

CALHOUN COUNTY EXPO



JULY 7-12, 2026

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2026 Calhoun County Exposition Schedule of Activities

(This is only a partial list of all the events that will be going on during the Expo)

Saturday, May 30- Clothing and Communication Event

Tuesday, July 7

- 8:00 A.M. All Horses Check-In
- 9:00 A.M. Open 4-H and FFA Horse Show
- 9:00 A.M. Pet Check-In
- 10:00 A.M. 4-H and FFA Pet Show, Clover Kids showing first
- 4-H Dog Project Dog Show Immediately following the Pet Show
- 3:00-5:00 P.M. Building and Booth Set up

Wednesday, July 8

- 7:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. All species tack may be unloaded (if you do not make this time frame you must wait until 5:30 P.M.)
 - ❖ **8:00 A.M.-9:00 A.M.: The Union and Hot Shots**
 - ❖ **9:00-10:00 A.M.: North Butler Blazers and Jackson Pioneers**
 - ❖ **10:00-12:00 P.M.: Logan Larks, Manson Craters and Dog Project**
- 3:00-5:30 P.M.: Goat, Sheep, Swine, Rabbit, Poultry Check-In
- 5:30 P.M. Beef Tack may be unloaded

Thursday, July 9

- 7:00-10:00 A.M. All Beef Weigh-In & Check-In
- 10:00-8:00 P.M. 4-H Building Open
- 2:00 P.M. 4-H/FFA Rabbit and Poultry Show, Clover Kids showing first
- 4:00 P.M.- 6:00 P.M. Open Class Exhibit Check-in

Friday, July 10

- 8:00 A.M. 4-H/FFA Swine Show
- 10:00 A.M.- 8:00 P.M. 4-H Building Open
- 1:00 P.M. Bacon Buddies Show
- 3:00 P.M. 4-H/FFA Goat and Sheep Show, Clover Kids showing first

Saturday, July 11

- 8:00 A.M. 4-H/FFA Beef Show, Clover Kids showing immediately following
- 10:00-8:00 P.M. 4-H Building Open
- 10:00 A.M. Calhoun County Hot Shots Fair Shoot (Johnson Prairie)
- 1:00 P.M. Advanced Feeder Pen Show and Cow/Calf Pen
- 3:30 P.M. Livestock Judging Contest

Sunday, July 12

- 8:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M. 4-H/FFA Livestock Release
- 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. 4-H Building Open
- 11:00 A.M. Fairgrounds and Livestock Clean Up (Required for all Members)
- 12:00 P.M. 4-H and FFA Exhibitor Lunch provided by the Calhoun County Fairboard
- 1:00 P.M.-2 P.M. 4-H and FFA Fair Checkout and Premium Pick Up
- 1:30 P.M. State Fair Photos in 4-H Exhibit Building
- 2:00 P.M. Static Release

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach Calhoun County

ISU Extension and Outreach Calhoun County Staff

Caitlyn Butler, Office and Program Coordinator

Nichol Kleespies, Regional Director

Kourtney Lenz, K-3 Outreach Coordinator

Brenda Welch, Youth Program Specialist

Calhoun County Extension Council

Denny Hammen, Chair

Kolin Sukovaty, Vice Chair

Hillaree Meyer, Secretary

Darcy Murley, Treasurer

Riley Bleam

Michelle Dischler

Jack Parker

Emily Pelz

Randy Waller

Calhoun County Expo Fair Board

Ricole Potts, President

Jacob Davis, Vice President

Tiffany Blair, Secretary

Mindy Kraft, Treasurer

Calhoun County 4-H Clubs and Leaders

Logan Larks- Vanessa Solko and Meryl Hiler

Jackson Pioneers- Tiffany Blair and Mindy Kraft

Manson Craters- Kelly and Justin Reuter

The Union- Heather Parker and Hillaree Meyer

North Butler Blazers- Jaimie Buchan

Calhoun County Hot Shots- Jessica Cline, Sarah Hiler, Tara Saxton

Calhoun County Dog Project- Jill Carlson

4-H CLUB BOOTH SET UP

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach- Calhoun County and Youth County Council will set up club booth tables at the Exposition Center on Tuesday, July 7. Clubs may decorate their booth in the Exposition Center from 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Booths must be completed by Noon on Wednesday, July 8.

Exhibits will be released on Sunday, July 12 at 2:00 p.m. booths will be taken down and the Exposition Center must be cleaned up Sunday afternoon. If you are picking up exhibits, the Exposition Center is completely cleaned up by 3:00 p.m. All exhibits must remain until the scheduled time on Sunday. All persons picking up exhibits must adhere to this schedule. **Exhibits removed prior to release time without early release forms will not receive premiums. Please see Extension Staff for more information.**

4-H CLUB BOOTH DECORATION GUIDELINES

Each club is encouraged to decorate their booth or display area. The Theme for this year's booth is "Stars, Stripes, and Strong Futures." Booths will be judged using the following criteria: attractiveness, creativity, neatness, organization, one focal point, name of club, member's names, leaders, and pictures of activities. Display areas will be judged during the fair. An overall "best booth" will be awarded with a certificate.

Each booth will be provided with at least two (2) six foot- tables. If a club needs extra tables, talk to an ISU Extension staff member. Clubs are allowed to bring in their own tables if they are not protruding into the walkways.

Nothing can be hung from the walls or adhere to them.

4-H CLUBS EXPO HOST/HOUSTESS DUTIES

4-H clubs and club volunteers are expected to watch the Expo building and guard exhibits during the designated times listed below. If 4-H members are busy and cannot host the Expo building during their club's scheduled time, they are required to send a family member to take their place as host or hostess. At the beginning of your club's scheduled shift, find the host/hostess table in the front of the Expo building. See host binder for more details.

Thursday, July 9

10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.	Calhoun County Extension Office
12:00 P.M.-2:00 P.M.	Manson Clover Kids
2:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M.	North Butler Blazers
5:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M.	Lytton, Pomeroy, Fonda Area Clover Kids

Friday, July 10

10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.	Calhoun County Extension Office
12:00 P.M.-2:00 P.M.	Rockwell City Clover Kids
2:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M.	Manson Craters
5:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M.	Calhoun County Dog Project

Saturday, July 11

10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.	Jackson Pioneers
12:00 P.M.-2:00 P.M.	Lake City Clover Kids
2:00 P.M.-5:00 P.M.	The Union
5:00 P.M.- 8:00 P.M.	Logan Larks

Sunday, July 12

10:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.	Calhoun County Hot Shots
1:00 P.M.-2:00 P.M.	Calhoun County Extension Office

GENERAL RULES & REGULATIONS

1. The Calhoun County Exposition is an exclusive 4-H & FFA show. Participants must be members in good standing of either a Calhoun County 4-H club or FFA chapter. Each 4-H member must have been enrolled in 4-H by May 15 of the current year. A 4-H member who has graduated from high school prior to 2026 is ineligible for exhibition.
2. FFA youth are eligible in 9th through 12th grade (or that equivalent). An FFA member becomes ineligible to exhibit at the Calhoun County Exposition upon completion of the calendar year of high school graduation. FFA members must be in good standing in Calhoun County to make entry to the Calhoun County Exposition. Any FFA member who violates the code of ethics or other fair rules may be denied entry and exhibition at the Calhoun County Expo.
3. All 4-H & FFA livestock projects must be properly identified and verified in 4HOnline for 4-H members and FFA on the proper ID Forms by February 1 for market beef animals and/or by May 15 for breeding beef, market and breeding sheep, market and breeding swine, dairy and meat goat, horse, pets, rabbit, and poultry.
4. While the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach-Calhoun County and Calhoun County Exposition Board will take every reasonable precaution to ensure the welfare of exhibits and exhibitors, they will not be held responsible for any accidents that might occur and are not liable for any lost/stolen items or livestock.
5. The 4-H building, livestock barns and surrounding areas are designated as drug-free zones. Drugs, tobacco products and alcohol are prohibited. Any use of substances will be reported to the proper authorities.
6. The Calhoun County Exposition Board reserves the right to rule on questions concerning the Calhoun County Exposition not covered in its published rules.
7. Specific rules and regulations may be found under each department.
8. No animals may be unloaded on the fairgrounds until the designated weigh-in/check-in time on entry day without prior consent. Any animal not on the grounds during designated weigh-in/check-in time will not be allowed to be exhibited. All livestock will be released at 8:00 a.m. on Sunday. All trailers should enter the west gates and exit the east gates of the fairgrounds.
9. Dogs or other animals that are not participating in the livestock show will not be permitted on the grounds at any time during the Expo.

10. There is a \$10.00 flat rate fee for all Livestock Exhibitors, PLUS \$1.00 fee for each livestock exhibit entered.
11. \$1.00 fee for each static exhibit entered.
12. Ratings and Ribbons: Exhibits will be rated as blue, red, or white quality with corresponding ribbons awarded. This is a dollar valuation. The Calhoun County Exposition Board has designated money for premiums. A limited number of outstanding exhibits will be identified with ribbons. Iowa State Fair and honorable mention exhibits will be identified with the appropriate ribbons.
13. **Premiums will not be paid on animals or exhibits removed before the designated release time without an early release form signed by appropriate officials.**
14. Premiums will not be paid on animals if pens or stalls are not cleaned.
15. Only 5th-12th grade youth are eligible to advance to the Iowa State Fair.
16. Animals must be of gentle disposition. If any animal shows signs of aggression, the animal may be asked to leave the fairgrounds by the superintendent or by a Calhoun County Exposition Board member.
17. Fairgrounds and Livestock Clean Up will be at 11:00 A.M. on Sunday, July 12th is REQUIRED in order to receive your premium money for all exhibitors including 4-H, Clover Kids and FFA exhibitors. There will be a hefty fee in order to participate in fair the following year if clean up is not attended. Check in for the Fairgrounds Clean Up will be at the Livestock Office to ensure exhibitors are accounted for and will receive their premium.
18. After the Fairgrounds and Livestock Clean Up there will be an Exhibitor Lunch provided by the Calhoun County Fairboard beginning at 12:00 P.M.

LIVESTOCK RULES & REGULATIONS

OVERVIEW: The following rules and regulations, in addition to the General Fair Rules and Regulations and the Iowa Code of Ethics, apply to all livestock exhibits in 4-H and FFA livestock departments. Exhibitors who fail to comply with any of these rules are subject to forfeit all awards, premium money, and disqualification from future participation at the Calhoun County Exposition.

EXHIBITORS AND ELGILIBITY: Exhibitors may enroll and exhibit in both 4-H and FFA. However, they cannot exhibit or enroll within the same species unless one is market division and the other a breeding division. For example, a youth could exhibit market beef in FFA and breeding beef in 4-H or vice-versa, but could not exhibit market beef in both FFA and 4-H.

- Animals identified as FFA projects must be shown as FFA animals.
- Animals identified as 4-H must be shown as 4-H animals.
- Exhibitors in rabbit, poultry, pet, dog, and horse must choose one organization to exhibit under.
- Exhibitors in beef, sheep, goat, and swine that have market and breeding divisions may be split between organizations.

YOUTH FOR THE QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS (YQCA): A copy of the exhibitors Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) certificate must be on file at the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach-Calhoun County office by June 15 of the current year to exhibit livestock.

SUBSTITUTE SHOW RULES: 4-H & FFA members must show their own exhibits when in the show ring. Substitutes will be allowed only when: (1) the member has more than one exhibit in the ring, or (2) the member is ill. Any substitute must be a member in good standing of either a Calhoun County 4-H club or FFA chapter. Anytime a substitute showman is used, the member must check with the superintendent and get approval before they can show. Only the situations listed above will be allowed for a substitute showman.

ANIMAL IDENTIFICATION: Livestock Identifications (ID) must be completed in 4HOnline (<http://v2.4honline.com>) or with your FFA advisor on or before May 15. Failure to complete identification information on or before May 15 deadline will disqualify the animal.

