

HOWARD COUNTY

4-H Handbook



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4-H NAME & EMBLEM



THE 4-H EMBLEM

A four-leaf clover with the letter "H" on each leaflet, meaning the development of HEAD, HEART, HANDS, and HEALTH, is the official 4-H Club emblem.

THE PLEDGE

I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking,
my HEART to greater loyalty,
my HANDS to larger service, and
my HEALTH to better living, for my club,
my community, my country, and my world.

THE 4-H CLUB MOTTO

"TO MAKE THE BEST BETTER"

THE 4-H SLOGAN

"LEARN BY DOING"

THE COLORS

Green, nature's most common color, is emblematic of springtime, life,
and youth.

White, symbolizes purity and high ideals.

GENERAL 4-H RULES & REGULATIONS

4-H RESIDENCE POLICY

Indiana youth typically enroll in 4-H Youth Development programs in the county or state in which they reside. However, individuals living in one county may join 4-H in another county. There must be educational or social reasons for an individual joining 4-H in a different county than that of their primary residence.

During a single program year, a 4-H member enrolled in a given project may enroll and exhibit that project only in one county or state of enrollment.

In the event that a project is not offered in the county of primary 4-H enrollment, a 4-H member may enroll in that specific project in a different county. Approval of this special exception rests with the 4-H Extension Educator in consultation with the State 4-H Office. Participation in 4-H related activities and events (i.e., judging, performing arts, auction) must be in the county of primary 4-H enrollment.

The above policy is not intended to provide an escape mechanism for 4-H members and families who are unwilling to follow the terms and/or conditions in their current county of 4-H membership. Decisions regarding 4-H membership in a non-resident county (a county you do not live in), rest with the 4-H Extension Educator in the receiving county in consultation with the State 4-H Office.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Youth may become 4-H members when they enter the third grade and may continue their membership through the completion of grade 12. Each individual may continue membership for a maximum of ten (10) consecutive years.

Exceptions:

- a. Youth who enroll in grade three and are academically advanced (thus graduating early) may continue for a total of 10 years, provided the enrollment occurs in consecutive years.
- b. Those youth who are academically advanced and skip 3rd grade may begin the program as a 4th grader and may continue for a total of 10 years, provided enrollment occurs in consecutive years.
- c. Those youth who enroll in grade three and are retained a grade in public school may continue to progress through the 4-H Program by adding subsequent years of participation but MAY NOT exceed 10 years of participation. For example, if a member is retained in public school for one year, their final year of 4-H membership would conclude the summer following their junior year of high school.
- d. Those youth who entered the program in 3rd grade and, for one reason or another, leave formal education before completing 12th grade may continue for a total of 10 years, provided enrollment occurs in consecutive years.
- e. PLEASE NOTE: Ten years of membership in the 4-H Youth Development program is an opportunity —not an entitlement. Those youth who do not enroll as 3rd-grade students or meet the exceptions above conclude their involvement with the program immediately following the completion of their senior year in high school.

2. An individual's 4-H grade is determined by the school grade in which he or she is classified on March 1st of the current enrollment year regardless of the time of year he or she enrolls in 4-H. A member does not advance in 4-H grade until he or she enrolls in 4-H for the subsequent school year. Each member should enroll in the division of a project that would best suit his/her interest and potential for personal growth and would enhance their family involvement.

3. Opportunities in the 4-H program are available to all Indiana youth, regardless of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, or disability. Married young men and women of 4-H age are eligible to participate in any 4-H project or activity. However, married persons must join by the same terms and conditions and/or guidelines as unmarried participants. Membership in 4-H is gained by annually enrolling through a Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service Office located in each of Indiana's 92 counties.

4. The 4-H club year is continuous and extends from one annual 4-H exhibit to the next. Enrollment is an annual process that is completed by following the appropriate county 4-H enrollment procedure. An exhibitor must advance to the following year in a divisional project unless they did not complete the previous year or stated otherwise in specific project requirements.
6. The grade requirements for Junior Leadership are grades 7 and 12. A member must have completed one year of 4-H club work to serve as an officer in Junior Leaders.
7. The grade requirements for Judging, Demonstrations, Fashion Revue, 4-H Round-Up, State 4-H Junior Leaders Conference, and any other contest or event conducted by the State 4-H or extension staff shall be the same as those established at the state level.
8. County 4-H policy is determined by the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc., with the advice of local Adult 4-H Leaders, County Extension Educators, State 4-H Staff, and others interested in the program.
9. Award winners for various trips and awards, such as Round-Up, State Junior Leaders Conference, and State Fair Youth School, should be selected by the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc.
10. To exhibit at the fair, a member is encouraged to participate in local meetings of each club to which they belong or participate in authorized 4-H activities, such as county tours, demonstrations, workshops, and judging, subject to approval by the adult leader and the Extension Office if you choose not to exhibit a project, a completed record sheet is accepted as proof of project completion and must be submitted during pre-fair judging. (Except for projects judged before the 4-H Fair.)
11. It is the policy of the Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service that all persons shall have equal opportunity and access to its programs and facilities without regard to race, color, sex, religion, national origin, age, or disability.

4-H EXHIBIT RULES

1. Interpretation of any term or condition, policy, code of ethics, or prohibited activities contained in the Howard County 4-H Project Summary including the assessment of any violation and/or penalty to be imposed against a 4-H member shall involve the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc. or designee, 4-H superintendent and/or project leaders, and the Extension Educator.
2. Competition in 4-H classes is limited to 4-H Club members enrolled in the Howard County 4-H program. Only Howard County 4-H members may show or hold another member's exhibit.
3. 4-H members will not be allowed on the fairgrounds after midnight, as per the order of the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc.
4. No 4-H project may be advertised for sale by posting by any member during the 4-H Fair. No advertisement of any kind is allowed without the authorization of the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc.
5. ALL judges' names will be concealed until June 15th and will NOT be released before that time.
6. Project exhibits must comply with the exhibit requirements outlined in the Project Summary and the State Fair book. If project requirements are not met, the exhibitor will receive one (1) ribbon placing lower. Exhibits that may become soiled should be covered with a transparent material.

