



McHenry County 4-H Fair FAQ's 2019

What is FAIR ENROLLMENT? Didn't I already enroll?? DUE BY MIDNIGHT, JUNE 16TH!!!

The ONLINE fair enrollment will begin in May. You will only have the option to exhibit projects that you selected this year when you enrolled in the 4-H program. **At this time, you will be more specific on what you will be bringing to the judging at the fair.** This will help the 4-H office to create judging sheets and project tags for the fair judging days. **It is VERY IMPORTANT that you enroll in the 4-H Fair Entry online system before the deadline at Midnight on June 16.** If you do not enroll by the deadline, you will not be able to show in the 4-H portion of the fair this year.

Fair Enrollment LINK: <http://mchenry4-hfair.fairentry.com>

Where do I find the information of what my child needs to prepare for their project at the fair?

The 2019 fairbook can be found on our website at <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/lm/mchenry4h/1915.html> . You have the option to download and print your own copy of the fairbook or call the 4-H office a reserve a printed copy for \$5.

Who can I call if I have a question about the fair projects?

Under each category, you will find SUPERINTENDENTS for that area, these volunteers assist the 4-H staff with the project area and their contact information is located in the fairbook. You can call them to ask specific questions about your project. If there is not a superintendent listed, you can contact your club leader to see if they can help, or call the 4-H office.

How do I know when the project area will be judged and where it will be judged?

The fair schedule is located in 2 places for you; one is on our website for easy download at: <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/lm/downloads/69694.pdf> or another place is in the fairbook as the table of fair events.

What time should we arrive for judging?

In the fairbook, it will state the time that judging begins, for example for sewing judging, it begins at 9am. Plan to be there about 15 minutes ahead of the start time so that you can get your exhibit tags to attach to your project. There will be some project areas where we ask clubs to come at specific times to spread out the amount of people at the judging. If this is a project that you are in, you will receive a letter either in the mail or by email to confirm the time ahead of the judging.

How long do we plan to be at judging?

Plan to be at the judging for 2-2.5 hours. The youth will be called to meet with the judge in the order that they signed their name on a sign in sheet when you arrive. They meet with the judge one on one for about 5-7 minutes to talk about their project.

What should my child wear for judging?

Youth in the livestock areas will have "show attire" that is listed in the specific species area that they are showing, for example, in Dairy, they wear white pants, etc. Please check the fairbook pages for the livestock attire requirements. In Non-livestock judging, there is not required attire, some youth choose to wear their club t-shirt or a 4-H t-shirt for the judging. It has been a suggested guideline to have the youth look nice when they are presenting a project that they worked so hard on!

What if my child cannot be at the judging?

Our ideal situation is that the youth do conference judging with the judge with their fair project. This is a special time that they can share all that they have learned in the project area over the year. We do understand that there are extenuating circumstances where you may not be able to attend. We do offer that the youth can turn in their project ahead of time to the 4-H office with a completed form called **EXHIBITOR ABSENCE FORM** and it can be found **AT THE BACK OF THE Fairbook** or on our website at: <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/lm/downloads/43839.pdf>.

Please keep in mind that if the youth is not present with the project for judging, the awards are limited to receiving a blue, red, or white. The project will not be part of selection for the higher level awards (including: merit, state fair, state fair alternate, and plaques).

Who has to take ETHICS? DUE BY JUNE 16TH

Anyone that is showing livestock must complete QAEC for each species that they are planning to show **at least ONE time in a 4-H members career**. This is true for the McHenry County Fair and the Illinois State Fair. **Anyone that is doing an Animal Science project** must take the online ethics for **each** of the species that they are planning to show an animal science project for at the fair. Sheep Science, Rabbit Science are examples. Please visit this website to complete the online **Quality Assurance and Ethics** for each animal you plan to show at the fair. <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/gaec/>

What happens if I do not complete the ethics?

Deadline to complete this is June 16, 2019. NO EXCEPTIONS. If you fail to complete this training, you will not be eligible to show your livestock or your Animal Science Project at the 2019 McHenry County Fair. If you are unsure if the online course recorded you taking it, call or email the 4-H office and they will confirm for you. 815-338-3737 or maavang@illinois.edu.

Is there a discount for 4-H members and families to get into the fair?

YES: please purchase through the fair office: <http://www.mchenrycountyfair.com/>

All 4-Hers can purchase an "Exhibitor" **pass from the fair office for \$15**. Every exhibitor will have the opportunity to purchase an additional exhibitor pass if desired at the same discounted price of \$15 for family members and will be the equivalent to a season pass (normally \$25). This will allow you to enter the fair an unlimited amount of times throughout the six days.

What is Open Class and Jr Open Class?

The McHenry County Fair offers exhibiting at the fair thru the OPEN and JR OPEN areas, some of the items that you can exhibit are the same as in 4-H. This year, 4-H youth in the area of SEWING can show the **same** project in 4-H and in OPEN or JR OPEN. These particular projects will be on display in Building F during the fair. If your child chooses to show in these areas for both 4-H and in OPEN or JR OPEN, you will enroll for the 4-H projects in your fair enrollment through 4-H Fair Entry/4-H Online, but you will also need to complete the OPEN/JR OPEN enrollment thru the Fair office or the Fair website. It is acceptable to just show in 4-H.

How do I know what I can show in Open Class vs Jr Open?

You can check the fair website to locate their fairbook for the Open and Jr Open areas. Their website is <http://www.mchenrycountyfair.com/> and soon the 2019 Fairbook will be posted. All of the registration and payment for the Open and Jr Open classes go thru the Fair office located in Building D at the fairgrounds on Country Club Rd in Woodstock or you may register your entries online. See website for details.