FAIR ENTRIES: The Fair Entry deadline is June 15 at 11:59 p.m. Entries must be made online using the Fair Entry system (<https://faireentry.com/Fair/Signin/19480>).

ANIMAL PLACEMENT AND CARE: All animal exhibits must enter and leave the grounds at the designated check-in and check-out times. Arriving late or early without prior approval is subject to ineligibility for show, forfeiture of awards or premiums, and can result in ineligibility to exhibit in that project area the following year.

Exhibitors are expected to care for their animals in an acceptable manner. Any abusive care, lack of care, excessive modification, or violation of the Code of Ethics will be grounds for disqualification at the discretion of show officials. Any notes of aggressive handling or unsportsmanlike conduct from judges, or staff during show will disqualify an exhibitor.

Feed and hay must be furnished by the exhibitor. Bedding is provided by the Calhoun County Exposition Board. To aid in cleanliness of our barns, **All livestock pens shall be cleaned, and chores done by 9:00 a.m. each day.**

GROOMING AND CARE: Responsibility of grooming animals for show is primarily the responsibility of the exhibitor. If assistance is needed, it should be aimed at helping the 4-H/FFA member learn skills.

No unnatural means of providing animal feed, water or other fluid (i.e. stomach pump, I.V.) will be allowed. The use of natural or synthetic tranquilizers and sedatives is strictly prohibited (i.e. Calm, Ace, Promazine, and Thorazine).

No individual health certificates will be required on 4-H and FFA animals or poultry exhibited at the Calhoun County Exposition. Livestock must be inspected by the Exposition veterinarian before being unloaded. Evidence of warts, ringworm, foot rot, pink eye, draining abscesses or any other contagious or infectious conditions will eliminate the animal from the show, and it will be sent home. Quarantined animals or animals from quarantined herds cannot be exhibited.

The decision of the Expo veterinarian will be final. If animals become sick at the Exposition, consult the Exposition veterinarian before treatment. Only the Exposition veterinarian may administer treatments according to the medication label.

TESTING: The Calhoun County Exposition Board reserves the right to collect and analyze a urine sample from all champion and reserve champion market animals (beef, sheep, and swine). This may be done IMMEDIATELY following the announcement of winners. These actions conducted by the Calhoun County Exposition Board and the Extension staff, are to provide a safe and fair atmosphere for all involved. If the sample comes back positive, and a second testing is required, it will be done at the expense of the exhibitor.

TAGS: Official 4-H or FFA tags should be the only tags present in the ears of all market animals (except for the sheep and goat scrapie tag). FFA members will NOT use a 4-H tag to identify your animals. Any animal that has both 4-H and FFA tags in ear will NOT be allowed to exhibit.

SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST

Each livestock exhibitor will be a contestant for showmanship awards. Showmanship judging will be done by the judge in a separate show. Winners and awards will be presented at that time. Past winners of showmanship awards are not eligible to compete for the same age category award except in the Senior Showmanship class. Once an exhibitor wins showmanship at the Junior Class level, the next year they will be moved to the Intermediate Class Level regardless of age. Once an exhibitor wins the Intermediate Class level, the next year the member will be moved to the Senior Class level regardless of age. Once an exhibitor enters the Senior Showmanship Class level either by grade or winning previous Junior and Intermediate Showman Class levels, they will stay in this class level the remainder of their exhibitor show years. Only at the Senior Class level can a member win Showmanship more than one time. A poster of past Showmanship winners will be displayed in the Livestock Office to track previous winners.

- Junior Showmanship- completed grades 4, 5 and 6
- Intermediate Showmanship- completed grades 7 and 8
- Senior Showmanship- completed grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

Showmanship criteria to be used during the show by the judge will include:

- Exhibitors must show their own animal when competing in the showmanship division. Members cannot win showmanship contests with a substitute animal.

HERDSMANSHIP

A Livestock Herdsmanship contest will be held throughout the Exposition on a 4-H Club or FFA Chapter basis.

- Each livestock exhibit will be assigned to its stall or pen as they come onto the grounds. All the livestock from a club or chapter will be pinned or stalled together in their respective barns.
- A committee will tour the barns several times each day to observe the appearance and neatness of the pens of each 4-H Club and FFA Chapter, with the ratings posted daily. All Livestock pens should be cleaned by 9:00 A.M. each day.
- At the end of the Exposition, the committee will determine which 4-H club or FFA Chapter is the winner, considering all exhibits of each club or chapter.
- To receive premiums, all pens, stalls, and alleys must be thoroughly cleaned after the livestock is released.

- No advertising is permitted; this includes the rabbit and chicken cages.
- 1st place receives the name of the club or chapter placed on a permanent plaque displayed at the ISU Extension and Outreach-Calhoun County Office.

The Contest will be judged based on the scoreboard listed as follows:

- Cleanliness of Alleys and Stalls- 35 points bedding: adequate, dry, clean and in place, cattle securely tied with 18-20 inches lead, feed boxes in front of animals only at feeding time, manure hauled out and deposited in proper place, alleys swept clean, free of dust and wood chips, USE NO LIME.
- Arrangement of Exhibits- 15 points cattle lined up in attractive manner, big objectionable boxes out of the way, hay neat and orderly.
- Appearance of Animals- 15 points animal clean and brushed, livestock in pens or stalls between 8:00 am and 6:00 p.m.
- Stall Cards- 10 points posted above pen and filled in with information requested.
- Conditions of alley and stalls following release of livestock final evaluation- 25 points.

LIVESTOCK JUDGING CONTEST

Superintendents: Doug Gaul and Katie Bush

Livestock Judging Special Rules:

1. Contest will consist of 6-8 classes of livestock. Classes will be set up using livestock exhibited at the Expo.
2. Entries in this class are open to all 4-H and FFA members who have been active in 4-H and/or FFA during the past year.
3. There will be a Junior and Senior division, with the break being Seniors- all who were 9th grade and older the past year in school; Juniors- all members who were grades 4th-8th the past school year.
4. A team will consist of 3 or 4 members. Scores of the top three team members will be used for placing.
5. Any chapter or club may enter as many teams as they wish. All teams from a chapter or a club will be eligible.
6. Open high school class- out-of-county youth are eligible to participate, however no premiums will be paid.
7. A plaque will be given to the top placing team. In case of a tie, the teams, and individuals in each division with the most fifties (50 pts. per class) or the highest-class score will be the winners.
8. Anyone caught cheating or talking during the event will be disqualified.

BEEF DEPARTMENT

Superintendents: Ricole & Jon Potts, Kelly Meyer, Clayton Reynolds

Beef Department Special Rules:

1. General rules regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Breeding animals must be on the grounds and weighed on designated day and time of the fair. Animals not on grounds at designated check-in time will not be allowed to exhibit.
3. Tattoos are required for all breeding and commercial heifers. In addition to tattoos, breeding heifers will also have one of the following second forms of identification. Either a registration number (for purebred), a calfhood vaccination tag, or an official 4-H tag. The calfhood vaccination tattoo is not an acceptable identification as the primary tattoo.
4. Official 4-H tags are required on nursing and bucket/bottle calves.
5. All animals in Division 201: breeding beef, will need to fill out a breeding beef check-in sheet before going across the scale on entry day to check birth dates, tattoos, and correct entry.
6. Any heifer being purebred grade or crossbred is eligible. Purebred animals will be considered those animals that are 75% or higher.
7. Classes will be divided according to age, youngest showing first.
8. Members may show three (3) animals in each class.
9. Animals showing in this department will be judged based on quality, type, and conformation.
10. First calf heifers will be eligible for the champion cow/calf banner.
11. Maximum of 10 head can be identified (total for purebred and commercial).
12. 4HOnline ID required for 4-H members by May 15, FFA Breeding Beef form filled out and submitted to Iowa State University Extension and Outreach by May 15.
13. All heifers must have birth date listed.
14. Animals can only be identified under one 4-H member and cannot be identified as both 4-H and FFA.

DIVISION 201: BREEDING BEEF

Class 20100- Non-Fit Heifers

Born between September 1, 2024- December 31, 2025.

Once animals arrive at the fair, they must not be trimmed, clipped, or fit in any way. This includes the use of adhesives. Non-fit heifers must be home raised calves and not club calves.

Class 20101- Registered Purebred Heifers (Animals that are registered as 75% or higher) Born between September 1 to December 31, 2025 (Registration numbers/paper will be required, class will be split by animal breeds).

Class 20102- Commercial Heifers

Born between September 1 to December 31, 2025

Class 20103-First Calf Heifer and Calf

Calf must be born between January 1 to May 15, 2026. Must be a heifer which has been carried as a project the previous year

Class 20104- Cow/Calf

Calf must have been born between January 1 to May 15, 2026

Class 20105- Female Nursing Calf/Feeder

Calves must be born between January 1 to May 15, 2026, and are currently or have been nursing.

Class 20106- Male Nursing Calf/Feeder

Calves must be born between January 1 to May 15, 2026, and are currently or have been nursing.

Class 20107- Female Bucket/Bottle Calf

Bucket/Bottle calves must be born January 1 to May 15, 2026. The calf must have been on a bottle or bucket no later than one after birth.

Class 20108- Male Bucket/Bottle Calf

Bucket/Bottle calves must be born between January 1 to May 15, 2026. The calf must have been on a bottle or bucket no later than one month after birth.

Class 20109: Cow/Calf Pen

Cow/Calf Pen Special Rules:

1. Cow-Calf pairs will be shown in pens. There is a limit of 2 cow/calf pairs per exhibitor. If the barn is full, youth may only be able to bring one pair.
2. Calf must be born between January 1 and May 15, 2026.
3. Neither cows nor calves should be tied in pens. Animals should be clean but be displayed and shown in pasture condition (No clipping or fitting prior to judging of cow/calf pair).
4. The Grand champion and Reserve Champion Cow/Calf pen class will NOT be shown for Supreme Champion Breeding Female.
5. This is a county class only.
6. 4HOnline ID required for 4-H members by May 15. FFA breeding beef forms must be submitted to the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office by May 15.

DIVISION 202: MARKET BEEF

Class 20201- Market Heifers

Class 20202- Market Steers

Class 20203- Non-Fit Market Heifer

Class 20204- Non-Fit Market Steer

Market Beef Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Market animals must be on the grounds and weighed on designated day and time of the fair. Animals not on the grounds at designated check-in time will not be allowed to exhibit.
3. Members are eligible to show six (6) animals in this division.
4. Calves will not be shown by breeds. Classes will be determined by weight on entry day of the Exposition.
5. Market heifers will be shown in a separate class than market steers. Both market heifer and steer winners will be shown for overall Grand Champion Market Beef.
6. All calves officially weighed-in on January 3, 2026, or calves weighed on approved dates in neighboring counties, are eligible for the rate of gain contest.
7. No Bulls are allowed in this division.
8. Non-fit animals must not be trimmed, clipped, or fit in any way after arriving to the fairgrounds. This includes the use of adhesives. Non-fit market calves must be home raised calves and not club calves.
9. 4HOnline ID is required by February 1, 2026, for 4-H members. FFA members must submit market beef Id form and submit to the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office by February 1, 2026.
10. Iowa State Fair animals must have a retinal image taken at weigh-in in January, or at approved dates in neighboring counties.
11. Purebred animals must enter a breed by February 1. Registration numbers must be added by May 15.