7. All poster exhibits must be covered with plastic or transparent material (excluding Saran Wrap) unless specified otherwise in the project rules. All other projects are optional. All posters must have a stiff backing, such as plywood, heavy corrugated cardboard, or foam board, to support them and must be displayed horizontally with dimensions of 22" x 28" unless otherwise specified. Posters may be of any color. An exhibit card supplied by the office must be placed in the lower right-hand corner.
8. A 4-H member must do their own work as specified in the project outlines.
9. Regardless of the 4-H member's age, ALL 4-H Record Sheets must be signed by their parent, grandparent, guardian, 4-H Adult Leader, and/or helper.
10. A record sheet may be used for project completion if unable to exhibit. (Livestock, Event, Static)
11. Project exhibits may only be entered during the designated entry time(s) or open drop-off times for each project. It is the responsibility of the 4-H member to make arrangements to get their exhibit entered during the designated time for each project. Projects not entered during the designated time for that project will be dropped one ribbon.
12. Projects in the metal and block buildings WILL NOT be released until the designated time. Projects not picked up during the designated time WILL be disposed of by extension staff and/or 4-H program volunteers.
13. If any person removes a building exhibit from the fairgrounds before the designated release time of that project, they will not be allowed to show at the state fair that year and/or will be barred from exhibiting that project at the county fair for one year.
14. All entries will receive ribbons. Champion and reserve champion ribbons will be awarded at the discretion of the judge. To be eligible to receive a champion or reserve champion ribbon, the exhibit must first earn a blue ribbon.
15. In projects where state fair entries are selected, the state fair entries will be selected first from the champion(s), then from the reserve champion(s), and subsequent ribbon levels as needed. Projects may be revised after the Howard County 4-H Fair before being taken to the state fair for entry.
16. The Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc., assumes no responsibility for damage or theft of exhibits. Exhibits should not be brought to the fair that are valuable or irreplaceable in nature.
17. Any article that has been exhibited at a previous Howard County 4-H Fair is ineligible to compete again unless expressly stated otherwise.
18. The judge must, if an exhibitor or their agent makes any attempt to interfere with or influence the judge's decision, report the fact at once to the superintendent and/or extension educator.
19. An exhibitor who removes a premium ribbon or authorizes another person to do so in the presence of the judge or shall in any manner insult the judge shall forfeit all premiums, be excluded from exhibiting, and the 4-H Exhibit Association may impose any additional penalties it deems appropriate.
20. Judges are not required to award prizes to unworthy exhibits, regardless of whether there is competition or not. Judges are NOT required to award honors, champions, or state fair entries. When there is only one exhibit in a class, the award will be given based on the judge's evaluation of the exhibit's quality. All decisions made by 4-H judges are final.
21. Observance of all rules governing the exhibit is required. When in doubt about the application of a rule, the superintendent shall clarify its meaning. When required by either the exhibitor or judge, this opinion must be reduced to writing and returned with the award book to the office.

22. Most pre-fair judging is done by using the open judging concept. This allows the 4-H member time to talk one-on-one with the judge. After this initial step is completed, the judge will proceed with selecting champions, reserves, and state fair entries.

23. Violation of 4-H rules by 4-H members and/or families may result in suspension or other penalties as outlined in the Determination of Violation of Rules and Regulations section.

DEADLINES AND PARTICIPATION

Deadlines: Proper compliance with established, stated, and published final dates and deadlines is considered an appropriate expectation of 4-H membership. Submitting things on time and following the rules are essential components of the 4-H learning experience and are considered reasonable expectations. Individuals who fail to comply with these expectations may forfeit awards and privileges. This is especially true in animal projects, where animal ownership, raising, and identification are specific requirements as part of the project. Members not complying with established and published dates and deadlines for exhibition may be denied exhibition privileges and awards for that project.

Participation: Attendance and active participation at 4-H meetings are highly encouraged as part of the overall educational experience. However, attendance or participation at club meetings cannot be required as criteria for project completion.

EXHIBITION - COMPLETION - BEHAVIORAL CRITERIA

Exhibition:

Exhibiting 4-H projects in local, county, or state exhibits and fairs is considered a privilege and is voluntary on the part of the exhibitor. The exhibition of 4-H projects offers 4-H members the opportunity to showcase their projects, participate in wholesome competition, and enjoy an educational and social environment alongside their peers. The privilege of the exhibition also comes with the responsibility of adhering to all the rules applicable to the respective 4-H project. Failing to follow the established rules of the project will be grounds for exclusion from the competition and exhibition.

Completion:

Completing a 4-H project does not necessarily require an exhibition of the project at the county or state fair.

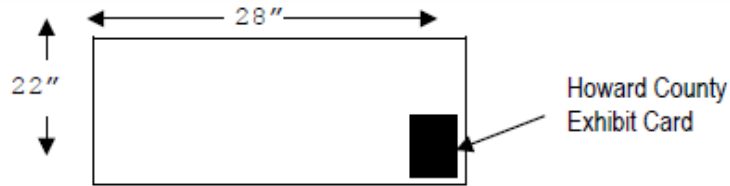
Behavioral Criteria:

As members of the Indiana 4-H Youth Development Program, Howard County 4-H members are expected to conduct themselves with courtesy and respect. They should demonstrate good sportsmanship and reasonable conflict management skills. Members must refrain from any actions that could obstruct or disrupt 4-H activities or compromise the maintenance of appropriate order and discipline. Additionally, they should discourage others from engaging in such behaviors.

Members are encouraged to embrace diversity among all youth and adult participants, ensuring that everyone feels welcome and included in the 4-H Youth Development Program. They should take responsibility for representing 4-H with dignity and pride, serving as positive role models, and promoting the program to help develop a strong county, state, and national program.

4-H POSTER & NOTEBOOK REQUIREMENTS

1. Each exhibit must have a Howard County Exhibit Card. Space should be left in the lower right-hand corner to place an exhibit card provided by Purdue Extension staff.
2. Posters are to be 22" x 28" and displayed horizontally with a stiff backing, and placed in a clear plastic sleeve or covered with clear plastic to protect contents.



