an original robot, either homemade or a kit that does not fall under Robotics 1 or 2 that can complete a task using multiple sensors. **The robot must be autonomous, Text Based (Python, C etc.) and cannot be controlled remotely.** If a robot kit is used, then some parts of the robot must be built using other components such as wood, plastic or metal. The robot can include any type of motors, pneumatics or sensors. This class can also be used for LEGO Mindstorms/Spike Prime, etc. or Vex kits where the exhibit does not fall under Robotics 1 or 2 exhibit options. Autonomous control of the robot may also be

achieved using an “open source” platform such as Arduino or Raspberry Pi and can be programmed using a coding language that is publicly available. Exhibitors must complete and display a build log which contains a diagram (drawing or 3D rendering) of their robot with each of the key components labeled, an explanation of why they made the design/programming decisions they made, and a short journal sharing what they learned about the engineering design process and programming throughout their work in the project (as well as while preparing the exhibit). In addition, each youth must bring their program code (on laptop or on paper), and their robot to demonstrate. Exhibits in this class must be able to fit on no more than a 6’ x 2’ table (or ground footprint) and must be fully assembled 15 minutes prior to the judging start time. No exceptions.

Junk Drawer Robotics

All exhibits should be original designs made with everyday objects and materials. Exhibits with purchased kits will not be accepted. Exhibitors are also required to bring their Junk Drawer Robotics Youth Robotics Notebook with the sections completed for the project they are exhibiting, including the sections leading up to the activity they are exhibiting. For example, if a youth is bringing Activity E from Junk Drawer Level 1, they should have Youth Robotics Notebook sections A-E completed. For Innovation Class, all sections should be completed for your level.

Junk Drawer Robotics 1 (SF 50287) *Junk Drawer Level 1: Give Robotics A Hand project book & Youth Robotics Notebook – Required* 


Exhibit any item from the “To Make” activity from the Junk Drawer Robotics Level 1 project book. Be sure all robotics notebook sections within the module being exhibited are filled in.

Junk Drawer Robotics 2 (SF 50288) *Junk Drawer Level 2: Robots on the Move project book & Youth Robotics Notebook – Required* 

Exhibit any item from the “To Make” activity from the Junk Drawer Robotics Level 2 Book. Be sure all robotics notebook sections within the module being exhibited are filled in.

Junk Drawer Robotics 3 (SF 50289) *Junk Drawer Level 3: Mechatronics project book & Youth Robotics Notebook – Required* 

Exhibit any item from the “To Make” activity from the Junk Drawer Robotics Level 3 Book. Be sure all robotics notebook sections within the module being exhibited are filled in.

Junk Drawer Innovation Class (SF 50290) *Junk Drawer project book from appropriate level & Youth Robotics Notebook – Required* 

This class is open to any youth in Junk Drawer Robotics 1, 2, or 3.

Exhibit any item that incorporates two or more activities into a single robot/machine to accomplish a task. There must be a clear task being accomplished with an end goal in mind. Feel free to think outside of the box as you find ways to combine the principles and mechanics to make something new. You will be judged on your creativity and ability to explain your design choices in addition to the construction and performance of your robot.

Service Learning

Due to space restrictions, exhibits are limited to 36" X 48" and 15" deep.

Service Learning 1 (SF 50150a)

Exhibit a binder portfolio to reflect what the exhibitor accomplished in the four steps of service learning. This should include researching the need of the community and steps taken to serve that need. If exhibitor has been enrolled in project for multiple years, the binder portfolio should include previous years' work. Use of page protectors is recommended. A display board may accompany the portfolio.

Service Learning 2 (SF 50150b)

Exhibit a binder portfolio to reflect what the exhibitor accomplished in the four steps of service learning. This should include a walk-about to observe needs, assessment of needs and assets in your community, surveys/interviews conducted to identify needs and the solution. If exhibitor has been enrolled in project for multiple years (including Service Learning 1), the binder portfolio should include previous years' work. Use of page protectors is recommended. A display board may accompany the portfolio.

Service Learning Group Exhibit (SF 50149)

Open to groups whose members are enrolled in any Service Learning project.

Due to space limitations, exhibits are limited to 36" X 48" and 15" deep. Group members should be enrolled in Service Learning – Agents of Change (Level 1) and/or Raise Your Voice (Level 2). Register community project at <https://4h.extension.illinois.edu/participate/4-h-community-service>, additional resources located on site.

Exhibit should be educational in nature and should inform others of steps taken to engage group members in **1)** identifying a local need, conducting a local needs assessment to find a need that is already visible in the community; **2)** determine types of activities group members can/want to do; **3)** List all of the activities, projects, or needs identified to review with group members; **4)** create a plan and timeline for completing the service project

(including-project goals; tasks involved; time commitment; permission needed from community stakeholders; a budget, a source for securing those funds; insurance needs; equipment and supplies; publicity; potential partners if additional help is needed; a risk management plan; and a process for evaluating the project; **5)** prepare for group members to engage in the service project which may include instruction on completing specific tasks and/or educating members on how the project will benefit the community; **6)** complete the project; **7)** documentation of service experience with photos, videos; or written reports; **8)** once project is completed, reflect on success and/or challenges encountered during execution of the service project; consider what you might do differently in future service projects.

Create a display which will educate the public regarding the impact of the service project for both the community and the group members. The display must be accompanied by at least 3 but no more than 10 4-H members at the time of the judge's critique. Groups wishing to include more than 10 members must ask for an accommodation, at least one week prior to judging. Group members should make a 5-10 minute presentation for the judge. Group members should create a display which showcases the service project and the steps needed to complete it. Only group members present for the judging and who participate in the critique and presentation are eligible for ribbons and premiums.