DIVISION 203: ADVANCED FEEDER PENS

Class 20301- Advanced Feeder Pen- Heifer

Class 20302- Advanced Feeder Pen- Steer

Advanced Feeder Pen Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Advanced feeder animals must be on the grounds and weighed in on designated day and time of the fair. Animals not on the grounds at designated check-in time will not be allowed to exhibit
3. This project will consist of 3 to 6 calves per pen, and a limit of 2 pens per member. Each pen will consist of all steers, or all heifers.
4. All calves officially weighed-in on January 3, 2026, or calves weighed on approved dates in neighboring counties, are eligible for the rate of gain contest.
5. 4HOnline ID is required by February 1, 2026, for 4-H members. FFA members must submit market beef Identification form to the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office by February 1, 2026.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Judging will be done by the beef judge. Pens will be placed blue, red, and white and will be placed in the following manner:

- General condition of animals in the pen
- Uniformity
- Member's project record
- Member's knowledge of feeding conditions
- Member feeding arrangement

Members must provide the information asked for on the advanced feeder breakeven report. You may obtain this form from the ISU Extension and Outreach Calhoun County Office or at the livestock office on the fairgrounds.

DOG DEPARTMENT

Superintendent: Jill Carlson

Dog Department Special Rules:

1. Dogs must remain on leash.
2. Exhibitors must present proof of current rabies vaccination.
3. Dogs must be at least 6 months old.
4. Any dog exhibiting unsafe or threatening behavior at any time before, during or after exhibition must be removed from the fairgrounds and will not be permitted to return at any time throughout the show.
5. Exhibitors are required to wear an official Calhoun County 4-H/FFA t-shirt, or white blouse with jeans.
6. Participants must be enrolled in 4H/FFA in the current program year.
7. Dogs should be owned by the 4-H member or in partnership with an immediate family member.
8. 4HOnline ID is required by May 15. FFA small animal identification form must be submitted to the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office by May 15.
9. Dogs may not be left unattended.
10. Dogs are not permitted to wear any type of muzzle, prong/pinch collar, harness and head halter, or electronic collar while in the show ring.
11. Dogs in heat will not be permitted to show.
12. Dog waste must be cleaned up immediately.
13. Ribbons will be awarded in each class.
14. Dogs are only permitted on the fairgrounds only when the show is being held.
15. Each exhibitor may exhibit one entry in each class.

DIVISION 231: DOG RALLY

Class 23101: Rally Novice A: For exhibitor/dog combination which have not previously competed in any rally class and are in their first year of training.

Class 23102: Rally Novice B: For exhibitor/dog combination which have competed in any rally class and are in their 2nd or 3rd year of rally training.

Class 23103: Rally Intermediate: For exhibitor/dog with 4 or more years of rally training or for a dog who has earned any Rally Novice Title (AKC, UKC, etc.).

Class 23104: Rally Advanced: For exhibitor/dog with 5 or more years in rally training or for dog who has earned any Rally Advanced Title (AKC, UKC, etc.)

DIVISION 232: OBEDIENCE

Class 23201: Pre-Novice A only for dogs and exhibitors in 1st year of training.

Class 23202: Pre-Novice B- One year of training.

Class 23203: Sub-Novice- Two years of training.

Class 23204: Novice- includes heel free, recall.

Class 23205: Graduate Novice- includes heel free, stand for exam.

DIVISION 233: COSTUME AND TRICK

Class 23301: Costume- Owner and dog dress up

Class 23302: Agility and Trick-What else can your dog do?

Division 234: HANDLING (SHOWMANSHIP)

Class 23401: Junior Handling (grades 5-6)

Class 23402: Intermediate Handling (grades 7-8)

Class 23403: Senior Handling (grades 9-12)

Handling Department Special Rules:

1. Entries in this division are open to purebred or mixed breed dogs and must be owned by the exhibitor or in partnership with parent or guardian.
2. All exhibitors entering the Handling Division **MUST ALSO** enter and exhibit in at least one Obedience Class, this includes rally.
3. The exhibitor is limited to one entry in this division.
4. The handler grades are as of the current completed school year.
5. Class determination is based on the age of the handler.
6. Handling classes will be judged using the following Showmanship Score Card:

Exhibitor (appearance, attitude)..... 10 points

Dog Grooming and condition..... 10 points

Handling..... 40 points

Questions..... 40 points

Total..... 100 points

7. Ribbons will be awarded as follows: Purple - 90-100 points,

Blue - 80- 89 points, Red - 70-79 points and White - 69 points or less.

8. First place winners in the Junior, Intermediate and Senior divisions will receive a Top Handler Award.

GOAT DEPARTMENT

Superintendents: Kelly Meyer, Adam Reynolds, and AJ Langenwalter

SCRAPIE STATEMENT: All sexually intact sheep and goats must have an individual scrapie flock of origin identification tag in the ear.

Division 210: DAIRY GOAT

Class 21001: JR. Doe

Class 21002: SR. Doe over 12 months of age

Class 21003: JR. Wether

Class 21004: SR. Wether over 12 months of age

Dairy Goat Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Goats don't have to be weighed in but must be tagged on weigh-in day in April, or at approved dates in neighboring counties.
3. All goats must have an official 4-H/FFA tag.
4. All animals need to be checked in on designated day and time of the fair. Animals not on the grounds at designated check-in time will not be allowed to exhibit.
5. Entries are open to purebred, crossbred, or grade goats.
6. Each exhibitor may show two (2) animals per class.
7. All goats must be pinned in the area designated by the superintendent.
8. Classes will be broken down according to the number of animals entered.
9. Dairy goats will be required to be dehorned.
10. 4HOnline ID required for 4-H members by May 15, FFA Goat verification form filled out and submitted to Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office by May 15.
11. Birth dates are required for breeding does.
12. Federal regulations for scrapie tags must be followed. All goats must have registration tattoos or scrapie tags to exhibit at fair.
13. Iowa State Fair animals must have a retinal image taken at weigh-in in April, or at approved dates in neighboring counties.
14. Animals can only be identified under one 4-H member and cannot be identified as both 4-H and FFA.

DIVISION 211: BREEDING & MEAT GOATS

Division Goats- Meat-Market

Class 21101: Doe

Class 21102: Wether

Division Goats- Meat-Breeding

Class 21103: Jr.

Class 21104: Sr. over 12 months of age

Class 21105: All other breeds that do not fit in the meat goat class

Breeding and Meat Goat Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Goats don't have to be weighed in but must be tagged on weigh-in day in April, or at approved dates in neighboring counties.
3. All goats must have an official 4-H/FFA tag.
4. All animals need to be checked- in on designated day and time of the fair. Animals not on the grounds at designated check-in time will not be allowed to exhibit.
5. Entries are open to purebred, crossbred, or grade goats.
6. Each exhibitor may show two (2) animals per class.
7. All goats must be pinned in the area designated by the superintendent.
8. Classes will be broken down according to the number of animals entered.
9. All animals must be identified in 4HOnline by May 15, FFA Goat verification forms filled out and submitted to Iowa State University and Outreach office by May 15.
10. Birth dates are required for breeding does.
11. Federal regulations for scrapie tags must be followed. All goats must have registration tattoos or scrapie tags to exhibit at fair.
12. Iowa State Fair animals must have a retinal image taken at weigh-in, in April, or at approved dates in neighboring counties.
13. Animals can only be identified under one 4-H member and cannot be identified as both 4-H and FFA.

HORSE DEPARTMENT

Superintendent: Mary Lauver

Horse Department Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Horses need to be checked in on designated day and time of the fair, animals not on the grounds at the designated check-in time will not be allowed to exhibit.
3. All horses must be checked in by the official Exposition Veterinarian prior to unloading.
4. Any dispute as to age, height, soundness of animals, or class determination will be referred to the Expo Veterinarian, and their decision will be final.
5. The 2026 Horse Show is an Open Show: Open Show is defined as open to 4-H and FFA members residing in a county touching Calhoun County.
6. All exhibitors must be dressed in long sleeved white shirt, blue jeans, and boots. An exhibitor planning to enter riding classes must be wearing an approved equestrian helmet.
7. A helmet will be worn every ride including practice riding. Exhibitors must provide their own helmet.
8. Entries must be made for all classes for exhibitors wishing to compete in them.
9. All horses must be in the show ring within 2 minutes of start of class.
10. Superintendents may combine and make other class changes as they see fit to equalize classes and competition.
11. Unruly horses may be dismissed.
12. Patterns for Showmanship and Horsemanship classes will be posted the day of the show in the livestock office. The judge will determine patterns.
13. There will be no stallion classes or weanling classes.
14. Maximum of five (5) head can be identified; of those, a maximum of 2 may be leased.
15. Horses can be identified by more than one 4-H member; immediate sibling or stepsibling only but cannot be identified as 4-H under one sibling and FFA under another sibling.

16. 4HOnline ID is required for 4-H members by May 15, FFA Horse Identification form filled out and submitted to Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office by May 15.
17. Photos of horses are required in 4HOnline.
18. Leased horses must have completed lease form, 4H 106C, and uploaded into 4HOnline by May 15.
19. Halter/conformation class horses must be owned; they cannot be leased.

DIVISION 220: HALTER

Class 22001: Pony, Donkey, and Miniature Halter

Class 22002: Horse Halter

DIVISION 221: WESTERN PLEASURE AND HORSEMANSHIP

Class 22101: Western Pleasure

Class 22102: Horsemanship

Class 22103: Walk Trot

DIVISION 222: TIMED EVENTS AND GAMES

Class 22201: Barrels

Class 22202: Flags

Class 22203: Poles

Class 22204: Speed

Class 22205: Trail

Class 22206: Egg and Spoon

PET DEPARTMENT

Superintendent: Lee Saxton

Pet Department Special Rules:

1. All dogs and cats must have a current rabies vaccination.
2. Dogs or other animals that are not participating in the show will not be permitted on the fairgrounds at any time during the Expo.
3. All Animals must be inspected by the Expo Veterinarian before shows.

DIVISION 230: PETS

Class 23001: Pet Show Animals which do not fit under any other department are eligible for this department. No market animals are allowed. Examples: amphibians, reptiles, fish, guinea pigs, hamsters, llamas, emus or ostrich.

Pet Show Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Each exhibitor is limited to two (2) entries in the pet show. These animals are to be on the fairgrounds only when the show is being held.
3. All animals must be leashed or crated while waiting for their class to be called.
4. Classes will be broken down at the discretion of the superintendent according to the number entered.
5. 4HOnline identification is required for 4-H members by May 15. FFA small animal identification form must be submitted to the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office by May 15.
6. Participation ribbons will be awarded.
7. No market animals will be allowed.

Class 23002: Costume

Costume Special Rules:

1. Exhibitors make one entry in the costume show.
2. Judging will be based on the costumes for the pet and exhibitor.
3. Participation ribbons will be awarded.
4. Special awards will be given to the most original costume, animal/exhibitor look alike, and judges' favorite costume.
5. 4HOnline identification required for 4-H members by May 15. FFA small animal identification form must be submitted to the Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office by May 15.

POULTRY DEPARTMENT

Superintendent: Lee Saxton

Poultry Department Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Birds will be exhibited in their pens and not in the show ring.
3. Entries should consist of 1 male and 1 female or 2 females.
4. Birds should be clean for exhibit.
5. Birds must be identified by June 15th in FairEntry.
6. All Poultry Exhibitors will need to have their birds tested for Pullorum-Typhoid within 90 days of public exhibition, and the test must be performed by an authorized tester.

DIVISION 240: PRODUCTION POULTRY

Class 24001: Production Pullets (0-18 weeks)

Class 24002: Production Layers (18+ weeks)

DIVISION 241: ORNAMENTAL & WATERFOWL

Class 24101: Ornamental Poultry

Class 24102: Waterfowl

DIVISION 242: COMMERCIAL POULTRY

Class 24201: Broiler Pen

Broiler Pen Special Rules:

1. All market broilers must be ordered through the Extension Office. Only birds purchased through the Extension Office may be exhibited in the broiler class no substitutions will be allowed.
2. Each broiler pen of 4 birds should weight a minimum of 20.0 lbs.
3. 4-H/FFA members must complete the Broiler Pen Breakeven Report.
4. Birds must be identified by June 15th in FairEntry.
5. Do not free-range chickens.

