



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

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Wayne County

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Dear 4-H and FFA Families Enrolled in Animal / Livestock Projects,

Please read through this letter and the enclosed documents as this mailing contains important information about requirements for completing your animal / livestock project(s) as well as additional optional opportunities. This includes anyone enrolled in Beef, Dairy, Dog, Goat, Horse, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, and Swine projects. In addition to this letter and the enclosed documents please be sure to read over your animal species **Project Guidelines which are available on the Extension Office website at: go.osu.edu/animalsandlivestock.**

Quality Assurance – Required

In accordance with Ohio Department of Agriculture state rules and laws, all youth planning to exhibit any kind of animal project at the Wayne County Jr. Fair and/or the Ohio State Jr. Fair are required to complete Ohio Youth Quality Assurance annually. Please visit go.osu.edu/waynequalityassurance for more information including dates, and times.

All youth enrolled in animal / livestock projects must complete their Ohio Youth Quality Assurance training no less than 45 days prior to the opening date of the exhibition in which they will show, which for the Wayne County Jr. Fair is July 24th but would be earlier if you plan to exhibit and show at the Ohio State Fair.

All horse exhibitors will be required to complete the Equistep Course on Carmen Canvas for quality assurance completion. If horse youth also show livestock, youth must also complete another livestock QA session. Please visit go.osu.edu/equistep2024 to complete the Equistep Course.

Animal Identification – Required

The Ohio Department of Agriculture requires certain information to be submitted that identifies all possible animals (primary and backup) that a 4-H or FFA member could exhibit at the Wayne County Jr. Fair and/or the Ohio State Jr. Fair. **This information must be input and uploaded into 4-H Online Animals section for all types of animal / livestock projects including Market Chickens, Ducks and Rabbits by June 1st.** Siblings are permitted to share family back up animals – however, all animals must be entered under each youth exhibitor's 4-H Online Animal ID profile to be eligible for the youth to show at the fair.

Please read over and review our Wayne County 4-H Animal ID Help Sheets for each type of animal you are planning to exhibit. Our help sheets break down which pieces of information, forms, and photos are required for Wayne County. Also, please note that market swine and feeder calves must be tagged with a Wayne County Fair Tag. Tags are currently available to be picked up from the Wayne County Extension Office during normal business hours Monday through Friday 8 am – 4:30 p.m.

Wayne Co. Animal ID Step by Step Instructions and Help Sheets are available on our website at: wayne.osu.edu/help.

Project Completion – Required

In addition to completing Quality Assurance and Animal ID, youth must complete one of the three options below for their animal to be eligible to be exhibited at the Wayne County Jr. Fair. More details about each of these options are enclosed with this letter and available on our website at the links below.

- **Option 1 – Outstanding Exhibitor Exam** July 9th 5-9 pm at the Wayne County Fair Event Center. More information enclosed and available at go.osu.edu/wcoutstandingexhibitor.
- **Option 2 – Skillathon Interviews** July 10th or August 7th 6:30 – 9:00 pm at the Wayne County Fair Event Center. More information enclosed and available at go.osu.edu/wcskillathoninterviews.
- **Option 3 – State Fair Skillathon** – youth must participate in person and bring proof of participation to the Extension Office by August 8th. Visit go.osu.edu/osfskillathons for more information.

Subscribe to the Wayne County News and Notes Email Update

Here is where you will be sent the most up to date information and reminders!
Visit go.osu.edu/waynecountynewsandnotes to subscribe to the News and Notes.

2024 Animal / Livestock Clinics - Optional

Most of our 4-H / FFA / Jr. Fair Action Committees are offering a clinic for their youth exhibitors and parents to come and learn more about caring for and grooming their animals. Please be sure to see the enclosed Clinic Schedule for our full line up of clinics being offered this year. We hope you can attend and/or connect with someone from your animal / livestock species committee. Another great resource is your animal department's Facebook Group which often posts helpful videos and other content related to nutrition, showmanship, fitting, and other species-specific information.

Clinic information and links to the Facebook Groups are available online at: go.osu.edu/animalsandlivestock.

Outstanding Exhibitor Awards Program – Optional

Youth exhibiting animal / livestock projects at the Wayne County Junior Fair may wish to participate in our Wayne County Jr. Fair Outstanding Exhibitor Awards Program – which includes awards for Outstanding Market Exhibitor and Outstanding Breeding Exhibitor for all livestock species, and Outstanding Dairy, Dog, and Horse Exhibitors. Youth that wish to compete in any of these Outstanding Exhibitor programs **must** complete the following:

- Outstanding Exhibitor Exam offered on July 9th from 5-9 pm at the Event Center or make arrangements to complete the test prior to July 9th by calling the Extension Office.
- Youth must also attend one of Wayne County Fair Skillathon Interview Judging nights or make arrangements to complete the Skillathon judging prior to August 7th by calling the Extension Office (**NEW: Ohio State Fair Skillathon will not count towards Outstanding Exhibitor**).