3. Any material may be used for posters such as poster board, canvas, or any similar material that is appropriate for project.
4. The stiff backing required may be plywood, heavy corrugated cardboard, or foam core board.
5. All poster exhibits must be covered with plastic or transparent material (no plastic food wrap) unless noted otherwise under project rules. All other projects are optional.
6. All posters, notebooks, and 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. It is recommended this reference list be attached to the back of a poster or display board, be the last page of a notebook, or be included as part of the display visible to the public. A judge is not to discredit an exhibit for the way references are listed.

*** If the above requirements are not met, the exhibit will be dropped one ribbon at time of judging.

Suggestions

A good poster:

- attracts attention
- is simple and clear

When forming ideas for your poster:

- know the project requirements
- read the manual to look for ideas
- brainstorm ideas and make a list
- think of title with alliteration (repeating a sound in words)
- look at other posters for ideas but don't copy

Tips to remember:

- don't use too many words
- use a combination of illustrations and words
- be neat
- cut evenly, apply adhesive carefully, blend colors when using crayons or colored pencils
- leave white space on the poster
- make sure the poster is balanced

Foam core boards, clear plastic poster sleeves, and photography salon sleeves are available for purchase at the Howard County Extension Office.

4-H LIVESTOCK EXHIBIT RULES

Barn Superintendent:

1. All members must select their animal projects by May 15th in 4H Online. The animal identification deadline is May 15 unless otherwise noted in the individual species section of the project summary. Any animal not added to 4H Online by the required date will be withheld from the Howard County Fair and is ineligible for the Indiana State Fair. No switching or adding of animals after the enrollment date is allowed.
2. To exhibit any BEEF CATTLE, DAIRY CATTLE, SWINE, SHEEP, MEAT GOATS, DAIRY GOATS, POULTRY, and RABBITS, 4-H members must be certified through the Indiana 4-H Quality Livestock Care (QLC) training OR the online Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program (YQCA) before the check-in process for their animal. Any 4-H member not certified in QLC or YQCA by the time of animal check-in will be ineligible to participate in the Howard County Fair.
3. All members must have completed entries in Fair Entry by June 15th.
4. If a 4-H member can't keep enrolled animals on their farm, they may keep their animals elsewhere.
5. All animals must be owned by the 4-H member or owned in partnership, either entirely or in part, before the enrollment date and continuously until the show date. All breeding animals must be registered to participate in a recognized breed class and must present their registration papers. Crossbred breeding animals are not registered. Dairy animals may be registered or graded. 4-H animals in 4-H breeding classes will NOT be accepted at the state fair that is registered in a father's name only, farm name only, or partnerships with unrelated persons such as, "Smith View", "Smith Oak", "John Doe and William Smith", "Long Oak & William Smith", etc. Acceptable registrations for showing at state fair are: 1) in the 4-H member's name, 2) John Smith & Sons, 3) John Smith, Sons & Daughters, 4) John Smith & Family (sons, daughters and legal guardian youth only), 5) family corporations where the 4-H member's name appears as a holder of stock in the corporation, and proof of same must be supplied on or before the enrollment date, 6) family partnerships where only the 4-H's father, mother, brother, sister, aunt, uncle, grandparent and/or legal name appears on the legal, notarized partnership. Proof of same must be supplied on or before 5:00 P.M. the day preceding the show. Ownership of dairy animals at the state fair will follow the 1984 ownership rule, including any partnerships. Horse and Pony members should use the lease agreement form, available from the Extension Office, if they are leasing their animal, and submit it to the Extension Office.
6. All animals intended for exhibition or display at the Howard County Fair must be in good health and physical condition before being unloaded or shown at the fair. If the superintendent is concerned about the animal's health, he/she has the right to obtain an opinion from a veterinarian and the Extension Educator. If the animal is deemed to be in poor physical condition, the exhibitor will be asked to remove it from the fair or show.
7. The superintendent of each species will assign livestock pen spaces. The Extension Educator will approve all plans made by each superintendent for the current Howard County 4-H Fair.
8. If livestock cannot arrive at the fair at the designated check-in time, the barn superintendent and educator may receive a written request for a special variance.
9. After the animals are checked in at the fair for exhibition, they cannot be loaded onto a trailer at any time unless they leave the fairgrounds with prior approval of the 4-H Educator or 4-H staff.
10. Using hotshots or similar devices on livestock before or during the livestock shows is prohibited.

11. Proper animal care is expected from all livestock exhibitors. The member will receive a warning if the livestock superintendent determines that the stalls or pens are unfit. If they're still not cleaned up after the warning, the livestock superintendent and Extension Office staff may ask them to leave the premises.
12. Livestock should not be given anything deemed illegal to enhance performance. This includes abiding by the established drug withdrawal times, illicit drugs, or pumping. If it is determined that an animal owned by a 4-H member violates these guidelines, the 4-H member will be disqualified and forfeit all awards for the project in question. (See penalty #1 in Determination of Violation of Rules & Regulations.)
13. Club members having an entry in livestock classes must show their own animals unless: 1. exhibitor is ill, 2. exhibitor has more than one entry in the same class, 3. an emergency has arisen (An emergency is an unforeseen situation that arises and makes it impractical or impossible to expect the exhibitor, in fairness, to show the animal or animals. Conflicts in extra-curricular schedules, activities, and events are not emergencies.). In an emergency, the Project Superintendent, the Executive Committee of the Exhibit Association, and the Extension Educator must all approve. In the preceding cases only, the exhibitor may have the animal shown by another Howard County 4-H Club member but must have approval from the superintendents in charge of the class where the animal(s) is/are shown.
14. Any given beef, dairy, horses, ponies, goats, sheep, and swine MAY NOT be enrolled by more than one 4-H member except for brothers and sisters.
15. A 4-H member should exhibit his/her animal at the 4-H fair to complete the project. If they choose not to show an animal, a completed record sheet will be accepted to complete the project.
16. Due to congestion at the unloading docks during different animal check-in times, livestock exhibitors are not permitted to use wash racks while livestock is being entered. This excludes the goat members due to their show times. (Please refer to the fair schedule for clarification regarding check-in times.)
17. Animals may not be washed outside the wash racks; they must only be washed inside the wash rack.
18. Each 4-H exhibitor will be allowed to have one grooming chute/stand in the barn before show day. Chutes and stands must be set up within the provided stall space. Any additional chutes/stands may be brought in for show day only. Chutes and stands will not be allowed in the aisles at any time.
19. All livestock must be fitted inside the barn or within 75 feet of the livestock pavilion. No animals shall be permitted beyond the 75 feet.
20. Livestock aisles must remain clear except for show boxes.
21. Entry procedures for the 4-H livestock shows will be communicated closer to the fair date.
22. Registration papers on all breeding livestock will be required when checking in at the fair. If papers are not presented at the weigh-in, animals will be shown in the crossbred class.
23. NO ONE except the 4-H member and his/her animals will be allowed in the make-up ring or show ring during the show, along with parents, superintendents, volunteers with approved paperwork, and other officials with the superintendent's approval/discretion.
24. Animals purchased, sold, or offered for sale after the animal enrollment deadline and before the Indiana State Fair are not eligible to be shown in the 4-H show at the Indiana State Fair.
25. 4-H animals are to be in the personal possession and regular care of the 4-H member who owns/leases them from the animal enrollment deadline until the county's conclusion unless other arrangements have been agreed upon by the county 4-H Exhibit Association. Lease agreement forms are required.
26. Howard County 4-H livestock shows are not sanctioned and are not to be registered as such unless otherwise stated and voted by the Livestock Committee.