RABBIT DEPARTMENT

Superintendent: Lee Saxton

Rabbit Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Pens will consist of 3 rabbits.
3. Each rabbit can only be shown once except the market individual which must be taken out of the pen.
4. All rabbits over 3 months of age must be tattooed in the left ear, tattoos will be checked before entering the show ring.
5. Pens will be furnished.
6. Rabbits must be identified by June 15th in FairEntry.

DIVISION 250: MARKET RABBITS

Class 25001: Heavy Market Rabbit Pen (3.5-6 lbs)

Class 25002: Light Market Rabbit Pen (under 3.5 lbs)

Class 25003: Individual Market Rabbit (from pen)

DIVISION 251: COMMERCIAL RABBITS

These classes are for the following breed types: California, Palomino, Satin, New Zealand, and American.

Class 25101: Commercial Senior Buck Rabbit- Rabbits over 8 months of age

Class 25102: Commercial Senior Doe Rabbit- Rabbits over 8 months of age

Class 25103: Commercial Junior Buck Rabbit – Rabbits under 8 months of age

Class 25104: Commercial Junior Doe Rabbit- Rabbits under 8 months of age

DIVISION 252: FANCY RABBITS

These classes are for the following breed types: Dutch, Rex, Netherland Dwarf, Minilop etc.

Class 25201: Fancy Senior Buck Rabbit-Rabbits over 8 months of age

Class 25202: Fancy Senior Doe Rabbit- Rabbits over 8 months of age

Class 25203: Fancy Junior Buck Rabbit- Rabbits under 8 months of age

Class 25204: Fancy Junior Doe Rabbit – Rabbits under 8 months of age

SHEEP DEPARTMENT

Superintendents: Nicole Meyer

SCRAPIE STATEMENT: All sexually intact sheep and goats must have an individual scrapie flock of origin identification tag in the ear.

DIVISION 260: BREEDING SHEEP

Class 26000: Purebred Ewes (registration number/papers are required)

Class 26001: Black Face Ewe

Class 26002: Speckled Face Ewe

Class 26003: White Face Ewe

Class 26004: Yearling Ewe (born during previous year)

Class 26005: Ram Lamb

Class 26006: Flock Pen (consisting of a ewe lamb, a yearling ewe, and a two-year or older ewe. Limit of one flock per member- member must own flock exhibited).

DIVISION 261: BUCKET BOTTLE LAMBS

Class 26102: Male Bucket Bottle Lamb

Class 26101: Female Bucket Bottle Lamb

Bottle Lamb Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. All breeding sheep will be required to fill out a check-in sheet at the Expo to verify the classes each animal has been entered in.
3. Breeding ewe and ram lambs must be born after January 1 of the current year except when noted.
4. First year exhibitors in the commercial ewe flock class may show a two-year-old or older ewe and two ewe lambs. This class is for members who do not have registered or purebred sheep. The judge may disqualify any pen of ewes he/she feels is purebred breeding.
5. Bucket bottle lambs must be born between January 1 and May 15.
6. Classes with less than 5 head may be combined at the superintendent's discretion.
7. 4HOnline ID is required for 4-H members by May 15, FFA Sheep Verification form filled out and submitted to Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office by May 15.
8. Iowa State Fair animals must have a retinal image taken at weigh-in, in April, or at approved dates in neighboring counties.

JUDGING FOR EWE LAMB CLASSES

Any member may enter two (2) purebred or crossbred ewes per class. The ewes will be judged from the standpoint of quality, indicating the ability of the ewes to go into a flock to produce quality lambs. Exhibitors entering this class

should have definite plans to use the ewes as a breeding flock. The sheep in classes 26001-26004 may also be exhibited in the commercial ewe flock class. Classes with less than five head may be combined at the superintendent's discretion.

DIVISION 262: MARKET SHEEP

Class 26201: Market Lamb

Class 26202: Market Lamb Pen of 3

Market Sheep Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. All lambs shown in the market class must have been weighed and tagged at the April weigh in or lambs weighed in on approved dates in neighboring counties. Lambs not meeting this requirement cannot be shown. Any deviation will be left to the discretion of the Calhoun County Exposition Board and the Superintendents.
3. Members may weigh and tag no more than 10 market lambs on the weigh-in day in April. Lambs may be purchased or raised from member's own stock.
4. Lambs must be born after January 1 of the current year.
5. Market lamb pens and market individual lambs must be distinguished at the Expo check-in. After check-in lambs will be divided into weight classes.
6. Members may exhibit up to a maximum of 8 market lambs.
7. A max of 8 individual lambs per exhibitor will be permitted.

Examples:

- a. 1 lamb: 1 individual lamb
 - b. 2 lambs: 2 individual lambs
 - c. 3 lambs: MUST exhibit 1 pen of 3- then exhibitor may choose to show all lambs as individuals.
 - d. 4 lambs: MUST exhibit 1 pen of 3- then exhibitor may choose to show all lambs as individuals
 - e. 5 lambs: MUST exhibit 1 pen of 3- the exhibitor may choose to show all lambs as individuals.
 - f. 6 lambs: MUST exhibit 2 pens of 3- the exhibitor may choose to show all lambs as individuals.
 - g. 7 lambs: MUST exhibit 2 pens of 3- then exhibitor may choose to show all lambs as individuals.
 - h. 8 lambs: MUST exhibit 2 pens of 3- then exhibitor may choose to show all lambs as individuals.
8. All market lambs officially weighed and tagged at weigh-in are eligible for the rate of gain contest. All lambs in this class must be shown in either class 26201-26202.
 9. Market lambs have the option to be slick sheared.

10. No rams may be shown in this class.
11. Ewe lambs shown in this class cannot be shown in any breeding classes.
12. The FOUR ON THE FLOOR rule will be enforced.
13. 4HOnline ID is required for 4-H members by May 15, FFA Sheep Verification form filled out and submitted to Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office by May 15.
14. Iowa State Fair animals must have a retinal image taken at weigh-in, in April, or at approved dates in neighboring counties.

DIVISION 263: SHEEP PICK-UP LOAD

Class 26301: Market Lamb pick-up load (4 lambs per load)

Sheep Pick-Up Load Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Sheep must be born after January 1, 2026.
3. Up to eight (8) lambs may be weighed in at the April weigh-in. These eight (8) lambs are in addition to the lambs being weighed in for other market classes.
4. The lambs in the market pick-up load may be any combination of ewe or wether lambs.
5. Each exhibitor must show a minimum of one (1) additional lamb in the market or breeding classes (this market pick-up load is an additional class, not meant to replace what classes are already being conducted at the Exposition).
6. Lambs will be exhibited in their pens and not in the show ring.
7. 4HOnline ID is required for 4-H members by May 15, FFA Sheep Verification form filled out and submitted to Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office by May 15.
8. Lambs should be clean for exhibit.

JUDGING CRITERIA:

Judging will be done by the sheep judge. Pens will be placed blue, red, and white. Evaluations will be based upon the following:

1. General condition/care of the lambs per pen.
2. Uniformity.
3. Member's knowledge of their project and feeding program.
4. 4-H/FFA members must complete the information requested on the Advanced Feeder Breakeven Report this form may be obtained at the ISU Extension and Outreach- Calhoun County Office or at the Livestock office located on the fairgrounds.

SWINE DEPARTMENT

Superintendents: Kelly Meyer, Adam Johnson, Josh Freimuth

SWINE REQUIREMENTS: Swine Erysipelas Vaccination Recommendations: due to concerns over erysipelas outbreaks at county fairs, it is strongly recommended that pigs be vaccinated for erysipelas. The recommended guidelines are:

- Initial vaccination at 8-10 weeks of age.
- Follow with an erysipelas booster 2-3 weeks later.
- Erysipelas vaccination should be repeated 30 days prior to the fair. This is strongly recommended based upon experience with erysipelas in previous years.
- Allow for proper withdrawal times by checking the label.

DIVISION 270: MARKET SWINE

Class 27001: Market Swine

Class 27002: Market Swine Pen of 3

Market Swine Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Entries are open to purebred or crossbred pigs farrowed after January 1, 2026.
3. A weight range of 260-290 pounds at check-in is suggested.
4. Exhibitors may tag and identify no more than 10 pigs, which must be barrows and/or gilts.
5. Pigs with no tags are ineligible for exhibiting at the fair.
6. Market pen swine and market individuals must be distinguished during the Expo weigh-in. After check-in pigs will be divided into weight classes. Each exhibitor may show a maximum of two market pens. Pens will consist of three pigs with at least one pig being a barrow. Pigs need not to be litter mates.
7. Members may exhibit a maximum of 8 market pigs. A max of 4 individuals per exhibitor will be permitted.

Examples:

- a. 1 swine: 1 individual swine
- b. 2 swine: 2 individual swine
- c. 3 swine: MUST exhibit 1 pen of 3- then exhibitor may choose one, two, or three individuals from that pen.

- d. 4 swine: MUST exhibit 1 pen of 3, then exhibitor may choose one, two, or three individuals from that pen PLUS 1 additional individual.
 - e. 5 swine: MUST exhibit 1 pen of 3, then one or two individuals from that pen PLUS 2 additional individuals.
 - f. 6 swine: MUST exhibit 2 pens of 3, then exhibitor may choose up to 4 individuals from those pens.
 - g. 7 swine: MUST exhibit 2 pens of 3, then exhibitor may choose 3 swine from those pens PLUS 1 additional individual.
 - h. 8 swine: MUST exhibit 2 pens of 3, then exhibitor may choose 2 swine from those pens PLUS 2 additional individuals.
8. 4HOnline ID required for 4-H members by May 15, FFA Swine ID Form filled out and submitted to Iowa State University Extension office and Outreach by May 15.
 9. Iowa State Fair Swine (market and breeding) are required to have a DNA punch tag.
 10. All animals must come to an official weigh-in.

DIVISION 271: SWINE PICK-UP LOAD

Class 27101: Market Swine Pick-Up Load (6 swine per load)

Swine Pick-up Load Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Swine must be weighed in on designated day and time of the fair. Animals not on grounds at designated check-in time will not be allowed to exhibit.
3. Entries in this class must be a 4-H or FFA market swine project and farrowed after January 1, 2026.
4. All animals must come to an official weigh-in.
5. Up to ten (10) pigs may be tagged and identified. These 10 pigs are in addition to the pigs being weighed in for the other market classes.
6. Members may exhibit one (1) pick-up load (6 head).
7. Members may have purebred or crossbred pigs tagged and identified.
8. The pigs in the market pick-up load may be any combination of barrows and gilts but the load must be a mixed group.
9. Each exhibitor must show a minimum of one (1) additional pig in the market or breeding classes (this market pick-up load is an additional class, not meant to replace what classes are already being conducted at the Expo).
10. Pigs will be exhibited in their pens and not in the show ring.
11. Pigs should be clean (hosed off) for exhibit.

SWINE PICK-UP LOAD JUDGING CRITERIA:

Judging will be done by the swine judge. Pens will be placed blue, red, and white and will be evaluated on the following criteria:

- *General condition/care of the hogs and pen.
- *Uniformity
- *Member's knowledge of their project and feeding program.

4-H/FFA members must complete the information requested on the Advanced Feeder Breakeven Report. This form may be obtained at the ISU Extension and Outreach-Calhoun County Office or at the Livestock office located on the fairgrounds.

DIVISION 272: BREEDING SWINE

Class 27201: Purebred Gilt

Class 28202: Commercial Gilt

Breeding Swine Special Rules:

1. General rules, regulations, and health requirements in the fairbook apply to this department.
2. Gilts shown in the breeding classes will not be permitted to be shown in the market classes.
3. Swine must be weighed in on designated day and time of the fair. Animals not on grounds at designated check-in time will not be allowed to exhibit.
4. Entries in this class must be a 4-H or FFA breeding swine project and farrowed on or after December 1, 2025.
5. All Animals must come to an official weigh-in. Swine in this class are recommended to weigh between 220-320 pounds.
6. Exhibitors may exhibit a max of 2 head in each class.
7. Iowa State Fair Swine (market and breeding) are required to have a DNA punch tag.
8. 4HOnline ID required for 4-H members by May 15, FFA Swine ID Form filled out and submitted to Iowa State University Extension and Outreach office by May 15.