Additional criteria and details related to each of the Outstanding Exhibitor Awards is available on our website at go.osu.edu/wcoutstandingexhibitor.

Junior Fair Class Entries - Required

In addition to project enrollment that was due April 1st and Animal ID due June 1st– **all animals that will be exhibited at the Wayne County Junior Fair must have class entries submitted online by 11:59 pm on August 1st**. The Fair Entry website will open on July 1st and exhibitors (or their parents) must make online entries for all classes that the youth wishes to show or participate in such as market, breed, showmanship, outstanding exhibitor, etc. before the entry period ends at 11:59pm on August 1st.

Step by step instructions and videos to help you make your Jr. Fair Class Entries are available online at wayne.osu.edu/help.

We realize that there is a lot of information for families to keep track and be aware of regarding caring for, exhibiting, showing, and selling animal projects at the fair. Therefore, it is very important that each family carefully read their animal species Project Guidelines, the Jr. Fair Book (which will be published in June) and pay close attention to the Extension Office 4-H News and Notes Email Updates for reminders and announcements. ***If you are not currently receiving the 4-H News and Notes email updates which are usually sent once a week – please be sure to visit the following website to subscribe and view past issues: go.osu.edu/wc4hnewsandnotes.*** And as always if you have any questions, please contact your club advisor or the Extension Office for assistance.

Sincerely,



Diane Johnson
Program Assistant,
4-H Youth Development



Shelby Tedrow
Program Assistant,
4-H Youth Development



Laurie Sidle
Program Assistant,
4-H Youth Development

2024 Wayne County 4-H Project Completion Options And Skillathon Interviews Information

Project Completion Requirements

In addition to completing Quality Assurance and Animal ID, **youth must complete one of the three options below** for their animal to be eligible to be exhibited at the Wayne County Jr. Fair. More details about each of these options are available on our website at the links below.

- **Option 1 – Outstanding Exhibitor Exam** July 9th 5-9 pm at the Wayne County Fair Event Center. More information enclosed and available at go.osu.edu/wcoutstandingexhibitor.
- **Option 2 – Skillathon Interviews** July 10th or August 7th 6:30 – 9:00 pm at the Wayne County Fair Event Center. More information enclosed and available at go.osu.edu/wcskillathoninterviews.
- **Option 3 – State Fair Skillathon** – youth must participate in person and bring proof of participation to the Extension Office by August 8th. Visit go.osu.edu/osfskillathons for more information.

Skillathon Interviews Information

Skillathon Volunteers Needed:

We are in need of help; If you are an adult and interested in volunteering – please sign up online to volunteer for one or both nights of Skillathon at: go.osu.edu/wc24skillathonvolunteers

Skillathon Interviews Age Divisions

The age divisions for Skillathon Interviews are the same as Outstanding Exhibitor, which are all based on age as of January 1st of the current year and are as follows:

- Junior Ages 8-11
- Intermediate ages 12-14
- Seniors ages 15-18

Record Book: Record Books will be graded during your interview. Please bring them with you to judging.

A list of record book pages for each livestock species and each age division that need to be completed for record book can be found on the Extension Office website at: go.osu.edu/wcrecordbookpages.



2024 Wayne County 4-H / FFA / Jr. Fair Skillathon Interviews Additional Information

Drug Use Notification Form (DUNF) Activity

Youth will use the given an animal scenario and youth will fill out the provided DUNF form and livestock treatment record sheet. The score for this activity will be out of 25 points.

Interview Expectations

Each youth participating in the Skillathon Interviews will participate in an interview with an adult volunteer. Youth can expect the following:

- Juniors (ages 8-11 as of Jan. 1) will generally have shorter interviews – typically more around 4-6 minutes and older youth interviews for Intermediates and Seniors are likely to be around 8-10 minutes long.
- Each youth will only participate in one interview regardless of the number of animal species that they are bringing to the fair.
- During the interview the judge will ask a variety of questions. Depending on how talkative the youth is the judge may ask more or less questions.
- Youth should be prepared to greet the volunteer / judge with a firm handshake, smile, and introduce themselves stating their name, 4-H Club or FFA Chapter, and what projects (animals) they are enrolled in this year. Below are some examples of the types of questions the volunteer / judge conducting the interview will ask the youth.
- At the end of interview – the volunteer / judge will give the youth their score sheet and the youth should thank the volunteer / judge for their time and then proceed to bring their scoresheet to the score table.