Shooting Sports

Participants must be a member of an approved 4-H Shooting Sports Club to exhibit. Age restrictions apply to the different Shooting Sports disciplines and apply to exhibits. All exhibits should be posters or stand-alone items suitable for display to the general public. Stand-alone items have the intent to enhance the discipline such as a quiver, gun case, gun sling, locking cabinet, gun or target stand, sporting clays equipment wagon, etc. Exhibits deemed to be inappropriate by a superintendent will not be displayed.

Note: Shooting Sports Displays have the following prohibitions:

- No live ammunition.
- Sharp items, such as knives, field points, hunting broadheads, etc. may be included if displayed securely and enclosed to prevent handling; unsafe entries may be removed at staff discretion.

- No functional or non-functional bows, firearms or firearm parts that could be reassembled are allowed.
- No humanoid shaped targets or reference to paintball, laser tag, air-soft, or pointing of any type of firearm or bow toward another person is allowed.
- No display involving primarily tactical design firearms (i.e. AR platform or military type firearms.)
- No reference or use of the word “weapon” should be used in a display.
- Make sure there are no safety violations in your display. (Example: no earplugs or safety glasses in a picture of a person shooting a firearm.)

Shooting Sports: Archery Display (SF 50380)

Exhibit a poster or stand-alone display depicting safe archery handling, range safety, the parts of the bow, tracking the target, target sighting, or another topic you have learned through the 4-H Shooting Sports program.

Shooting Sports: Rifle Display (SF 50381)

Exhibit a poster or stand-alone display depicting safe firearm handling, range safety, the parts of the rifle, tracking the target, target sighting, or another topic you have learned through the 4-H Shooting Sports program.

Shooting Sports: Shotgun Display (SF 50382)

Exhibit a poster or stand-alone display depicting safe firearm handling, range safety, the parts of the shotgun, tracking the target, target sighting, or another topic you have learned through the 4-H Shooting Sports program.

Shooting Sports: Pistol Display (SF 50384)

Exhibit a poster or stand-alone display depicting safe firearm handling, range safety, the parts of the pistol, tracking the target, target sighting, or another topic you have learned through the 4-H Shooting Sports program.

Small Engines

Small Engine displays must be no larger than 4' x 4' display board. Exhibits must be portable. No complete engines, lawn tractors, tillers, chainsaws, etc. are permitted for display. No electrical power is available for displays/exhibits.

Small Engines 1-3 (SF 50294)

Exhibit a display, selecting one of the following items:

- **Ignition/Electrical System:** Identify the parts of the Ignition System and explain how magnetic energy is produced through the ignition system to ignite the spark plug; **OR**
- **Compression System:** Explain how heat energy is produced and engine power is measured by an engine and/or converted into mechanical energy through transmissions; **OR**
- **Heat Transfer:** Explain how heat is transferred through the cooling and lubrication system of an air cooled or water cooled engine; **OR**
- **Filter Maintenance:** Explain the proper maintenance and cleaning of the air, fuel and oil filters of an engine; **OR**
- **What does a serial number reveal?:** Explain the various information that can be learned from the serial number or identification number stamped on the shroud of a Briggs & Stratton engine; **OR**
- **Tools to do the job:** Identify and explain the function(s) of different specialty tools needed for small engine work; **OR**
- **Experimentation:** Explain through illustration an experiment you conducted from the project manual showing the results of your work.

Theatre Arts

Theatre Arts 1 (SF 50299)

Exhibit one of the following items:

- **Portfolio of acting activities** completed during the current year. This should include at least 3 of the following: list of roles/performances, pictures or description of hair or makeup, pictures or description of a favorite costume, pictures or description of a particular set piece or prop, ticket stubs or marketing materials, playbill, description of audition process, highlights of acting skills honed (such as stage directions, auditioning, projection, diction, character development, physicality, vocal expression, facial expressions, memorization, understanding of how to read a script, ability to take direction, confidence, collaboration with scene

partners etc.) *Note: A video of performances is not considered a portfolio and will not be accepted for exhibit.* **OR**

- **Display illustrating a picture story** developed by the exhibitor. Your picture story should include a minimum of 3 boxes with a character, problem, and solution. **OR**
- **Write a personal monologue.** Create a character, decide what your character wants, what are the obstacles, and create your character's thoughts and struggles.

Theatre Arts 2 (SF 50300)

Exhibit one of the following items:

- **Block a scene.** Choose a scene from a published play and become the director. Clearly mark stage directions, blocking, entrances and exits, and any additional notes you would want to share with the actors. **OR**
- **Write a scene.** Create a scene that includes at least 2 characters, has an established setting, plot, and time, and include stage directions. **OR**
- **Create a mask** that either represents a character of your choice or models a mask from a given historical time period integral to the history of theatre.

Theatre Arts 3 (SF 50301)

Exhibit one of the following items:

- **Portfolio of activities** for set design; make-up; or sound, props, or costuming completed during the current year. This should include pictures of activities, information on the show or performance, details on your involvement. **OR**
- **Display that includes** sound, props and costume charts appropriate for a selected scene from a story or play (limited to no more than 8 items). **OR**
- **Display a scenic design model** to depict a scene from a script; **OR**
- **Display illustrating a character** with make-up drawn or colored in. Include a photograph of a person wearing the make-up and information on the character's personality or part in the play.

Theatre Arts Innovation Class (SF 50302)

Open to youth enrolled in Theatre Arts.

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through Theatre Arts project. The

exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Tractor


Tractor A (SF 50306) Level A: Starting Up – Required 

Exhibit a display or poster that illustrates one of the following topics: tractor safety; care and maintenance; the tractor as a valuable farm machine; or an activity listed in the 4-H project manual.