CALHOUN COUNTY 4-H STATIC EXHIBITS

This department is open to youth who are participating in 4-H Youth Development Programs conducted by Iowa State University Extension. 4-H members must have a 4-H enrollment in the 4HOnline program through the ISU Extension and Outreach-Calhoun County office by May 15 of the current year to be allowed to exhibit.

All exhibitors are responsible for reading and complying with the Calhoun County Expo 4-H general exhibit rules, 4-H general rules and regulations, and all 4-H department exhibit class rules and regulations.

General Exhibit Rules

1. 4-H members who have completed 4-12th grade during the current 4-H year are eligible to exhibit at the Calhoun County Exposition.
2. **The 4-H building will be closed to the public during the time the judges are selecting State Fair exhibits. All leaders and 4-H members will be asked to leave the building during this time.**
3. Eligible exhibits are an outgrowth of work done as a planned part of the 4-H member's participation in 4-H projects or programs during the current 4-H year. Exhibits can be done by an individual or group and may represent all or part of the learning in the project or program.
4. Exhibitors in 4-H classes are not eligible to exhibit in a similar department of the FFA divisions or vice versa. See also: "Iowa State Fair 4-H General Rules and Regulations".
5. Exhibits previously entered in an FFA Ag Science Fair or any other FFA event or competition may not be entered in any 4-H exhibit class.
6. Exhibits selected at the county level to advance to the Iowa State Fair should not be part of a local auction or sold to another individual before the Iowa State Fair.
7. Exhibits that do not comply with the class description, size guidelines, copyright restrictions, safety and approved methods may be disqualified and not be put on public display.
8. If the exhibitor chooses a display to illustrate what was learned:
 - Posters may not exceed 24 inches by 36 inches in size.
 - Chart boards, graph boards, project presentation boards, model displays, etc., may not exceed 48 inches by 48 inches in size. Maximum size is determined by measuring the flat (unfolded) dimensions.
 - Display boxes may not exceed 28 inches by 22 inches in height or width and 12 inches in depth
9. Endangered, threatened, and special concern plants and animals (including insects), songbird feathers, and nests may NOT be used in any exhibit.

Game animals legally taken are acceptable, with the exception of any hogs (*Sus* species)- per State Law. Live specimens of noxious weeds or invasive species are NOT permitted in any exhibit. Dried specimens are acceptable to use in exhibits, however viable noxious/invasive plant seeds shall not be included (links to specific information below).

State-listed animals: <http://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/ACO/rule/571.77.2.pdf>

State-listed plants: <http://www.legis.iowa.gov/docs/ACO/rule/571.77.3.pdf>

Iowa Noxious weed list: <https://law.justia.com/codes/iowa/2022/title-viii/chapter-317/section-317-1a/>

10. Exhibits may not include actual firearms or live ammunition. Archery equipment is allowed if tips are removed from arrows.
11. Copyrighted materials and designs may not be used in an exhibit that is presented as original work by the exhibitor. Exhibitors must include permission from the copyright holder/owner when using copyrighted materials. Exhibitors must give proper credit to the original source of all materials/designs used in exhibits. See also Special Rules for Visual Arts and general copyright information for 4-H members.
12. The 4-H member's goal and applicable exhibit standards will form the basis of the evaluation process. Evaluation criteria will include demonstrated learning, workmanship, techniques, general appearance, and design. Exhibitors will receive written evaluation comments on the exhibits and a blue, red, white, or participation ribbon.
13. A written explanation, audio recording, or video recording is to be included as part of each exhibit. Audio or video should not be longer than 10 minutes and must be uploaded to YouTube. The exhibitor should respond briefly to the following questions about the exhibit:
 - What did you plan to learn or do? (What was your exhibit goal(s)?)
 - What Steps did you take to learn or do this?
 - What were the most important things you learned?

NOTE: Check for special rules and additional requirements in exhibit classes for clothing and fashion, food and nutrition, home improvement, photography, visual arts, and 4-H poster communication, and personal development classes.

14. Exhibits with a goal that better fits a different department/class will be moved to that department/class at the discretion of the judge.
15. All judges' decisions are final.
16. Each item in an exhibit must be securely labeled including the name of the county, class number, and exhibitor's name.
17. There will be \$1.00 fee for each exhibited entered.

18. A maximum of combined total of 10 exhibits may be entered in the Photography and Digital Photography classes. (Example: 8 Photography and 2 Digital Photography for a combined total of 10).
19. All exhibits must reach the 4-H Exhibits Building on entry day during the 4-H member's club judging time:

- **8:00 A.M.-9:00 A.M.: The Union & Hot Shots**
- **9:00 A.M.-10:00 A.M.: North Butler Blazers and Jackson Pioneers**
- **10:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M.: Logan Larks, Manson Craters and Dog Project**

All exhibits must remain at the Expo until the scheduled release time on Sunday. All people picking up exhibits must adhere to this schedule.

Note: Exhibits removed prior to release time without early release forms will not receive ribbon premiums. See ISU staff for early release form info.

Other Exhibit Information

1. Due to security, 4-H members are discouraged from sending items that have special meaning and historical value as the exhibit or part of an exhibit.
2. The Calhoun County Exposition and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach will use diligence to ensure the safety of articles entered for exhibition after their arrival and placement. However, they will not be responsible for damage or loss by accident, fire, theft, water, etc.
3. Exhibitors may enter more than one exhibit in each class. However, each exhibit must represent distinct different learning regardless of class descriptions. All 4-H members are encouraged to exhibit a minimum of three exhibits. ***Exception: See Photography and Digital Photography for limits.** 4-H members who have more than 10 exhibits are encouraged to contact ISU Extension and Outreach-Calhoun County Office and plan to come early to ensure judging gets done in a timely fashion.
4. Exhibitors are allowed to take five (5) items/exhibits at a time to any one judge's table. Evaluation of all exhibits will be done by a member-judge conference method. Individuals who are unable to be present during evaluation will not be penalized; however, special arrangements need to be made with ISU Extension and Outreach staff prior to judging day. Only 4-H members are allowed to participate in the conference judging. Parents are not allowed to answer questions during conference judging.
5. Ratings and Ribbons: Exhibits will be rated as blue, red, or white quality with corresponding ribbons awarded. Premiums are a dollar valuation. The Calhoun County Exposition Board has designated money for premiums. A limited number of outstanding exhibits will be

identified with ribbons. Iowa State Fair and honorable mention exhibits will be identified with the appropriate ribbons.

6. Exhibits must be ready for display (artwork framed, wall hangings and pictures ready to hang, etc.) or the member must explain how a larger, heavier exhibit will be displayed. Make sure hangers are strong enough to support the item. Command Strips or other quick attach products are usually not adequate hangers. Items not ready for display will be dropped one ribbon placing.

Iowa State Fair

1. An exhibitor may have only one exhibit per class advance to the Iowa State Fair.
2. 4-H'ers who have completed 5th grade through 12th grade (or that equivalent) in 2026 are eligible to exhibit at the Iowa State Fair.
3. All exhibitors are responsible for reading and complying with the Iowa State Fair General Exhibit Rules for the exhibit. Exhibits that do not comply with size guidelines, copyright, and safety procedures will not be accepted for entry, evaluation, or display at the Iowa State Fair.
4. The 4-H building will be closed to the public during the time the judges are selecting State Fair exhibits. All leaders and 4-H members will be asked to leave the building during this time.
5. Pictures of exhibitors selected to advance to the Iowa State Fair are scheduled to be taken on the designated day and time in the 4-H Building. Please wear a 4-H shirt.
6. Exhibits for the Iowa State Fair are due in the ISU Extension and Outreach-Calhoun County Office with recommended improvements made no later than the designated date and time set after Exposition. Exhibitors of very large exhibits will be requested to transport exhibits to and from the Iowa State Fair.

Special Awards and Recognition

In addition to Iowa State Fair selections and alternates, the following special recognition will be made:

- Outstanding Family and Consumer Science Award-** A plaque will be awarded to the most outstanding Family and Consumer Science exhibit. The exhibit must meet all class guidelines and be a blue-ribbon project. It may be entered by an Intermediate or Senior 4-H member and does not have to be eligible for Iowa State Fair consideration. A 4-H member may receive recognition no more than once in any given project area.
- Agriculture and Natural Resources Conservation Award-** A certificate and monetary prize will be given to any outstanding Agriculture and Natural Resource Conservation exhibit(s). Selection for this award and

how many awards will be determined by the Calhoun County Soil and Water Conservations District Commissioners. Award(s) may be given to any youth who exhibit in the 4-H static building and show good use of Agriculture and Natural Resources Conservation.

Class Descriptions

Most exhibit classes have specific guidelines and requirements that will be included in the judging process. Members are strongly encouraged to go to: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects> to find information on judging criteria for exhibits that they create from their 4-H project learning.

DIVISION 101: ANIMALS

10110- Animal Science: An exhibit other than the animal itself that shows learning about a large or small animal including beef, dairy goats, dairy cattle, dogs, horse, pony, meat goats, pets, poultry, rabbits, sheep, and swine. Ownership of an animal is not required.

10120- Veterinary Science: An exhibit that shows learning about keeping animals healthy, animal diseases, animal/human interaction, or other learning related to Veterinary Science.

DIVISION 102: AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES

10210- Crop Production and Plant Science: An exhibit that shows learning about the growth, use, and value of field crops, plant growth, soils, soil fertility, or any other learning related to crop production and plant science.

10220- Conservation, Environment and Sustainability: An exhibit that shows the connections between humans and their environment including energy, energy conservation, stewardship, conservation, creating habitat, etc.

10222-Entomolgy: An exhibit excluding live specimens that shows learning is an outgrowth of an entomology or bee project experience. Includes specimen collections and may include products, for example honey, or equipment as part of the display.

10224-Fish and Wildlife: An exhibit that shows learning about a fish and/or wildlife project or program such as identification, habitats, harvest, taxidermy, etc. Any specimens must have been legally taken and must include information about date and location of harvest, and who the specimen was acquired from if not self-harvested. Feral pigs, including Russian/European Boar, are NOT permitted in taxidermy exhibits.

10226- Forestry: An exhibit, including collections that show learning from participation in a forestry project or program.

10230- Horticulture and Plant Science: An exhibit that shows learning about the growth, use, value of plants, soils, small fruit production, vegetable and flower gardens, plant nutrition, careers, etc.

10235- Home Grounds Improvement: An exhibit that shows learning about landscape plans, selection of landscape plants, ornamental garden features, home yard improvement, storage sheds, careers, etc.

10240- Outdoor Adventures: An exhibit that shows learning about backpacking, biking, camping, canoeing, fishing, hiking or other outdoor activities.

10250-Safety and Education in Shooting Sports: An exhibit that shows learning about the safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment or wildlife management. The exhibit may not include actual firearms or live ammunition. Archery equipment is allowed if tips are removed from arrows.

10255-Farm Model Display: An exhibit that depicts an aspect of farm life that demonstrates a practice or practices that include farm safety or farm operations. Evaluation is primarily based on a clear goal statement that outlines the purpose of the model and the research done to support the exhibit. This exhibit may be a display on a firm base no larger than 36 inches by 36 inches, accompanied by the required written or audio/video explanation of the exhibit. A binder presentation is an acceptable alternative to a physical display.

10260-Other Agriculture and Natural Resources: An exhibit that shows learning about agriculture or natural resources and does not fit in any of the classes listed above.