Examples of Types of Questions that will be asked during the Skillathon

Interviews General open-ended questions such as:

- Tell me about yourself and the animal projects you're taking this year?
- Do you have a favorite animal project and if so, which one and why?
- Tell me some things you do to take care of your animals?
- How often do you feed, water, and exercise your animals?
- What is your favorite memory from working with your 4-H or FFA animals this year or in previous years?
- What is something you have learned from taking animal projects?

Species Specific Questions Will be Asked During the Interview (content will come from 4-H Project Resource Books)

The goal of the interview is for the youth to have a positive experience and to talk about their projects. Our hope is that it will be a fun and positive conversation between a youth and an adult volunteer.



Skillathon Interviews FAQ

What are Skillathon Interviews?

Exhibitors will be completing a hands-on activity (DUNF form & livestock treatment record sheet), a one-on-one interview with a knowledgeable volunteer judge. The judge will ask you questions about your project experience, your knowledge of your animals and care for your animals. A Livestock Project Interview will be very similar to a Still Project or FCS Project Interview.

How will interviews be graded/judged?

Exhibitors will be judged on their interview etiquette (handshake, eye contact, politeness, appearance, etc.), project knowledge, project record book, and hands-on activity. Animal species-specific questions will be based on information contained in your animal / livestock species Resource Book published by OSU Extension.

Why should I consider doing a Skillathon Interview this year?

Being able to interview well is an essential skill for future success. The ability to make a good first impression and confidently hold a conversation with someone will help you go far in life – whether it is a future job interview, talking to the judge in the show ring, or answering questions about your project from visitors at the fair. Project Interviews are a learning experience in many ways – not only do youth get the opportunity to learn from a knowledgeable judge, but they will develop these workforce preparation skills that lead to success down the road.

How do I prepare for my interview?

The key to any successful interview is preparation! Make sure your project book is up-to-date and you have studied your resource book and understand your project. A great practice would be to sit down with an advisor, project helper, or family member and have a practice interview at home. The more you practice beforehand, the more confident you will feel and the less nervous you will be!

Do I need to bring anything to my interview?

You will need to have your project record book (completed as possible) with you for your interview. Come dressed nicely – for example, something you would wear in the show ring, for a presentation at school, or to church. Remember, you want to make a great first impression! And last, but certainly not least, be sure to bring your SMILE! 😊

Do I need to have a certain interview score to show at the fair?

No, there is no minimum score required to fulfill the requirement to show at the fair – however, you must show up and participate in the interview. We encourage members to prepare and do their best, while using this as a learning opportunity. If a judge does not find you to have sufficient understanding of your project, you will receive a lower score.



Wayne County 4-H / FFA / Jr. Fair 2024 Outstanding Exhibitor Awards Program General Information

The Outstanding Exhibitor Awards program was developed to recognize youth who go above and beyond in their species both in and out of the show ring!

Key acronyms related to the Outstanding Exhibitor Awards Program:

- OBE = Outstanding Breeding Exhibitor
- OEE = Outstanding Exhibitor Exam
- ODE = Outstanding Dairy Exhibitor or Outstanding Dog Exhibitor
- OHE = Outstanding Horse Exhibitor
- OME = Outstanding Market Exhibitor

Points for Dairy, Horse, Market and Breeding will come from the following:

- 35% Exam
- 25% Skillathon Interview (project books will be graded during interviews)
- 30% Showmanship class placing
- 10% Breed, market or performance class placing

Dog Outstanding Exhibitor points will come from the following:

- 35% Exam
- 25% Skillathon (project books will be graded during interviews)
- 15% Showmanship
- 15% Obedience
- 10% Rally

Important Information:

- **Outstanding Exhibitor criteria, and record book rubrics, and a listing of approved events eligible for bonus points are available on the Extension Office website at: go.osu.edu/wcoutstandingexhibitor.**
- **Project book pages that will be graded during the interview can be found here: go.osu.edu/livestockrecordbooks**
- **July 9th - Outstanding Exhibitor Exam, from 5-9 pm at the Event Center - Wayne County Fairgrounds.**
- **July 10th - Skillathon Interview Judging**
- **August 1st - deadline to submit Jr. Fair Entries - don't forget to make an entry in your respective animal/livestock species Outstanding Exhibitor Contests.**
- **August 7th - Skillathon Interview Judging**
- **Bonus Points Due By 4:30 pm September 1st - submit any requests for bonus points online at: <https://go.osu.edu/wc24oebonuspoints>**
- **November 14th - Outstanding Exhibitor Awards presented at the annual 4-H Recognition Banquet at the Wayne County Fair Event Center**

Ohio State Fair Skillathon points will not be accepted. Youth must attend the Wayne County Skillathon Interview Judging

*If youth cannot attend either the **July 10th or August 7th** Skillathon Interview judging dates. Contact the Extension Office to schedule an interview for another time **all interviews must be completed before August 7th***