Tractor B (SF 50307) Level B: Tractor Operation – Required 

Exhibit a display or poster that illustrates one of the following topics: cause and prevention of rollovers; diagram how an air cleaner works; diagram and identify an engine cooling system; regulations for battery & oil disposal; or another activity listed in the 4-H project manual.


Tractor C (SF 50308) Level C: Moving Out – Required 

Exhibit a display or poster that illustrates one of the following topics: wagon and bin hazards; diagram and identify open and closed hydraulic systems; mower types and safety features; conveyor types and safety features; or another activity listed in the 4-H project manual.

Tractor D (SF 50309) Level D: Learning More – Required 

Exhibit a display or poster that illustrates one of the following topics: method of winterizing a tractor; chemical uses and required safety equipment; parts and process of internal combustion engine; procedure for cleaning and flushing tractor radiator; or another activity.

Tractor Innovation Class (SF 50310)

Open to youth enrolled in Tractor A, B, C or D.

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Tractor project. This

could be related to, but not limited to, advancements in technology, enhancements to crop production, or a topic of interest to the member related to tractors or farm machinery. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Veterinary Science

Veterinary Science 1 (SF 50320a)

Open to youth in Veterinary Science 1, 2, and 3. For youth enrolled in this project 1-2 years. Prepare a display focusing on any activity related to the veterinary science project. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Live animals are not permitted as exhibits in this area. For safety reasons, exhibits cannot include glass, syringes with needles or any other sharp objects. Exhibits may include activities from Veterinary Science projects OR from any other Animal project area.

Veterinary Science 2 (SF 50320b)

Open to youth in Veterinary Science 1, 2, and 3. For youth enrolled in this project 3 or more years.

Prepare a display focusing on any activity related to the veterinary science project. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation,

which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period. Live animals are not permitted as exhibits in this area. For safety reasons, exhibits cannot include glass, syringes with needles or any other sharp objects. Exhibits may include activities from Veterinary Science projects OR from any other animal project area.

Video

All Exhibitors must bring their video to be judged on a USB flash drive and saved in .MP4 format at the State Fair. Wireless Internet access is not necessarily available. Exhibitors are encouraged to post their video on YouTube.com. Exhibitors may choose whether to make the video “public, unlisted” (someone must have the link to view it), or “private” (only people you choose may view it). This will allow fairgoers to view the exhibits on display. There will be TV monitors at the exhibit table for viewing videos so exhibitors will NOT need to bring a laptop or device for viewing at the State Fair. However, at the county level, you need to bring your own device (including a way for your judge to hear your video) for viewing. All Video/Filmmaking exhibitors must include a printed copy of materials which will remain on display.

Requirements that apply to ALL video classes:

- Videos can be produced as an individual or a group of up to 5 members.
- Video submissions should be no longer than five (5) minutes in length (unless noted differently in class description).
- Videos are to be original and a result of the member’s current year’s work.
- Image and sound quality will be considered in relation to equipment available to and used by exhibitor.
- All videos should comply with copyright regulations and display an image that is appropriate for 4-H audiences.
- No time or date should be imprinted on the video footage.
- All videos should include an opening title screen, as well as closing credits which include date of production, name of video exhibitor and research sources if appropriate.

- All videos should include (1) Evidence of story line; (2) Use of camera angles; (3) Use of zooming techniques; and (4) Smoothness of scene changes.
- Photo/Model releases from individuals appearing in the videos are required unless the video is of a group in a public place where identification would not be an issue. Youth should have a signed model release for anyone appearing in the video besides themselves, and those should be brought to judging. Forms are available at go.illinois.edu/modelrelease.

Commercial or Promotional Video Individual (SF 50324a) Group (SF 50234b)

Prepare a short video (30 seconds to 1 minute in length) that promotes an event, advertises a specific project/product, or is a public service announcement. The video should demonstrate skills in making and editing video.

Animated Video Individual (SF 50325a) Group (SF50325b)

Video in this class should represent creative animation of original artwork created by the exhibitor and may include stop motion techniques. Media might include images created with graphics software or hand-drawn images.

Documentary Individual (SF 50326a) Group (SF 50326b)

Video in this class should represent a research-based investigation into a topic of choice. Video credits should list research sources and may include paper or electronically published materials, as well as interviews with experts or constituents related to the topic of investigation.

Short Story or Short Narrative Individual (SF 50327a) Group (SF50327b)

Prepare a short video that tells a story. The video should demonstrate skills in making and editing video.

Video/Filmmaking Innovation Class Individual (SF 50328a) Group (SF 50328b)

Open to youth enrolled in Video/Filmmaking.

Demonstrate the skills and knowledge you have gained through the Video project. **Your exhibit should not fit in the other exhibit options for this project.** The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will

remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Visual Arts

Exhibitors must be enrolled in the Visual Arts project category in which they are exhibiting. Exhibitors are encouraged to date the project when it is made. Exhibitors must be able to carry or cart their exhibits across the fairgrounds from the parking lots. All visual arts exhibits are evaluated using a visual arts rubric, which considers correct use of design elements, craftsmanship, and creativity.