LIVESTOCK AUCTION RULES

Barn Superintendent:

1. All livestock sold at the auction are released on the day of sale, which is Thursday. All beef, sheep, swine, goats, pigeons, rabbits, and poultry not in the auction are released 30 minutes after the completion of their respective show.
2. A 4-H member is limited to one entry in the 4-H livestock auction. Therefore, he/she may sell 1 barrow, 1 gilt, 1 steer, 1 market lamb, 1 goat wether, 1 rabbit meat pen, 1 poultry exhibit, or 1 quart of goat's milk.
3. Barrows, steers, and market lambs will be sold per pound. Goat wethers, goat milk, rabbits, and poultry exhibits will be sold as announced by the auctioneer.
4. A 4-H member must show their animal in the respective show to be eligible to sell that animal in the 4-H auction unless otherwise approved according to Rule #8 (livestock rules). The animal must be shown in a regular specie class. Showmanship classes do not count as being shown in the respective species show.
5. A 4-H member must sell his/her own animal unless: 1. exhibitor is ill or 2. an emergency situation has arisen. An emergency is an unforeseen situation that arises and makes it impractical or impossible for the exhibitor, in fairness, to sell the animal. Conflicts in extra-curricular schedules, activities, and events are not emergencies.) In the event of an emergency, approval must be obtained from the project superintendent, the barn superintendent, and the Extension Educator. In the preceding cases only, the exhibitor may have the animal sold by another Howard County 4-H Club member but must have approval from the 4-H Extension Educator.
6. The sale weight of steers, barrows, and wethers will be the same as the weigh-in weight used to determine classes. (Except for overweight barrows or gilts weighing over 290 pounds, which will be sold for 290 pounds regardless of their actual weight.)
7. Auction entries will be submitted to the Extension Educator by 8:00 PM on Wednesday in the office of the Lead Center. Failure to submit an entry will result in the forfeiture of auction placement, and the animal will be sold at the end of its species category.
8. All species will be sold in the following order: Overall Grand Champion, Overall Reserve Grand Champion, 10-year members in each species, 10-year members overall, and then randomly. A member may only sell as Grand Champion or Reserve Grand Champion if selling the animal that won. Breed Champions will be recognized aloud during the sale.
9. To be eligible to sell early in the auction line-up for having a breed champion, the 4-H member MUST sell the animal they received the honor with.
10. The animals will sell in the following order:
 - a. 2025: rabbits, beef, sheep, goats, poultry, swine
 - b. 2026: poultry, rabbits, beef, sheep, goats, swine
 - c. 2027: sheep, goats, poultry, rabbits, beef, swine
 - d. 2028: goats, poultry, rabbits, beef, sheep, swine
11. It is highly recommended that all 4-H members exhibiting livestock wear appropriate clothing while showing their animals, which includes closed-toe shoes. Please see the Recommended 4-H Livestock Show Attire publication.
12. Every animal or item sold at the Howard County 4-H Auction will not be returned to the exhibitor or their family. Any item not wanted by the buyer will become the property of the Greentown Lions Club Auction Committee.
13. A 4-H member owns the animal until it is announced sold by the auctioneer. The animal then becomes the property of the buyer.

14. After the buyer indicates what is to be done with the animal, it must be immediately loaded or leave the fairgrounds.
15. Any violation of the above rule will result in the involved family being banned from showing that project the following year(s).
16. 4-H animals sold or offered for sale privately or at public auction after the enrollment deadline are not eligible for future 4-H shows.
17. 4-H members whose animal may be determined to have violated guidelines regarding withdrawal times of antibiotics or the use of illegal substances may be subject to penalties as outlined in the Determination or Violation of Rules and Regulations of the Howard County 4-H program.
18. There is a market check-off program for many species that requires the seller to contribute. This applies to 4-H fair livestock auctions. In order to keep from charging a fee or having a deduction from the check of 4-H members selling livestock in the Howard County Auction, the Auction Committee of the Greentown Lions Club has agreed to pay these charges.

RECOMMENDED 4-H LIVESTOCK SHOW ATTIRE

Livestock exhibitors are strongly urged to dress in a manner appropriate to show livestock. Recommended proper attire for 4-H livestock exhibitors to wear when exhibiting livestock in the show ring would include:

- Button down shirts, golf shirts or shirts with a collar (tucked in when exhibiting livestock animals)
- Jeans or long pants
- Belts
- Closed-toed shoes (work boots or work shoes to protect feet are preferred, if possible)

It is suggested exhibitors not wear tank tops, T-shirts (other than those approved by the club), midriiffs, halter tops, baggy pants, tops with spaghetti straps, shorts, cut offs, sandals, or tennis shoes. The judge may use these guidelines as criteria for final placing. No clothing may be worn by an exhibitor that identifies farm name and/or breed during judged competition.