Agriculture and Natural Resources Special Rule:

Exhibits must be ready for display (artwork framed, wall hangings and pictures ready to hang, etc.) or the member must explain how a larger, heavier exhibit will be displayed. Make sure hangers are strong enough to support the item. Command Strips or other quick attach products (like sawtooth hangers) are usually not adequate hangers. Items not ready for display will be dropped one ribbon placing.

DIVISION 103: CREATIVE ARTS

10310-Music: An exhibit that shows learning about musical performance, composition and arrangements, instruments, musical styles, or history. If submitting a video or musical arrangement, it must be uploaded to YouTube.

10320-Photography: An exhibit, either photo(s) or an educational display that shows learning about photography from choosing a camera to modifying your photo. Still photos only, not video.

Photography Special Rules:

1. Photographs may be either black and white or color. Photographs must have been taken since your county fair of the previous year.
2. Photographs should be a minimum of 5 inches x 7 inches. Finished size (including mounting/matting) of single photographs may not exceed 11 inches x 14 inches. Square photos are allowed within the following dimensions, measured by inches: 7x7, 8x8, 9x9, 10x10, 11x11. Exception: panoramic photos may not exceed 11 inches high by 24 inches in length.
3. All photographs must be printed on photographic paper and must be mounted/matting. Maximum thickness of finished project must not exceed ½ inch thick.
4. Mounted photos can be (a) flush-mounted (no board showing) on mounting board, or (b) with mount boarders (window mat or flat mount directly on board). Exhibitors may cut their own mounting boards, use ready-cut-window mats or have matting done professionally.
 - * 4-Hers are responsible for design decisions such as border, color, and size.
 - * Framed photographs (including floating frames) will not be judged.
5. A series is a group of photographs [3-5] that are related to or tell a step-by-step story. Photographs must be mounted together and numbered in a story order sequence. Finished size of individual photographs in a series must be a minimum of 5 inches by 7 inches and should not exceed 8 inches by 8 inches.
6. Edited photos should include a copy of the photo before edits.
7. Photographs depicting unsafe practices or illegal activities will not be displayed.
8. Exhibitors must use the Photo Exhibit Label to provide required information for photo exhibits.
9. Exhibitors entered in 4-H photography are not eligible to exhibit in the FFA Photography Show and vice versa.

10340-Creative Photography: A photographic image that was creatively edited or modified beyond reality in a creative, imaginative, and experimental way to make it more interesting and visually engaging. The final exhibit could be a composite of multiple photographs. **Must include original photographs.**

Creative Photography Special Rules:

1. Photograph/image may be mounted/mated.
2. If mounted, photograph/image must be mounted on foam core no smaller than 5 inches in length or larger than 14 inches in length. Square photos are allowed within the following dimensions, measured by inches: 7x7, 8x8, 9x9, 10x10, 11x11.
3. Photograph/image can be digitally created.
4. Exhibit must have the most current Photo Exhibit Label on the back with required information for photo exhibits. Exhibit write-up should include

additional information about the processes and decisions used to develop the exhibit.

5. Subject matter must be in good taste and be appropriate for public display in a 4-H setting.

6. Photographs depicting unsafe practices or illegal activities will not be displayed.

10345- Photography Idea/Educational Display: An exhibit that demonstrates learning about photography that does not fit into any previous photography class. This class may include educational displays about printing, processing, editing, marketing, branding, merchandising, etc. as it relates to photography. Display board may not exceed 48 inches by 48 inches.

10350-Visual Arts Original Art: An exhibit that showcases the skills you have developed in one or more mediums. Original art is a one-of-a-kind, non-replicable design of your creation. By using one medium or a combination, an individual created an authentic work of art that is NOT recognizable as another's works. You must explain the application of the most relevant design element(s) and art principle(s) featured in this exhibit. Describe your inspirations, reasons, feeling, and/or motives for creating this work of art.

10355-Visual Arts- Design, Process, or Technique Exploration: This class emphasizes process and provides the opportunity to explore a medium, practice a skill, or study and apply elements and principles of art and design. This class is for experimenting with and practicing skills in different mediums. An explanation of the application of design elements or art principles used when making the exhibit must be included. This exhibit may be an object, portfolio, display poster, or organized sketchbook. If a non-original design source is used, it's origin (where the idea was found, any pictures, sketches, etc.) must be credited, acknowledged, or have copyright permission obtained.
* See Visual Arts special rule # 5 and # 6 below.

10360-Visual Arts- Other Idea/Topics: Exhibits might include the study and research about an individual artist, style, craft, business, marketing process, planning group tour, career options, etc.

Visual Arts Special Rules:

1. Exhibits must be ready for display (artwork framed, wall hangings and pictures ready to hang, etc.) or the member must explain how a larger, heavier exhibit will be displayed. Make sure hangers are strong enough to support the item. Command Strips or other quick attach products (like sawtooth hangers) are usually not adequate hangers. Items not ready for display will be dropped one ribbon placing.

2. Exhibits made from kits or preformed molds will NOT be accepted.

Exception: preformed molds (greenware, whiteware) may be used to provide

appropriate surface for a process technique or application of original design.

3. If the exhibit is a finished art object, the source of inspiration of the design, design sketches, or other process for creating the object and design must be included explaining the application of design art elements and art principles used in creating your work.

5. Original works of art must be a creative expression of a design unique to the artist or represent a significant modification to an existing design to make a new and original statement by the artist.

6. Exhibition of derivative works created by a 4-H'er is prohibited without the written permission of the original copyright holder/owner. Use of copyrighted or trademarked designs, images, logos, or materials in 4-H visual arts exhibits is prohibited unless written permission has been obtained from the copyright or trademark holder/owner.

DIVISON 104: FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES

10410-Child Development: An exhibit that shows learning about children. An exhibit could include careers in child development, caring for children with special needs, childcare, growth and development, safety, and health. An exhibit that includes items intended for use with children, such as babysitting kits, books, learning games, or toys, must include information about what you learned about children while creating and using the exhibit or what the child/children learned from their use of the item(s) in the exhibit.

10420-Clothing and Fashion- Constructed/Sewn Garments and Accessories: A constructed garment or accessory (sewn, knitted, crocheted, or other process) that shows learning about style, fashion, design, thrifty spending, wardrobe planning, types of fabrics, and/or clothing care. Exhibits must be intended to be worn by humans.

10422-Clothing and Fashion- Purchased Garments & Accessories: Purchased garments or accessories that show learning about a style, fashion, design, thrifty spending, wardrobe planning, and types of fabrics and/or clothing care. Exhibits must be intended to be worn by humans.

10424-Clothing and Fashion-Other Ideas/Educational Exhibits: Any other educational exhibit that shows learning about clothing and fashion including but not limited to design illustrations, exploration of clothing styles, careers, clothing care, etc.

Clothing and Fashion Special Rules:

1. Outfits or accessories which will be worn during the Awardrobe Clothing Event may not be entered as a 4-H Iowa State Fair exhibit.

2. Exhibits in classes 10420 and 10422 must include information about application of design elements and art principles. Exhibits in class 10424 should

include information about application of design elements and art principles if appropriate for the exhibit.

10430-Consumer Management: An exhibit that shows learning through savvy budgeting, comparison shopping, money management, consumer rights and responsibilities.

10440- Food and Nutrition- Prepared Product: An exhibit of a prepared food product that shows skills or learning about cooking, baking, eating, choosing healthy foods, or safety practices through the making of a prepared product. See Food and Nutrition Special Rules below. Display Boxes are not allowed for prepared products.

10442-Food and Nutrition-Preserved Product: An exhibit of a preserved food product that shows skills or learning about food preservation through the making of a preserved food product. Processed honey may be exhibited in this class. See Food and Nutrition Special Rules below.

10445- Food and Nutrition-Educational Display: An educational exhibit, poster, report, display, that shows skills or learning about cooking, baking, eating, choosing healthy foods, meal planning/preparation and service, safety practices, or food preservation. Exhibits showing learning about table settings or menu planning and service must include a menu.

Food and Nutrition Special Rules:

1. Any exhibit considered to be a food safety risk or portray a food safety risk will not be accepted, judged, or displayed.
2. All food products/exhibits should be appropriate for human consumption.
3. Food product exhibits must be prepared, baked, or cooked using only food grade utensils and containers.
4. Products that require refrigeration will not be accepted, judged, or displayed.
5. Meat jerky products are prohibited.
6. The recipe must be included for any prepared or preserved food exhibit; including the source of the recipe.
7. Preserved foods must include the Food Preservation Exhibit Label. Only food processed after August 1, 2025, is acceptable. Current USDA and/or Iowa State University guidelines for home food preservation must be used. Processed honey must include Honey Exhibit Label.
8. Preserved food exhibits **must** include two (2) product samples. One will be opened for evaluation and discarded; the second one will be placed on display and returned to the exhibitor. All perishable food products will be discarded when removed from display.
9. Prepared food exhibits should be placed on a firm disposable plate. Place

food product exhibit in a re-closeable plastic bag with entry tag fastened outside the bag.

10. Prepared food exhibits **must** include five (5) items for cookies, cupcakes, bars, muffins, rolls, etc. One (1) whole product for cakes loafs, pies, etc.

11. The use of alcoholic beverages in the preparation or production of 4-H food exhibits is NOT permitted.

12. Refer to the Foods for Iowa 4-H Fairs document for the updated approved buttercream recipe. Contact ISU AnswerLine at 1-800-262-3804 to help select an acceptable product for exhibit, find an approved recipe source, and identify appropriate preparation methods.

10450-Health: An exhibit that shows learning through food choices, physical activity, safe activities, skills such as first aid and CPR, careers, and healthy lifestyle choices.

10460- Home Improvement: An exhibit that shows learning in planning, improving, and caring for your home living space. Including extended personal living areas immediately adjacent to the home. Exhibits may include new or refinished, reclaimed, restored items. Exhibits showing learning about home design, furniture, home accessories, and fabrics must include information about how design elements and art principles were applied.

Home Improvement Special Rules:

1. Exhibits must be ready for display (artwork framed, wall hangings and pictures ready to hang, etc.) or the member must explain how a larger, heavier exhibit will be displayed. Make sure hangers are strong enough to support the item. Command Strips or other quick attach products (like sawtooth hangers) are usually not adequate hangers. Items not ready for display will be dropped one ribbon placing.
2. Exhibit write-up information must include source of inspiration and or references indicating where the idea or information was obtained, giving credit to original author(s)/designer(s)/artist(s).

10470- Sewing and Needle Arts-Constructed- A constructed item sewn, knitted, crochet, or other process that shows learning and skill in sewing, knitting, crocheting, or other needle arts. May include the construction of household items such as pillowcases, curtains, table runners, quilts, wall hangings. Exhibits in this class are not intended to be worn by humans. Include information about application of design elements and art principles if appropriate for the exhibit.

10472- Sewing and Needle Arts- Other Ideas/Educational Exhibits: Any other educational exhibit that shows learning about sewing and needle arts including construction techniques, use, care of fabrics and fibers, design illustrations,

decorative processes, careers, etc. Include information about application of design elements and art principles if appropriate for the exhibit.

10480- Other Family and Consumer Science: An exhibit that demonstrates learning about a family and consumer science topic that does not fit any other Family and Consumer Science class listed.

10490- Thrifty Meal Challenge: Create a balanced, nutritious meal for a family of four (4) that includes a serving of each of the five recommended food groups with a budget of \$11 (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefit allowance for a family of four as of November 2025).