Articles exhibited must be an original design created by the exhibitor (except in Heritage Arts, which may follow a pattern). Copyrighted or trademarked designs are not acceptable; this includes team, school logos, and/or characters from movies such as Mickey Mouse, Iron Man, etc. Kits and preformed molds are not considered original and are not acceptable in any Visual Arts Class. Combining parts of different patterns (pictures, photographs, images from the internet or a magazine) with the member's own ideas can result in an original design, but simply changing the color, pattern, and/or size of a pattern does NOT make the design original. This also applies to ideas found on a site such as Pinterest. If you see something on Pinterest that you like, you can use that idea as your inspiration; however, create something that is fundamentally different. It **MUST NOT BE AN EXACT REPLICA OF** something the judge can search for and find on Pinterest. The exhibit may combine parts of different patterns and/or ideas with the concepts of the member; however, changing the color or changing the size of the item or pattern used does NOT make it original. If you create an exact replica of what you see somewhere else, it is not your original design. If a photo, sketch, or other idea source was used, submit it with your entry, firmly attached to your exhibit. Be prepared to explain how and where you got the idea for this project.

When utilizing repurposed materials, source wisely to avoid materials from old furniture, painted wood, or metal objects that may contain lead-based paint. Items manufactured before 1978 are particularly risky. If you are unsure, lead testing kits to check painted surfaces are available at hardware stores. Consider safely stripping or sealing unknown paint with a non-toxic barrier to prevent exposure.

Use of the 4-H Clover:

Chartered 4-H clubs and enrolled 4-H members are authorized to use the 4-H Name and Emblem. This includes permission for an enrolled 4-H member to use the 4-H name and

emblem in exhibits created for personal use and as part of 4-H sponsored events. This includes 4-H decorated cookies, a 4-H clover printed for use in a scrapbook or included as part of any other 4-H exhibit. Use of the green clover shaped image is not protected. The 4-H “emblem” is distinguished by the four H’s that signify Head, Heart, Hands and Health. No creative rendering, changes in color or shape of the official 4-H emblem is allowed.

NOTE – Any use of the 4-H name and emblem on items intended as gifts or for sale locally requires prior permission from your local Extension office. Your Extension office will be able to provide you with the form which must be signed by the Extension County Director. Any uses of the 4-H name and emblem for sale or promotion online, and/or in statewide events should be signed by the Illinois 4-H Program Leader (Illinois4H@illinois.edu).

Quilts entered in Visual Arts should ONLY be entered in the Quilting Project area in either Level 1 You Can Quilt (SF 50331) OR Level 2 Quilting the Best Better (SF 50331). All work on the quilt MUST be completed by the 4-H member. You cannot exhibit a quilt that was quilted by someone else.

Unless otherwise noted, due to space limitations, projects should be no larger than 48” x 48”.

Fine Art and Design

This category showcases original, expressive work created through hands-on techniques and personal design. A wide range of materials and methods, encouraging youth to explore traditional and contemporary forms of visual storytelling, is included in this category.

Artisan Crafts

This category honors the intersection of craftsmanship, tradition, and personal creativity. It includes original and patterned work across a wide range of materials and techniques.

Fine Art and Design

Visual Arts Chalk/Carbon/Pigment (Drawing and Painting): Division A, B, or C

Enter the division based on the type of material on which the art was created.

Chalk/Carbon/Pigment (Drawing and Painting): Division A: Canvas (SF 50336a)

Any original artwork created on canvas using traditional materials such as pencils, chalk, pens, ink, paint, charcoal, or dyes. All artwork must be either framed, matted, or otherwise prepared for display. Oil and acrylic paintings may be exhibited without glass or matting and are acceptable unframed if the canvas edges are finished and the piece is ready to

hang. Watercolor, chalk, pen and ink, and similar media require protective covering, such as glass or a clear sleeve. Gallery-style frames and matted-only presentations are both acceptable, provided the piece is equipped for hanging. If the artwork is not designed to hang, exhibitors must include a photo showing how it will be displayed (e.g., on a stand or easel). There is no restriction on the type of mat used.

Chalk/Carbon/Pigment (Drawing and Painting): Division B: Paper (SF 50336b)

Any original artwork created on paper using traditional materials such as pencils, chalk, pens, ink, paint, charcoal, or dyes. All artwork must be either framed, matted, or otherwise prepared for display. Oil and acrylic paintings may be exhibited without glass or matting and are acceptable unframed if the piece is ready to hang. Watercolor, chalk, pen and ink, and similar media require protective covering, such as glass or a clear sleeve. Gallery-style frames and matted-only presentations are both acceptable, provided the piece is equipped for hanging. If the artwork is not designed to hang, exhibitors must include a photo showing how it will be displayed (e.g., on a stand or easel). There is no restriction on the type of mat used.

Chalk/Carbon/Pigment (Drawing and Painting): Division C: Clay, Glass, Wood, Metal, Textiles (SF 50336c)

Any original artwork created on clay, glass, wood, metal, or textiles using traditional materials such as pencils, chalk, pens, ink, paint, charcoal, or dyes. Original glaze painting on pre-formed clay surfaces is acceptable, provided the design demonstrates creativity and artistic effort. Simply adding a single color or minimal decoration, for example, painting a frog entirely green, does not meet the criteria for original artwork. All artwork must be either framed, matted, or otherwise prepared for display. If the artwork is not designed to hang, exhibitors must include a photo showing how it will be displayed (e.g., on a stand or easel). There is no restriction on the type of mat used. If you are painting on clothing, consider entering your work in the “Clothing Embellishment” project, “Applied” class.

Visual Arts Clay (SF 50337)

Any original item made of clay may be fired or unfired, hand-formed or thrown on a wheel. Ceramics, oven-cured, cornstarch, air-dry/self-hardening, and fire-cured clays are acceptable. Modeling clay is not recommended as it does not harden and risks melting. Items can include, but are not limited to, clay statues, bowls, jewelry, etc. Pre-formed ceramics should refer to Visual Arts Chalk/Carbon/Pigment for guidance.