RECOMMENDED



NOT RECOMMENDED



HOWARD COUNTY SHOWMANSHIP GUIDELINES

1. Each showmanship participant must show an animal that they own or own in partnership and has been shown in a previous class or will be shown during the show that day. Showmanship classes are based on the member's grade at the enrollment deadline. Once an exhibitor has won a champion showman award in any one division, they may not compete in that same division again. Still, they must continue to the next higher division of that specie. Once in the highest showmanship division of the specie, the member will remain in that division. The Rabbit Ambassador Contest and Showmanship champions will not advance to the subsequent higher division. Exhibitors may compete in only one showmanship division.
2. It is recommended that showmanship classes be held at the end of each specie contest unless otherwise designated.
3. Showmanship divisions for all species will be as follows:
Beginner – exhibitors in grade 3
Junior – exhibitors in grades 4 and 5
Intermediate – exhibitors in grades 6 through 8
Senior – exhibitors in grades 9 through 12

SUPREME SHOWMAN:

1. Supreme showmanship will consist of cattle, goats, horses, sheep, and swine. The variety of goats used for the Supreme Showman contest will be decided by the goat superintendent and Extension Educator by 6 pm on the first day of the fair, Monday. Cattle designation will be made upon the selection of the winner of Senior Showmanship and the number of animals participating in the show. Refer to the dairy rules regarding the entry number.
2. The Champion Senior Showman of cattle, goats, horse & pony, sheep, and swine are eligible to participate.
3. If a member is selected as Champion Senior Showman in more than one species, that member will decide which species they wish to represent. The member will have one (1) hour from the completion of the sheep show to inform the Extension Educator which species they choose to represent in the Supreme Showmanship competition. In the species the 4-H member chooses not to represent, the runner as selected by the judge will represent that specie.
4. Each member will show one animal from each of the five (5) species. Each member will draw a number from a random number generator. The number they draw pairs them with that corresponding animal. The member representing the breed to be shown will draw first. Drawing will continue in numerical order from that person's number forward.
5. The superintendents of each species will select five (5) animals of nearly equal size and disposition. The animals will not belong to any of the five (5) showmen. Dairy cattle will not be selected if there are fewer than five animals not owned by one of the Supreme Showmanship entrants and meeting the Dairy Cattle Guidelines.
6. Each member will have a tag with a unique number used solely for identification purposes.
7. POINTS: The showmen are ranked in each species by 1, 2, 3, 4, or 5. The showman with the lowest score is determined the winner. The lowest possible score is 5, and the highest possible score is 25. If there is a tie, it shall be broken as follows:
The first tiebreaker is the number of first-place finishes received during the competition.
The second tiebreaker is the number of second-place finishes received during the competition.
8. The judge's decision is final.
9. It is the responsibility of each member to obtain their own show equipment.
10. A winner of the Howard County 4-H Supreme Showmanship Contest is not restricted from participating in the contest in subsequent years.

INDIANA STATE FAIR 4-H ENTRY INFORMATION

NON-LIVESTOCK PROJECTS

A letter will be given to 4-H members with state fair-eligible projects, indicating the procedures for entry. We highly recommend transporting and picking up your project if it is fragile, large, or valuable. We take all possible precautions to avoid any loss or damage, but we do not accept liability for any loss or damage to articles. The 4-H Extension Staff will arrange to take MOST non-livestock projects to the state fair.

EXCEPTION: Large or fragile exhibits and flower arrangements are the responsibility of the 4-H member to transport to the state fair unless otherwise specified by the Howard County Extension Office.

Please contact the Extension Office if you plan to transport your own exhibit. 4-H'ers must obtain exhibitor tags from the Extension Office. A 4-H member may make improvements to a state fair entry before it is displayed at the state fair.

INDIANA STATE FAIR ENROLLMENT

The enrollment of 4-H animals in the Indiana State Fair consists of the following procedures:

The state 4-H animal enrollment process must be followed for beef, sheep, swine, dairy, goats, and horse and pony projects to be eligible for exhibit at the Indiana State Fair. It is the 4-H'ers' responsibility to obtain information on this process from the County Extension Office, complete the animal enrollment process by the deadline date, and return any necessary information or forms to the County Extension Office by the same deadline. Animal enrollment process deadlines vary with the species of livestock. The deadlines are:

- Beef and Dairy Steers (born in the year prior) – May 15th
- Beef Heifer and Beef Feeder/Starter Calves – May 15th
- Horse & Pony – May 15th
- Dairy, Dairy Steers (born in year being shown), Swine, Sheep, and Goats – May 15th

Any 4-H member may exhibit livestock at the Indiana State Fair provided enrollment and entry requirements are met.

DETERMINATION OF VIOLATION OF RULES & REGULATIONS

If a violation of any rule or regulation is suspected, an Extension staff member and/or the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association president shall be notified. The Executive Committee of the Howard County Exhibit Association shall make an initial determination as to whether a violation of any rule or regulation established for the 4-H program has occurred before, during, or after judging.

The Executive Committee of the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc. shall, upon determining that a violation has occurred, decide the appropriate penalty to impose on the violating person(s). The Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc. may choose to impose one, all, or a combination of the following penalties.

PENALTIES:

1. The exhibitor is disqualified and forfeits all awards for the project in question.
2. Any or all fair awards won by an exhibitor in any fair activities shall be withdrawn and returned to the fair.
3. The exhibitor and/or their immediate family will be barred from competition at the fair for up to three (3) years.
4. The exhibit will not be sold in the 4-H auction.
5. In the case of an exhibit that has already been sold at the 4-H auction, the exhibitor shall refund and return all sale proceeds exceeding market value to the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc. At the discretion of the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association Inc., the money will be returned to the buyer or otherwise donated to the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc.
6. The Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc. may impose any other appropriate penalty.

NOTE: The placements of other exhibits will not be adjusted due to the penalty.

GRIEVANCE

The grievance procedures outlined in this document are utilized as part of an internal process of the Howard County 4-H Youth Development program when grievances of 4-H members, their parents/guardians, or 4-H volunteers cannot be resolved through reasonable conversation. This policy provides an opportunity for individuals to have their voices or opinions heard in situations where there is a dispute regarding 4-H participation, activities, or programs. It is important to note that this procedure is not intended for complaints against individual 4-H members (or their families), 4-H volunteers, judging officials for competitive events, or Purdue Extension staff. All decisions resulting from the grievance process will be made in alignment with the mission of the Indiana 4-H Program to be an inclusive organization designed to encourage and maximize youth participation. The rights of the individual filing the grievance are limited to those provided by the Howard County 4-H Program policy in accordance with Indiana 4-H standards.