Meal Challenge Special Rules:

1. All entries will receive an evaluation and ribbon.
2. Exhibit may be from an individual or group effort.
3. The total expense on receipt(s) must not exceed \$11.
4. The meal must serve four (4) people, with a serving for each person from each of the recommended food groups: Protein, Dairy, Healthy Fats, Vegetables, Fruits and Whole Grains.
 - a. Recommended serving sizes per person: 3 ounces of protein, 1 cup dairy, 1 Tablespoon healthy fats, ½-1 cup vegetables, ½ cup fruit, 1/2-1 ounce whole grain.
 - b. If there is a dairy allergy, you may substitute it with a calcium-rich item, but you will need to indicate the allergy and identify how the item you substituted provides enough calcium.
5. The exhibit will be a poster (maximum size 22 inches x 28 inches or 20 inches x 30 inches) that includes:
 - a. A copy of the Thrifty Meal Challenge Worksheet attached to the back of the poster.
 - b. The menu, a list of food items, and appropriate portion sizes for each food item.
 - c. Meal type (breakfast, lunch, dinner).
 - d. Copy of grocery receipts (up to 2).
 - e. Photos of the experience: grocery shopping, food preparation, and prepared meal.
 - f. Failure to include the above documentation or adding a folder or binder will drop the exhibit one ribbon placing.

DIVISION 105: PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Personal Development Special Rule:

1. Exhibits entered in Personal Development classes should include reflection by the 4-H member stating how they personally grew or benefited from the exhibit. Why was this exhibit important to them as a person?

10510- Citizenship and Civic Engagement: An exhibit that shows learning about or contributing to your community, your country, or your world.

10520- Communication: An exhibit that shows learning about written, oral, or visual communication skills. Includes learning from participation in theatre arts projects or programs such as puppets, stage design, etc. May include original creative writing, poetry, fiction, and non-fiction, etc. If the finished exhibit includes audio or video, it must be uploaded to YouTube.

10530- 4-H Poster Communication Exhibit: An exhibit to visually tell a story or idea to the public. Exhibitors must use one of the following themes:

- 4-H is... (open to 4-H'ers interpretation)
- Join 4-H
- Beyond Ready in 4-H (2025 National 4-H Week theme)
- 4-H Spirit (variation of 2025 Iowa State Fair theme)
- 4-H for America's Next 250 Years (celebrating America's 250th birthday)

Poster Communication Special Rules:

1. Only one poster per 4-H member may be entered.
2. All posters must be designed on, or affixed to, standard poster board or foam core board- size minimum of 14 inches by 20 inches or maximum of 15 inches by 22 inches.
3. Posters may be vertical or horizontal.
4. Posters may be any medium: watercolor, ink, crayon, acrylic, charcoal, oils, collage, digital images etc. If digital images or a computer program is used to create the finished poster, the member needs to cite their sources on the Poster Exhibit Entry Form.
5. Posters **cannot** be 3-dimensional. Materials used to make the poster may **not** extend more than 1/8 inch above the poster or foam core board.
6. Each poster **must** have the completed Poster Exhibit Entry Form attached to the back.
7. Posters **cannot** use copyrighted material or exact copies of other promotional designs, such as the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference theme logo.

8. 4-H members may include the 4-H clover on the poster.

10540- Digital Storytelling: An exhibit that demonstrates the application of technology to produce a creative movie/film/video. Exhibits may include a finished movie or video creation of a detailed storyboard, editing techniques using digital video software, production techniques, or other display to share what was learned. Copyright permission must be obtained for any non-original material included as part of a film/movie/video. Finished film/movie/video must be uploaded to YouTube.

10550- Leadership: An exhibit that shows learning about leadership skills and influencing others in a positive way.

10560- Self-Determined: An exhibit that shows learning as part of your 4-H adventure and does not fit any other class.

DIVISION 106: SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY SPECIAL RULES:

1. Exhibits entered in the 4-H Science, Engineering, & Technology classes are not eligible to exhibit in similar FFA Ag Mechanics classes and vice-versa.
2. Exhibits must be ready for display (artwork framed, wall hangings and pictures ready to hang, etc.) or the member must explain how a larger, heavier exhibit will be displayed. Make sure hangers are strong enough to support the item. Command Strips or other quick attach products (like sawtooth hangers) are usually not adequate hangers. Items not ready for display will be dropped one ribbon placing.
3. Due to available space, vehicles will be displayed outdoors. If a vehicle is permitted to be displayed indoors, fuel must be drained before the exhibit can be accepted for evaluation and display. No fuel is allowed inside of the building.

10610-Mechanics: An exhibit that shows skills or learning about general mechanics or engineering solutions, or that combines skills related to the design, construction, and repair of structural and mechanical technologies.

10612-Automotive: Repaired or restored vehicle.

10613-Automotive-Educational Display: An educational display showing learning about an automotive idea including automotive maintenance, auto operations, auto safety, or automotive systems.

10614-Electric: Constructed, repaired article or educational display that shows skills or learning about electric wiring, appliances, lighting, electrical energy sources, safety, etc.

10615- Small Engine: Repaired or restored operating engine, educational display, or other type of exhibit that shows learning about small engines. This class includes repaired or restored lawn tractors, small motorcycles, go-karts, etc.

10616-Tractor: Repaired or restored tractor (lawnmower or larger). Note: A conference judging opportunity for exhibitors of repaired or restored tractors in Class 10616 will be offered during exhibit check-in. (Conference judging may not be available during all check-in times.) Tractors will be displayed outside throughout the Iowa State Fair. Release time Sunday, August 23th after 7 p.m. Please bring chocks for back tires of tractor.

10617- Tractor-Educational Display: An educational display showing learning related to tractors, tractor mechanics, tractor operations, or tractor safety.

10618- Welding: Constructed item or educational display that shows skills or learning about welding.

10620-Woodworking: An exhibit that shows learning about wood, woodworking techniques, or safe uses of woodworking tools and machines. Exhibits may include newly constructed or refinished/reclaimed/restored wood items.

10630-Science, Engineering & Technology: An exhibit that shows learning about or helps explain how science and technology help us interact with the world. Topics include aerospace, biological and chemical sciences, computers and networking, earth and climate, geospatial mapping (GPS/GIS) or any other application of science, engineering, or technology.

10632-Aerospace: Educational display or other exhibit (including flyable models) showing learning about aerospace ideas or topics.

10634-Robotics: Educational display or other exhibit (including working robots) that shows learning about robotics and robotic systems.

DIVISION 401: COUNTY CHALLENGES

Class 40101-Bucket of Flowers: Theme: Red, White and Bloom

Bucket of Flowers Special Rules:

1. Member may enter one exhibit in this class.
2. Use a 5-gallon bucket with holes in the bottom for drainage.
3. Fill part way with packing peanuts, pop cans, etc. Add soil and plants (all plants must be real).
4. Label in permanent marker member's name, club, and name of plants.
5. Member will determine the design, organization, and materials.

6. Buckets should be brought to the 4-H building on static judging day. You will talk to the county challenge judge.
7. Exhibits will be judged on creativity and health of the plants.
8. Decorating the bucket and adding accents is optional.
9. Buckets will be placed around the Expo to beautify the fairgrounds and then must be picked up on Sunday at designated release time.
10. Members are responsible for watering their buckets during the week of fair.
11. This class is NOT eligible for the Iowa State Fair.
12. All entries will receive participation ribbons.

Class 40102-Photography Challenge 2026 Theme: America in Action

Photography Challenge Special Rules:

1. Member may make one entry.
2. Photo must have been taken since the county fair of the previous year.
3. Photo must be in good taste and appropriate for public display in a 4-H setting.
4. Photo must be exactly 4"x6", flat, unmounted, displayed in a plastic bag or page protector.
5. Photo must be printed on a home printer, from a kiosk, or ordered online on standard photo paper. Photo must not be printed on linen paper, canvas, wraparound, nor printed on cloth.
6. Photo may be black and white or color.
7. Photo may be taken with any camera i.e. film camera, digital camera, cell phone, tablet.
8. Photo may be enhanced such as cropped, color enhanced, or sharpened.
9. Photographs depicting unsafe practices or illegal activities will not be displayed.
10. Exhibit must have an index card with the members name and 4-H Club listed on the card. No goal card is needed.
11. Entries should be brought to the 4-H building on Static Judging Day. You will talk to the county challenge judge.
12. This class is NOT eligible for State Fair.
13. All entries will receive participation ribbons.

Class 40103- Recipe Challenge 2026 Theme: Lemon Chia Seed Muffins

Ingredients:

1 cup whole wheat flour

1 cup all-purpose white flour

½ cup white sugar

1 ½ teaspoons baking powder

1 tablespoon chia seeds

1 cup nonfat milk

1/3 cup oil (canola or vegetable)

2 eggs

1/3 cup lemon juice (or you can use 1 tablespoon lemon zest and 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice in place of the 1/3 cup lemon juice)

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a muffin tin with liners or spray with cooking spray.
2. Stir together whole wheat flour, white flour, sugar, baking powder, and chia seeds in a medium bowl.
3. Mix together milk, oil, eggs, and lemon juice in a small bowl.
4. Pour wet ingredients into dry ingredients. Stir until just combined. Divide the batter into the muffin tins.
5. Bake until the muffins are golden and a tester inserted in the center of a muffin comes out clean. This should take about 16-18 minutes.
6. Store leftovers in an airtight container.

Recipe Challenge Special Rules:

1. The purpose of this challenge is to use the above recipe, then make, bake, and present your best Lemon Chia Seed Muffins.
2. Members may make one entry.
3. It is important that the recipe be followed as written, as your exhibits will be compared to others. No substitutions.
4. Entry should be labeled and packaged the same as any other prepared food that is exhibited (paper plate with clear plastic bag).
5. This class is NOT eligible for State Fair.
6. Entry should be brought to the 4-H building on static judging day. You will talk to the county challenge judge.
7. All entries will receive participation ribbons.
8. This same recipe may be used to enter an entry into class 10440.

Class 40104-Apple Pie Challenge 2026 Theme: Taste of Tradition

Cookie Challenge Special Rules:

1. The purpose of this challenge is to find an apple pie recipe and make the best apple pie possible.
2. No nuts will be allowed due to allergies.
3. Members may make one entry.
4. It is important that you find an apple pie recipe, as your exhibit will be compared to others. Remember to write down your recipe source.
5. Entry should be labeled and packaged the same as any other prepared food that is exhibited (paper plate with clear plastic bag).

6. Entry should be brought to the 4-H building on static judging day. You will talk to the county challenge judge.
7. This class is NOT eligible for State Fair.
8. All entries will receive participation ribbons.
9. This same recipe may be used to enter an entry into class 10440. Be sure to check the Foods for Iowa Fairs-Reference Guide to ensure you pit would be eligible to exhibit.

Class 40105- Sewing Challenge: 2026 Theme-Threads of Tradition (Quilt Block)

Sewing Challenge Special Rules:

1. Members may make one entry.
2. The 2026 Sewing Challenge Theme is: Threads of Tradition. This will be a quilt block that will go into a quilt to be raffled off to support the Calhoun County Exposition.
3. Members may ask for the help of adults in design and construction, but most of the planning and construction needs to be completed by the youth.
4. The quilt block may use any design, but is **required** to stick with the red, white, and blue color scheme. This will be a patriotic quilt.
5. The quilt blocks will be judged this year and raffled off as a quilt next year.
6. Members may use any quilt block pattern as long as the block is 12 inches x 12 inches in size.
7. All entries will receive participation ribbons.
8. This class is NOT eligible for State Fair.
9. Entry should be brought to the 4-H building on static judging day. You will talk to the county challenge judge.

Class 40106- Bucket of Junk Challenge 2026 Theme: Scrap to Strong

Bucket of Junk Special Rules:

1. The purpose of this challenge is to use the items in your bucket to create a sculpture or lawn art piece.
2. Members may make one entry.
3. **Members must collect their own bucket of junk, no items may be purchased; however, extra pieces can be acquired, or scavenged at no extra cost.**
4. All items of junk may be cleaned, sanded, welded, cut, bolted, fastened, bent, shaped, or finished in any manner the sculptor desires.
5. Participants are encouraged to work with an adult to ensure safety when creating their masterpiece.
6. All pieces will be put on display in the Calhoun County Expo center and open to the public throughout the fair.
7. This class is NOT eligible for State Fair.
8. All entries will receive participation ribbons.