Visual Arts Computer-Generated Art (SF 50338, SF 50370)

- **Computer-Generated Art** (SF 50338)

Any original artwork created using any software package, where all pixels must be entirely original. Exhibits may not contain scanned images, clip art, downloaded content, imported graphics, or photographs. Photo mosaics are not permitted. Wood and metal pieces created through laser cutting software should be entered in this class, as should plastic artworks produced with a 3-D printer if they have an artistic focus. If the artwork is designed to hang, it must include protective covering, such as a glass frame, and be prepared for hanging. Laser-cut pieces not intended for hanging do not require protective covering or hanging hardware.

- **Graphic Design** (SF 50370)

Any original art created in any software package that displays visual information, such as an advertisement, publication, website, or any other type of visual communication, by effectively combining text and graphics. If using clip art, downloaded images, imported images, or photographs, they must be either royalty-free or owned by the exhibitor.

Visual Arts Glass & Plastic (SF 50340a, 50340b)

Any original item made of glass or plastic.

- **Glass** 50340a

Possible items to exhibit include stained glass, etched glass (original design), mosaics made of glass, and glass beading.

- **Plastic** 50340b

Possible items to exhibit include plastic jewelry (friendly plastic); recycled plastic art; plastic that can be molded into 3D shapes.

Stepping stones can be entered as a Visual Arts exhibit in Glass & Plastic, however, they must have an intentional design created using glass and/or plastic, and the exhibitor must be prepared to discuss the design elements associated with their exhibit.

Visual Arts Metal (SF 50342)

Any original item made of metal, such as a sculpture, a tin punch, an engraved metal, or jewelry. Items intended for industrial use (such as tools and/or shop items) are not

considered part of this Visual Arts project and are not eligible for entry. Metal items that have been partially or totally created using laser cutting programs/devices should be entered in Computer-Generated Art.

Visual Arts Open Form and Emerging Techniques (SF 50350)

Any original artwork that explores unconventional formats, mixed media, or emerging creative technologies that reflect technique or design. Materials must be safe and age-appropriate. This project encourages experimentation while upholding elements and principles of design. Exhibitors are encouraged to include a brief artist statement describing their technique, inspiration, and creative process. This category is ideal for youth blending disciplines or exploring new artistic technologies. If a project fits more clearly within an existing category, it should be entered there instead.

Visual Arts Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media (SF 50348)

Art pieces in this class must be comprised of **at least three different media**. To ensure a true mixed media composition, no single medium should dominate the piece. As a guideline, each medium should contribute roughly equally to the overall design. One material should not appear to be the main focus or make up the majority of the work. The piece should **be either freestanding or should be prepared to be hung**, and viewable from at least three different sides. Originality and design are important concepts. Craft kits, preformed, or assembled projects are not acceptable. Due to space limitations, any single exhibit in the Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media project should NOT exceed 48" x 48".

Visual Arts Wood (SF 50349)

Any original item made of wood (wood carving, sculpture, collage, wood burning, etc.). Utilitarian wood items made from patterns or kits (outdoor or indoor furniture, shelves, etc.) should be entered in woodworking, **NOT** Visual Arts. Popsicle stick crafts are not acceptable for State Fair entry. Wood items that have been partially or totally created using laser cutting devices or programs should be entered in Computer-Generated Art. All Visual Arts Wood exhibits **MUST** have an artistic element that the exhibitor can explain. If the exhibit is a piece of furniture, it should be entered in Woodworking unless the primary focus is an artistic element, such as wood carving or wood burning. Exhibits will be judged using a Visual Arts Rubric and not a woodworking construction rubric.

Artisan Crafts

Visual Arts Fiber (SF 50339)

Any original item made of fiber. Examples include but are not limited to fabric collage, soft

sculpture, stitchery, weaving, embroidery, cross-stitch, wearable art, hooking, braiding, duct tape artistry, string art, and baskets. **Original** cross-stitched, knitted, or crocheted items belong in this Fiber class. **Non-original** cross-stitched, knitted, or crocheted items should be entered in Heritage Arts. Machine-knit items are not appropriate for this class.

Visual Arts Food Decorating (SF 50332, SF 50333, SF 50334, SF 50335) – for more information about cake decorating techniques: go.illinois.edu/caketechniques

Visual Arts Food Decorating Beginning (SF 50332)

Exhibit one of the following:

- Exhibit four decorated cookies, using a minimum of four different Level 1 techniques. Exhibit may use cookies OR cookie forms.
- Exhibit four decorated cupcakes, using a minimum of four different Level 1 techniques. Exhibit may use cupcakes OR cupcake forms.
- Exhibit a single-layer decorated cake, using a minimum of four different Level 1 techniques. Exhibit may use cake OR cake form.

Visual Arts Food Decorating Intermediate (SF 50333)

Exhibit one of the following:

- Exhibit four decorated cookies, using a minimum of five Level 2 techniques. Exhibit may use cookies OR cookie forms
- Exhibit four decorated cupcakes, using a minimum of five Level 2 techniques. Exhibit may use cupcakes OR cupcake forms.
- Exhibit a single-layer or two-layer cakes, using a minimum of five Level 2 techniques. Exhibit may use cake OR cake forms.

Visual Arts Food Decorating Advanced (SF 50334)

- Exhibit a decorated, stacked or multi-layer cake; or a tiered cake, using a minimum of four Level 3 techniques. Exhibit may use cake OR cake forms.

Visual Arts Food Decorating Master (SF 50335)

Exhibit an original design decorated cake using more than five techniques. Exhibit may use cake OR cake forms. In addition, include a one-page written description of your project,

including goals, plans, accomplishments, and evaluation of results. Up to four pictures of your accomplishments may be included in the description.