Purdue University, as the Land Grant University in Indiana, is entrusted by the United States Department of Agriculture with implementing the 4-H Program in communities across the state, including Howard County.

Purdue Extension Educators in Howard County serve as the university's representatives within local communities and are responsible for ensuring that all 4-H volunteers meet basic university criteria in their roles. These educators also oversee 4-H volunteers, ensuring that Indiana 4-H Policies and Procedures are effectively implemented in program delivery.

It is essential for Howard County 4-H to create and review individual county policies and procedures to ensure they do not contradict established statewide 4-H guidelines. Should any contradictions arise during the grievance process, the Indiana 4-H Program policy will take precedence in determining the outcome of the grievance.

Grievances must be filed by completing the Indiana 4-H Grievance/Appeal form, with the burden of proof resting on the individual submitting the grievance. The completed form and any supporting documentation should be presented to the president of the 4-H policy-making body (e.g., the 4-H Council) or the Purdue Extension Educator involved with the 4-H Program. It is important to note that grievances concerning staff, volunteers, members, or other individuals are not suitable for this grievance process, as concerns regarding these individuals should be addressed directly with the Purdue 4-H Extension Educator.

Grievances related to 4-H activities, programs, or projects must be filed within 14 days of the incident. For county fair-related issues, grievances are often time-sensitive and must be submitted within 24 hours of the incident. The grievance process within Howard County offers two levels for a concern to be heard and reviewed. Initially, the grievance is heard by an unbiased, representative grievance sub-committee composed of approved 4-H Volunteers. The Purdue Extension Educator assigned to 4-H Programming will work annually with the chair of the county 4-H Council to determine the committee's membership, which shall consist of 3-6 individuals from the following groups: one representative of the 4-H Council; two 4-H volunteers serving as organizational leaders of 4-H clubs; one member of the County Extension Board; one knowledgeable 4-H volunteer in the subject matter (project) of concern; one youth representative; and up to three community leaders. The Purdue Extension Educator assigned to 4-H will convene the committee.

If the person filing a grievance wishes to appeal a decision made by the 4-H Grievance Committee, they may do so to the State 4-H Program Leader. The Program Leader or their designee will review the facts presented and render a decision, which represents the second and final level in the appeal process.

The intention of having a two-level grievance process is to ensure that different individuals have the opportunity to hear and act on grievances. It is crucial for everyone involved at any stage of the grievance procedure to maintain confidentiality regarding the discussions of grievances.

To uphold the confidentiality of the parties concerned, the grievance hearings at both levels will be closed to the public. Only the individuals filing grievances, the members of the Grievance Committee, and the Purdue Extension Educators will be permitted to attend each level of the grievance process. The grievance process is designed to remain internal to the Howard County 4-H Youth Development Program, and meetings of the grievance committees are not subject to Indiana's Open-Door Policy.

The Purdue Extension Educator assigned to work with the 4-H Program is responsible for informing all parties about the grievance procedure in cases of policy disagreements. Additionally, the practice of charging fees for filing grievances will be eliminated, ensuring that all counties, including Howard County, utilize the grievance process without financial barriers.

APPEALS FROM DECISIONS OF JUDGES OR SUPERINTENDENTS

1. The right of an exhibitor to appeal a judge's or superintendent's decision will exist only when it is alleged that the award was made in violation of the rules governing the exhibit or when it is claimed that the judge's decision was influenced or interfered with by another.
2. Appeals from the decision of a judge or director in charge must be made in writing. They must contain at least one specific charge, stating in detail the facts relied upon or the rule violated and naming the witnesses and their addresses by whom proof is to be provided.
3. The appellant must provide verbal notice to the Extension Educator of 4-H Youth Development within 2 hours of the livestock judging. For building projects, verbal notice must be given to the Extension Educator of 4-H Youth Development by 8:00 PM Monday of the fair. The written appeal, as described in section 2 above, must be received within 24 hours of the judging being appealed.
4. The superintendent (or their designee) shall notify the exhibitor in writing within 15 days of receiving the appeal as to the findings and actions resulting therefrom.
5. The exhibitor shall have the due process rights consistent with those stated in the due process section.

4-H PROGRAM DUE PROCESS AND RIGHT OF APPEAL

1. The president or designee of the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc. shall notify the person in writing of the violation and the penalty imposed.
2. A person may appeal a decision in writing to the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc., within 15 days of receiving written notification from the Grievance Committee.
3. Within 15 days of receiving a written appeal, the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc. may rescind its initial determination. The person shall have no further remedy available upon the rescission of the initial determination. In short, the case would be closed.
4. If the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc. does not rescind the initial determination within 15 days from the date of appeal, a hearing to address the appeal will be scheduled by the president of the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc. The person shall be notified in writing of the date.
5. The president of the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc. shall conduct the hearing with the members of the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc.
6. Within 15 days of the conclusion of the hearing, the president of the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc. shall submit the findings or final determination regarding the reported violation(s), penalties, and the person's appeal to the person involved.
7. If, within 15 days of receiving the written decision from the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association, Inc., the person deems the hearing to be unreasonable and imprudent, they may submit a final written appeal to the Howard County Purdue Cooperative Extension Board.
8. A date will be set for a hearing by the Howard County Purdue Cooperative Extension Board, and the person shall be notified in writing.
9. Any appeal beyond the Howard County Purdue Cooperative Extension Board deemed necessary by the person would need to be filed in a court of law.

ACTIVITIES

PERFORMING ARTS (formerly Share the Fun): This is an opportunity for 4-H members or groups of members to display their creative talents on stage. Acts can range from singing and dancing to skits, pantomime, or magic. The winning acts from the county competition have the opportunity to compete in the Area 8 contest, usually held in early May. The contest is divided into 3 categories:

1. Group Acts

Number of performers: five (5) or more

Time: 5 to 8 minutes

Types of acts include skits, choral numbers, dance routines, lip sync, and more.

2. Non-Musical Curtain Acts

Number of performers: one (1) to four (4)

Time: 3 to 5 minutes

Types of acts include skits, magic, cheerleading routines, dancing, lip-syncing, juggling, and more.

3. Musical Curtain Acts

Number of performers: one (1) to four (4)

Time: 3 to 5 minutes

Types of acts include instrumental (such as piano, flute, and guitar), vocal, and bands, among others.

4-H & FFA CAREER DEVELOPMENT EVENTS: Anyone who can size up a situation, consider its different angles, and reach a sound decision about what needs to be done is usually recognized and accepted as a leader. Judging develops leadership in this way. Career Development Events (CDEs or judging events) are an essential part of 4-H and an effective way to train 4-H members to recognize and identify quality agricultural products, as well as answer questions or solve problems related to agricultural subjects. Judging helps to teach decision-making skills. 4-H members may participate as individuals or as members of a team. If you are interested, contact your leader or the Extension Office.

Contests are held for the following areas of interest: Crops, Dairy, Horticulture, Soils, Entomology, Livestock, Forestry, Meat Identification, and Dairy Foods. Further information is available in the 4-H/FFA Ag Judging Handbook, 4-H 98, which can be obtained from the Extension Office.

- Senior individual members and top (1) blue-merit senior team members, at the judges' discretion. Trip winners must be of blue merit quality.
- A county may have no more than three (3) entries in each category.
- Masters Category rabbit and poultry members at the judges' discretion. Trip winners must be of blue merit quality.

AWARDS

FARM BUREAU TENURE AWARDS (10-Year and Senior 4-H Members Only): The Indiana Farm Bureau, Inc. and Farm Bureau Insurance Companies sponsor this award to encourage 4-H members to remain active in 4-H club activities. Two 4-H members per county are honored annually. Selection is based on years of membership in 4-H, the number of projects completed, and 4-H achievements. These awards are presented during the county fair.

COMPLETION PINS: These pins are given to 4-H members upon completing their year's work in 4-H. Howard County Farm Bureau sponsors the pins, which are distributed upon the return of their ribbons, awards, paperwork, and books.

ELECTRIC AWARDS: The State 4-H Electric Program Committee presents several awards to 4-H electric project members each year. The REMCs and public utilities jointly finance these awards.

TRIPS/WORKSHOPS

4-H CAMP (Grades 3-6): This fun activity is being held in June. 4-H members in grades 3 through 6 are eligible to participate in Camp Tecumseh activities, which include swimming, canoeing, singing, cookouts, crafts, nature exploration, and more. 4-H members from Howard County can meet 4-H members from other counties.

Applications and health forms are available at the Extension Office. Limited space is available and will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Any Junior Leader in grade 9 or higher may apply as a camp counselor.

4-H ACADEMY AT PURDUE: These workshops are held annually in June at Purdue University. The available areas are listed below but are subject to addition or deletion. Contact the County Extension Office for more information.

- **ANIMAL SCIENCE (Grades 9–12):** Learn the scientific principles of Animal Sciences, increase awareness of Animal Industry issues, and explore career opportunities in animal agriculture.
 - Animal Bio-Science
 - Animal Health
 - Food Animal 1 (beef, dairy, sheep, and goat)
 - Food Animal 2 (swine, poultry, and rabbit)
 - Horse and Companion Animal (horse, dog, cat, llama, and zoo animals)
- **CITIZENSHIP IN 4-H: START LOCAL...GO GLOBAL! (Grades 9-12)** How do local and state governments work? How can I impact issues that are important to me? What international opportunities are available through 4-H and beyond? Learn answers to these and other questions in the 4-H Citizenship Workshop. Included will be the chance to debate in a county council format.
- **ENTREPRENEURSHIP:** Do you have a business or product idea but aren't sure how to get started? This workshop will help you make connections and introduce you to the world of entrepreneurship. Spend three days at Purdue interacting with world-class faculty and staff as you develop and plan the next great Indiana business.
- **FOOD SCIENCE & NUTRITION SCIENCE (Grades 9–12):** Learn about the science and nutrition of food from "Farm to Fork"! Participants will explore various aspects of food production, processing, preparation, and consumption. They will also learn where our food comes from, how to reduce food waste, and preparation techniques for local produce.
- **HEALTHY LIVING (Grades 9 – 12)**
 - Exploring Health Care Careers: Students participate in field trips and hands-on activities related to nursing, emergency medical services, athletic training, and other healthcare fields. Students will also become CPR-certified!
 - Introduction to Emergency Medical Services (EMS): Students become CPR-certified and learn through hands-on activities, including scene size-up, patient assessment, rescue techniques, scene preservation, radio procedures, and tours of fire stations, emergency helicopters, and Mobile Simulation Ambulances.
- **NATURAL RESOURCE (Grades 9–12):** Explore forestry and wildlife management through hands-on activities on-site at the Purdue Forestry Center. Students will also learn about the many career opportunities in the natural resources industries.
- **PLANT SCIENCE (Grades 9–12):** Explore the world of plants, insects, bioenergy, and natural resources.
Note: Subject areas will vary annually depending on instructor availability.
- **\$HOW ME THE MONEY (Grades 9-12):** Learn the essentials of financial management from the state's best network of financial professionals. Experience a full day of Where Does Your Money Go® adventures at vendor locations in Lafayette. Learn new tools to make your financial goals become a reality!
- **SPREAD THE NEWS! (Grades 9 – 12)** Do you enjoy being the first to share important news and information with others? Do you enjoy being creative and engaging in activities such as writing, drawing, or taking photographs? Are you interested in a career in communication or journalism? If so, this workshop might be for you. Participants will use computers and cameras to develop news stories and photos for print and social media while exploring the vast array of careers for professional communicators.

- **STEM IT UP! (Grades 9 – 12)** Discover new and exciting STEM careers and their real-world applications. Delegates will discover technology's role in their lives, exposing them to various educational and career opportunities, engaging hands-on activities, and much more!