Visual Arts Heritage Arts (SF 50341)

Heritage Arts includes any **traditional** artwork learned from another person or created using a **pattern**, excluding kits. Eligible items include non-original cross-stitched, knitted, and crocheted pieces (original versions should be entered in Fiber Arts), as well as needlepoint, counted cross-stitch, crewel, embroidery, cut work, hardanger embroidery, macramé, blacksmithing, pysanki (decorated eggs), baskets made from traditional patterns, handmade dolls with handmade costumes, and soaps or candles made using natural dyes. **Exhibitors must bring a copy of the pattern used and be prepared to explain the traditional origins of their art.** Forged knives may be included if displayed securely and enclosed to prevent handling; unsafe entries may be removed at staff discretion. Youth who would have previously shown under Non-Original Fiber (age 8-10) should enter this class instead.

Visual Arts Leather (SF 50321)

Exhibit one of the following options using leather:

- **Leather Stamping:** Must feature one or more stamping techniques. Examples include belts, coasters, bookmarks, key chains, and wrist bracelets. **OR**
- **Leather Carving or Tooling:** Should use swivel knife tooling, either simple or patterned. Examples include belts, pictorial carvings, and key cases. **OR**
- **Leather Lacing:** Must incorporate stamping and/or carving along with lacing techniques. Examples include wallets and purses. **OR**
- **Leather Stitching:** May include stamping, carving, and/or lacing, and must feature hand or machine stitching completed by the exhibitor. Projects may be leather items or apparel.

Visual Arts Nature (SF 50343)

Any original item made of natural material, such as wreaths, cornhusk dolls, and similar creations. Items should be made of natural materials, but securing elements such as glue and wire may be used in the inner construction as long as they do not detract from the overall "natural" appearance. Engineered wood may be utilized as part of the exhibit to adhere natural materials, not as an element of the design. Articles such as dried pressed

flowers may be displayed under glass if viewed as necessary for the protection/preservation of the natural materials. Candles and baskets are not suitable as entries and instead should be entered in Heritage Arts.

Visual Arts Paper (SF 50344a & SF 50344b)

Any original item made of paper. Exhibitors should create an exhibit that aligns with one of the following categories:

- **Two-Dimensional Paper Art** (SF 50344a)

Exhibits should be a 2-dimensional image. Paper art, which falls into the 2-dimensional category, includes: Greeting Cards, paper-cut designs, hand-made paper, paper collage, and quilling.

- **Three-Dimensional Paper Art** (SF 50344b)

Exhibits should be a 3-dimensional image. Exhibits in the 3-dimensional category must have multiple layers and/or levels. This is defined as more than 3 layers, so the image truly has dimensions that can be viewed from at least three sides, or is at least ½” tall. Paper art which falls into the 3-dimensional category includes but is not limited to: Origami; Paper Mache; Paper models of architecture, paper-cut designs; quilling.

Please note the following:

- Paper-cut designs and quilling have the potential, depending on the design, to align with either of the categories. The key design element is whether the design is 2-dimensional or 3-dimensional.
- Paper twist articles made from a kit or directions in a craft book or store ARE NOT original and not appropriate in the Visual Arts Paper exhibit area. Scrapbooks are also not eligible in Visual Arts Paper but should be exhibited in Visual Arts Scrapbooking.
- If creating origami, folded pieces should either be used to create a bigger project, such as a mobile or wreath, or multiple pieces of origami should be displayed. Exceptions would be if the exhibitor created their own folding pattern.

Visual Arts Quilting – You Can Quilt (**Level 1**) (SF 50331a)

Exhibit one of the following quilting options. All exhibits should include a card which 1) Identifies the item as an original design created by the exhibitor; as a pattern created by

someone else; OR as a pattern that has been adapted by the exhibitor. AND 2) Identifies the type of batting used. The item may be quilted using any method – tie, hand, or machine quilted. **All work must be completed by the 4-H member.** Exhibit one of the following:

- A Doll Quilt (maximum size of 24” x 30”); **OR**
- A Baby Quilt (maximum size of 48”x 48”); **OR**
- A Quilted Table Runner (maximum size of 18” x 36”);**OR**
- A small Wall Hanging (square or rectangular, maximum size of 36” x 36”). Hanging should include tabs or a pocket on the back for it to be hung.

Visual Arts Quilting – Quilting the Best Better (**Level 2**) (SF 50331b)

Exhibit one of the following quilting options. All exhibits should include a card which 1) Identifies the item as an original design created by the exhibitor as a pattern created by someone else; OR as a pattern that has been adapted by the exhibitor; 2) Identifies the type of batting used; AND 3) Provides details on any special techniques that were used (applique, embroidery, free-motion quilting, etc.). The item may be quilted using any method – tie, hand, or machine quilted. **All work must be completed by the 4-H member.** Exhibit one of the following:

- A Lap Quilt (width ranging from 42” – 58” length ranging from 56” – 70”); **OR**
- A Large Quilted Wall Hanging (can be rectangular or square, sized larger than 36” x 36”). Hanging should include tabs or a pocket on the back for it to be hung; **OR**
- A Quilt that fits any size bed (Twin, Double, Queen or King).

Visual Arts Scrapbooking, Beginning (SF 50345)

Exhibit one album or notebook, either 8 ½” x 11” or 12” x 12”, with a front and back cover. The album/notebook must have a minimum of 4 pages (front and back, making it 8 sides), exhibited in page protectors. **NOTE – the front and back album covers are NOT part of the “page” count.** Scrapbooks may be created using traditional or digital methods. Digital scrapbooks must be printed and displayed in a physical album or notebook, following the same size and page requirements. All scrapbook entries must be original in design; use of pre-made templates or auto-generated layouts from websites or design software (e.g. Canva, Shutterfly, Adobe Express, etc.) is not permitted. Exhibitors must create their own layouts, embellishments, and design elements to reflect personal creativity and intent.