- o Computer Science
- o Electric
- o Engineering
- o Robotics
- o The Science of Flight

STATE 4-H BAND (Grades 9–12): Members must be at least entering the 9th grade. The 4-H member and the 4-H member's band director must complete specific application forms. The State 4-H Band directors make the final selection. Band members will attend an intensive workshop and perform on the last evening of the session. Contact the Extension Office for the registration deadline.

CITIZENSHIP WASHINGTON FOCUS (Grades 9 – 12): Participants must be 15 or older. This is an exciting experience for 4-H members and other youth of senior high school age to visit the nation's capital and learn more about the meaning of citizenship. Listening, learning, sharing, receiving, caring, and touring combine to foster a more profound respect and understanding for our American heritage and the U.S. government's principles, processes, and structures. The trip to Washington, D.C., will be made by Purdue charter bus. The reservation deadline through 4HOnline is March 15.

When they return home, young people acquire increased motivation and skills for dealing with contemporary social issues and for leadership in community development, government affairs, and related projects. Each delegate will participate in workshops on contemporary issues and topics, including international affairs, human relations, government, ecology and conservation, family life and dating, community development, drama and creative expression, economics, agricultural policy, leadership, and careers.

STATE 4-H CHORUS (Grades 9–12): A 4-H member and the 4-H member's chorus director must complete specific application forms. The chorus performs at Round Up and Leader's Day at the State Fair in June. Contact the Extension Office for the registration deadline.

4-H ROUND-UP (Grades 7 – 9): A three-day annual conference at Purdue University in June. The program was developed to interest approximately 1,200 4-H club members who had completed 7th, 8th, or 9th grade by June and to inspire them to continue their involvement in 4-H work. In addition, delegates may:

- Experience in in-depth' action learning'' in specific interest areas.
- Develop leadership abilities and stimulate individual growth.
- Explore educational opportunities available during college life.

STATE FAIR HALL WORKERS: 4-H Junior Leaders, ages 14—college, have the opportunity to work at the 4-H Exhibit Hall and the Ag-Horticulture Building before and during the Indiana State Fair. Responsibilities would include helping to display and supervise exhibits. Application forms are due April 1st to the state 4-H office.

INDIANA 4-H LEADERSHIP SUMMIT (Grades 7-12): This annual event is designed to:

- Create an incentive program to retain youth in grades 7 through 12 in the Indiana 4-H program.
- Offer substantial scholarship opportunities to 4-H members for their program, activities, and accomplishments.
- Provide leadership/achievement role models for young 4-H members.
- Create a focal point for the Indiana 4-H Foundation and the Indiana 4-H program.

NATIONAL 4-H CONFERENCE: Applications are available at the Extension Office. Sponsors of the trip include Indiana Extension Homemakers, Indiana Farm Bureau, Inc., Indiana 4-H Foundation, and the State 4-H Department. The objectives of this program include the following:

Help selected youth and adults reach their maximum potential by providing opportunities to participate actively in 4-H program development at the national level and beyond their state borders.

Assist states in further developing a system for involving youth, counters, and professional staff in 4-H program planning in their states.

Provide an opportunity for conference delegates to update elected and appointed government officials, national associations, donor groups, and other relevant stakeholders on current developments in 4-H programs at the national, state, and local levels.

Provide youth, volunteers, and professional staff with an opportunity to contribute to the National 4-H Program Development Committee's deliberations.

Provide a system for exchanging 4-H programming ideas among states at a national gathering of delegates from each state.

NATIONAL JUNIOR HORTICULTURE ASSOCIATION CONVENTION: Designed for students aged 15-19 who are members of NJHA, winners in horticulture judging and demonstrations, and one representative each from the following areas of NJHA: production and marketing, experimental horticulture project, environmental beautification project, achievement, and leadership. For the classification of contestants in the judging program, refer to the State 4-H/FFA Ag Judging Handbook. This is an educational trip to the annual meeting of NJHA. Most delegates will be competing in national contests while they are there. See Program of Projects and Activities published by NJHA.

NATIONAL 4-H DAIRY CONFERENCE: 4-H members enrolled in the dairy project may be nominated. Delegates will be selected based on achievement. The delegates should meet the following requirements:

- 4-H dairy members must be in grade 10 and above.
- Should have an outstanding record of 4-H accomplishments with a significant emphasis on dairy animal projects.
- Should be able to contribute to the conference and bring inspiration and information back to their home country.
- Cannot be an exhibitor in the World Dairy Expo or a participant in the National 4-H Dairy Judging Contest.
- Will not be permitted to attend this conference for a period of more than one year.
- Must provide their transportation to West Lafayette.
- Must stay throughout the entire conference.

NATIONAL 4-H YOUTH CONGRESS: Selection is based on the National 4-H Youth Congress Form, due May 1st, for those in grades nine and above. This event is held once a year with the following objectives:

- To offer new and stimulating educational experiences for 4-H members;
- To motivate 4-H members to make more significant effort and to recognize their achievements;
- To provide opportunities for industrial, agricultural, and educational leaders to contribute cooperatively to the development of young people and
- To focus public attention on the values of the 4-H program in developing competent, dedicated youth for service to a democratic society.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Local and state scholarships are available to 4-H members. Application forms and information sheets are in the Extension Office. Due dates for local and state scholarships are January 15th through August 1st.

The available scholarships are:

- Indiana 4-H Foundation Senior Year Scholarship
- Indiana 4-H Club Scholarship
- Laurenz Greene Memorial Excellence in 4-H Horticulture Scholarship
- Indiana 4-H Foundation Accomplishment Scholarship
- Howard County Extension Homemakers Scholarship
- Farm Bureau Scholarship
- Howard County 4-H Junior Leader Scholarship
- Paul Raver Scholarship

Indiana 4-H Foundation
Scholarships:



Howard County 4-H
Scholarships:



4-H CLUB T-SHIRT CONTEST

4-H clubs are invited to design a club t-shirt to be judged and displayed during the fair. Each club is limited to one entry. The winning club will be awarded a pizza party sponsored by the Howard County 4-H Exhibit Association. This is a new contest replacing the Banner Contest from previous years.

Designs will be judged on:

1. Originality
2. Visibility - is it eye catching and visible at a distance?
3. Creativity and attractiveness
4. Club name included