“Embellishments” are defined as the decorations or special details and features that add to a page and make it more visually appealing. Embellishments may include, but are not limited to, ribbon, clips, stickers, special lettering, borders, textures, or graphic elements. Beginners must use a **minimum of four embellishments** in their 4 scrapbook pages (a minimum of four embellishments on the 4 required scrapbook pages, not four per page), 8 sides and tell a story with pictures

Visual Arts Scrapbooking, Intermediate (SF 50346)

Exhibit one album or notebook, either 8 ½” x 11” or 12” x 12”, with a front and back cover. The album/notebook must have a minimum of 6 pages (front and back, 12 sides), exhibited in page protectors. **NOTE – the front and back album covers are NOT part of the “page” count.** Scrapbooks may be created using traditional or digital methods. Digital scrapbooks must be printed and displayed in a physical album or notebook, following the same size and page requirements. All scrapbook entries must be original in design; use of pre-made templates or auto-generated layouts from websites or design software (e.g. Canva, Shutterfly, Adobe Express, etc.) is not permitted. Exhibitors must create their own layouts, embellishments, and design elements to reflect personal creativity and intent.

“Embellishments” are defined as the decorations or special details and features that add to a page and make it more visually appealing. Embellishments may include, but are not limited to, ribbon, clips, stickers, special lettering, borders, textures, or graphic elements. Intermediate level exhibitors must use a **minimum of eight embellishments** in their 6 scrapbook pages (a minimum of eight embellishments on the 6 required scrapbook pages, not eight per page), 12 sides and tell a story with pictures and journaling.

Visual Arts Scrapbooking, Advanced (SF 50347)

Exhibit one album or notebook, either 8 ½” x 11” or 12” x 12”, with a front and back cover. The album/notebook must have a minimum of 8 pages (front and back, 16 sides), exhibited in page protectors. **NOTE – the front and back album covers are NOT part of the “page” count.** Scrapbooks may be created using traditional or digital methods. Digital scrapbooks must be printed and displayed in a physical album or notebook, following the same size and page requirements. All scrapbook entries must be original in design; use of pre-made templates or auto-generated layouts from websites or design software (e.g. Canva, Shutterfly, Adobe Express, etc.) is not permitted. Exhibitors must create their own layouts, embellishments, and design elements to reflect personal creativity and intent.

“Embellishments” are defined as the decorations or special details and features that add to a page and make it more visually appealing. Embellishments may include, but are not

limited to, ribbon, clips, stickers, special lettering, borders, textures, or graphic elements. Advanced level exhibitors must use a **minimum of 12 embellishments** in their 8 scrapbook pages (a minimum of twelve embellishments on the 8 required scrapbook pages, not twelve per page), 16 sides and tell a compelling story with pictures, journaling, and other media.

Visual Arts Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media - Diorama (SF 50351)

Exhibit a model representing a scene with three-dimensional figures. The display must be built on rigid wood (i.e., plywood). Exhibits may include but are not limited to, farm displays, historical events, landmarks, habitats, or scenes from a book. Exhibits may include pre-manufactured items such as tractors, animals, or figurines, but should also include artistic elements where possible. Due to space limitations, any single exhibit in the Three-Dimensional Design/Mixed Media: Diorama project should NOT exceed 48" x 48".

Weather


Weather and Climate Science 1 (SF 50392) Level 1: Weather and Climate Science – Required 

Exhibit any product or display illustrating an activity from the book. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.


Weather and Climate Science 2 (SF 50393) Level 2: Weather and Climate Science – Required 

Exhibit any product or display illustrating an activity from the book. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Weather and Climate Science 3 (SF 50394) Level 3: Weather and Climate Science – Required

Exhibit any product or display illustrating an activity from the book. The exhibit may include, but isn't limited to, original works, objects, demonstrations, digital presentations, programs, websites, games, apps, performances, or posters which you have made. Choose whatever method best shows what you've learned. You must furnish any equipment you need for your exhibit. Internet service will not be provided for the exhibit. All exhibits must include something visual, such as a printed copy of a digital presentation, which will remain on display during the exhibition. Electronic equipment will only be used during your personal judging time and will not remain on display during the entire exhibit period.

Welding

Welding (SF 50353) Arcs and Sparks – Required

Exhibit one weldment/item demonstrating the skill level of the exhibitor. Members new to the project should select a weldment from the *Weldment List* found on page 43 of *Arcs and Sparks*. **This class is for industrial welding only.** (Members that wish to use welding to create objects with an artistic appeal should enter in Visual Arts – Metal class.) Exhibits must be portable and cannot be exhibited on a trailer.

Woodworking

There are four reference books for this project in the *Woodworker Wonders* series: Level 1, *Measuring Up*, for grades of 3-4; Level 2, *Making the Cut*, for grades 4-6; Level 3, *Nailing It Together*, for grades 6-8; and Level 4, *Finishing It Up* for grades 9-12. Note: these reference books may be used by youth of any grade based on their prior knowledge of woodworking. These project guides are suggested reference materials but are not required.

Woodworking exhibits may display any item made of wood constructed by the 4-H member appropriate for their age, skills, and abilities. Youth pick what level to enter based on experience and skills demonstrated. Exhibits must be portable and cannot be exhibited on a trailer. Ability to discuss safety concerns and techniques of all tools, equipment and supplies utilized required as part of project.

Refinishing an existing wood item may be part of the project exhibit, but refinishing an item without performing additional woodworking skills to improve or repair the item would make it ineligible to show as a woodworking project.

Woodworking 1 (SF 50357)

Create an item focusing on measuring, squaring & cutting boards with hand tools, driving nails, and/or screws as appropriate for a beginner's skill level project.

Woodworking 2 (SF 50358)

Create an item including basic skills outlined in Level 1 with the addition of safely utilizing basic power tools (i.e. electric drill or vibrating sander), utilizing glue and clamps, applying a basic finish coating, and use of additional fasteners (i.e. bolts, staples, etc.) where appropriate relating to the specific item displayed.

Woodworking 3 (SF 50359)

Create an item including skills outlined in Levels 1-2 with the addition of measuring angles, cutting dado and rabbet joints, dowel joints, and smoothing lumber with planes, and use of stain and finish coats where appropriate relating to the specific item displayed. Additional knowledge of tools, skills, and safety equipment utilized at this level may include power saws, sanders, and/or table routing as appropriate to project.

Woodworking 4 (SF 50360)

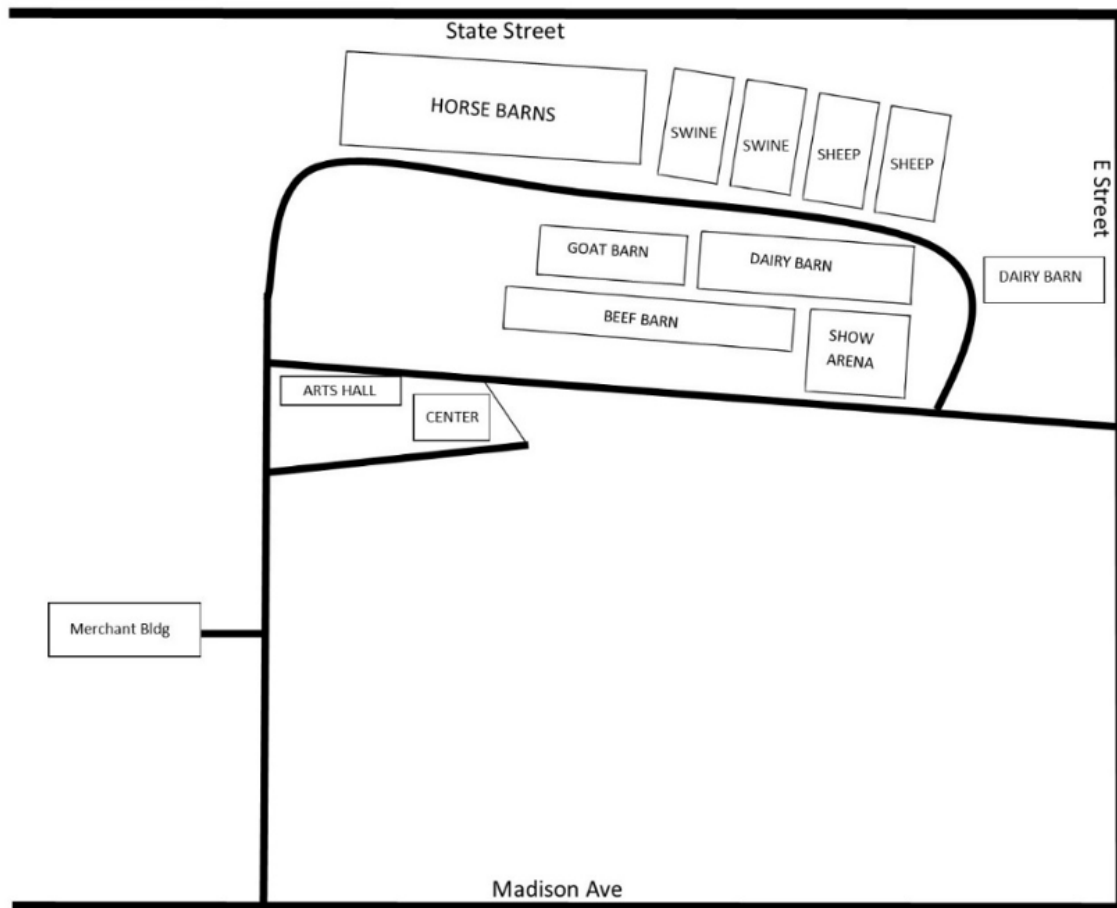
Create an item including all skills from Levels 1-3 with the addition of utilizing a freehand router, planer and jointer, lathe, complex miters, use of blind mortise and tenon joints, dovetail joints, or various chemical wood strippers and/or finishes (including spray finishes) when and where appropriate relating to the specific item displayed.

Thank You to Our 4-H Volunteers and Partners

The Coles County 4-H Program and 4-H Fair would not be possible without the incredible dedication of our volunteers, partners, and supporters. Your time, talents, resources, and unwavering commitment help create meaningful opportunities for youth to learn, grow, and succeed.

From planning and preparation to show days and beyond, you play a vital role in making our fair a memorable and impactful experience for every 4-H member. Thank you for investing in our young people and for helping make the Coles County 4-H Program and Fair such a tremendous success. We are truly grateful for each of you.

Coles County Fairgrounds Map





Thank You

for your 2026 4-H donation!



The Coles County 4-H program would not be possible without the incredible generosity of our donors, sponsors, and community partners. Your support helps provide meaningful opportunities for youth to learn, grow, and showcase their hard work and talents throughout the year. Because of you, our 4-H members are able to gain confidence, develop life skills, and create memories that will last a lifetime. From the bottom of our hearts, thank you for believing in our youth and investing in the future of our community.

- Anieta Trame
- Bill & Kim Uphoff
- Bill & Rose Snider
- David & Kimmel Jenkins
- Drake Homes
- Farm Credit, Paris
- Farmers Grain Co. of Dorans
- First Neighbor Bank
- Gretchen Decker
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