Calhoun County Hot Shots Fair Shoot

Calhoun County Hot Shots Fair Shoot Special Rules

1. The purpose of this Fair Shoot is to showcase Hot Shots 4-H Members growth over the last year.
2. This event will take place on Saturday, July 12 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at Johnson Prairie (five miles east and one mile south of Rockwell City, south of Traer Ave and 290th Street).
3. All participants must be a registered Calhoun County Hot Shots 4-H Club member, **unless participating in wildlife**.
4. All participants must follow all range safety rules at all times.
5. All participants must register by calling the Extension Office at 712-297-8611 by June 15th.
6. Members can register for archery, air rifle, 22 rifle, **wildlife**, and shotgun disciplines.
7. Spectators must follow all range safety rules.
8. This class is NOT eligible for State Fair.
9. All entries will receive participation ribbons.
10. Members placing first, second, and third will receive banners.

4-H COMMUNICATION EVENT

Communication Event Rules:

1. This event will take place on Saturday, May 30, 2026, at St. Paul's Lutheran and Presbyterian Church, 527 Main Street, Rockwell City.
2. Families will be notified of the time of their event by the Extension Office when the schedule is finalized.
3. Registration must be made using the Fair Entry system.
<https://faireentry.com/Fair/Signin/19480>
4. Entry for the communication event will open April 1, 2026. Entry deadline is May 23, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.
5. Awards, Iowa State Fair selections will be announced after the event.
6. 4-H members who have completed 5-12 grade in 2026 are eligible to advance to the Iowa State Fair. Exception: Share-The-Fun and Extemporaneous Speaking-See class rules for age guidelines.
7. 4-H members who have completed 4-12 grade in 2026 are eligible to advance to the Clay County Fair.
8. Educational presentations and working exhibits may be given by one or more 4-H members. Teams consisting of youth of mixed grades will be subject to the time limits based on the age of the member in the highest grade level.

9. Topics selected by the 4-H member should be an outgrowth of their 4-H experience(s) or learning in their project area. Topics should be appropriate for presentation to a general audience.
10. Educational Presentation, Working Exhibit, and Extemporaneous Speaking participants cannot be involved in another event (communication event, clothing program, livestock show or judging) during the half-day they are scheduled to participate in their communication event. Share-The-Fun participants cannot be involved in another event from 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the scheduled show to 15 minutes following the show. Participation in multiple activities during the Iowa State Fair may not always be possible because of schedule conflicts.
11. Iowa State Fair: All Iowa State Fair participants are required to attend the scheduled orientation session prior to participating in their event (times subject to change).
 - a. Educational Presentations: 8:30 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. on August 13-22.
 - b. Working Exhibits: 8:30 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. on August 13-22.
 - c. Share-The-Fun: 20 minutes prior to the show, normally 11:40 a.m. and 4:40 p.m.-although times may vary on August 13-22.
 - d. Extemporaneous Speaking: 8:30 a.m. or 1:00 p.m. on Monday, August 17; Tuesday, August 18; Thursday, August 20; Sunday August 23 at 8:30 a.m.
12. Stickers may not be used in any communication event for any reason. **If tape is needed, painters' tape is allowed.**
13. Only presenters are allowed in the Working Exhibit and Extemporaneous Speaking preparation rooms.
14. 4-H members must use sanitary and safe procedures and methods at all times. Educational Presentations and Working Exhibits involving food must follow established food safety guidelines, including HS 76 "Foods for Iowa 4-H Fairs – Quick Reference Guide"
15. All participants are expected to comply with all copyright/trademark regulations. Copyrighted material may not be distributed without permission.
16. Participants will be given blue, red, and white ribbon placings.
17. If live animals will be used as part of a Communication Event, the exhibitor must comply with the 2026 Health Requirements for the Exhibition of Livestock, Poultry and Birds at State Fair, District Shows and Exhibitions. This can be found at <https://iowaagriculture.gov/sites/default/files/animal-industry/pdf/HPAI/2025%20Health%20Requirements%20for%20the%20Exhibition%20of%20Livestock.pdf>. Animals that do not comply will not be allowed.

DIVISION 111: EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION

Class 11101: Junior educational presentation

Class 11102: Intermediate/Senior educational presentation

Educational Presentation Rules:

1. Provides an opportunity for 4-H members to demonstrate communication skills by presenting knowledge, information, or a process to an audience.
2. Time limit: Junior presentations (4-6 grade) must not exceed 15 minutes. Intermediate/Senior presentations (7th-12th grade) must not exceed 20 minutes. Presenters will be verbally told to "STOP" when they exceed the time limit.
3. Presentations may be on any topic which is an outgrowth of their 4-H project experience. Presentation content must be the original work of the presenter. Extensive paraphrasing from other sources is prohibited. Use of brief quotations or excerpts of from other work(s) is permitted provided the source is identified.
4. Participants must turn in a completed Educational Presentation Report form.
5. Exhibitors must furnish their own supplies.

DIVISION 112: WORKING EXHIBITS

Class 11200: working exhibits

Working Exhibit Special Rules:

1. Provides an opportunity for 4-H members to communicate, interact with, and teach an audience in an informal and experiential way.
2. Time limit: All participants/teams will be scheduled for a thirty-minute period, with a ten-minute set up before and a five-minute clean up following the working exhibit.
3. Each participant/team will furnish their own supplies.
4. Many stages of the exhibit or product should be ready so that any step can be discussed. No set format should be used. Questions that might be asked as starters are: Have you seen....? Would you like to know how to...? May I show you how....? The best subjects involve action by the youth or involve the audience in some doing, feeling, tasting, smelling, or judging.
5. Exhibits will be evaluated on the following criteria: educational value, set-up, use of visual aids to attract audience, use of visual aids to carry out working exhibits, appearance of exhibit, and knowledge of topic.
6. Participants must turn in a completed Working Exhibit Report form.

DIVISION 113: SHARE-THE-FUN

Class 11300: Share-the-fun

Share-The-Fun Special Rules:

1. Participants must have completed 9th through 12th grade (or that equivalent) in 2026. Exception: If the Share-The-Fun act involves a whole club, the following criteria must be applied to determine if the club can be entered in the Share-The-Fun Program at the Iowa State Fair:
 - a. At least eighty percent of the performing group must have completed 5th through 12th grade (or that equivalent) in 2026.
 - b. Clover Kids are not eligible to participate at the Iowa State Fair.
2. Provides an opportunity for 4-H members to perform before an audience, purely for the sake of enjoyment.
3. Share-The-Fun performances must not exceed six (6) minutes in length.
4. Skits, songs, stunts, short one-act plays, dance, and other entertainment are acceptable. All performances must be appropriate for presentation to a general audience.
5. Electronic equipment like a cd player, USB for music, etc. will need to be provided by participant.
6. All performers must turn in a completed 4-H Share-The-Fun Report Form.

DIVISION 114: EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEAKING

Class 11401: Intermediate extemporaneous speaking

Class 11402: Senior extemporaneous speaking

Extemporaneous Speaking Special Rules:

1. Participants must be senior 4-H members- completed 9th through 12th grade (or that equivalent) in 2026.
2. Program Format:
 - a. Thirty minutes before the program, each participant will draw three of the available topics, selecting one to speak on.
 - i. The selected topic will not be available to the other participants. The general nature of the topics will relate to 4-H. the other two topics drawn but not chosen will be returned to the available topics for other participants.
 - b. A preparation room will be made available for contestants only. Each contestant will have thirty minutes preparation time. A participant may not leave the preparation room until

it is time to speak, nor may a participant receive help from a parent, leader, other adult, or any other youth.

- c. All reference material will be based on the following:
 - i. Participant may bring their own books, magazines, or newspaper clipping for reference during preparation time.
 - ii. Reference material must be printed material such as books or magazine, cannot be notes, outlines, or speeches prepared by the participant or by another person for use in this program.
 - d. Each speech shall be the result of the 4-H member's own efforts using approved reference material that a participant may bring to the preparation room. No other assistance is provided. Plain note cards will be provided for each participant in the preparation room. If notes are used, the note cards provided must be used in delivering the speech.
 - e. Only notes made during the preparation period can be used.
 - f. Each speech shall be less than four but no more than six minutes with five minutes additional time allowed for related questions, which shall be asked by the judge. The participant will be shown timecards in an ascending order (1,2,3,4,5) by the timekeeper. "Stop" will be said a six minutes.
 - g. The program timekeeper will introduce each participant by name and read the selected question.
 - h. Participants are not permitted to use any props, gadgets, posters, or audiovisuals of any sort. A podium will not be available.
3. Speeches will be evaluated using the following criteria:
- a. Content related to topic
 - b. Knowledge of the subject
 - c. Organization of materials
 - d. Power of expression
 - e. Voice
 - f. Stage presence
 - g. General effect
 - h. Response to questions

DIVISION 11500: PRIDE OF IOWA

Class: 11500 Pride of Iowa

Pride of Iowa Special Rules:

The Pride of Iowa contest provides an opportunity for 4-H members to demonstrate proper cooking skills while showcasing an outstanding Iowa product (such as meat, dairy products, corn, oatmeal, etc.). A second purpose of this contest is to promote the use of small appliances.

SPECIAL RULES:

1. Contestants may select any recipe using at least one outstanding Iowa product. They can demonstrate how to make a beverage, main dish, dessert, salad, or snack. The contestant will prepare the product as they would at home. There is no speaking involved for the participant during the preparation time.
2. Contestants must provide their own ingredients and equipment. No mixes shall be used for the Pride of Iowa product, but a mix may be used as an ingredient. Contestants will provide their own small appliances which they use in the preparation of their product. Contestant may bring the product already completed to be used for judging and sampling by audience members.
3. Each contestant must make a poster which includes the recipe used, their name, and their club's name. Posters will be used during the presentation. Iowa ingredients should be highlighted, and recipe source should be noted.
4. Junior and Intermediate contestants will have 10 minutes to prepare their product. Seniors will have 13 minutes to prepare their product.
5. All members should appear in 4-H type clothing or appropriate costume relating to the product being presented. Long hair needs to be pulled back with a scarf, cap, hat, or hair net, and an apron should be worn.
6. Each contestant will be asked to complete an information sheet. This sheet will be used by the judge. The ISU Extension- Calhoun County office will email this form to all participants.
7. Judging criteria will include: contestant's organizational skills; accuracy of recipe; efficiency and skill in operation of equipment used; member's appearance; flavor and appearance of finished product; and number of Iowa products used.

4-H CLOTHING EVENT

Clothing Event Special Rules:

1. This event will take place on Saturday, May 30, 2026, at a location that is to be determined. Please watch the 4-H Newsletter for more information.

2. Families will be notified of the time of their event by the Extension Office when the schedule is finalized.
3. Registration must be made using the Fair Entry system.
<https://faireentry.com/Fair/Signin/19480>.
4. Entry for the clothing event will open April 1, 2026. Entry deadline is May 23, 2026, at 11:59 p.m.
5. Participants will be given blue, red, and white ribbon placings

DIVISION 121: FASHION REVUE

Class 12101- Junior Fashion Revue: Youth in grades 4-6

Class 12102: Intermediate Fashion Revue: Youth in grades 7 and 8

Class 12103: Senior Fashion Revue: Youth in grades 9-12

Fashion Revue Special Rules:

1. The purpose of this class is to encourage the construction of a personal garment or outfit.
2. Consideration is given to fit, color, style, suitability, quality of construction, presentation, and required care.
3. Youth participants will model a garment or outfit they constructed, hand knitted, machine knitted, or crocheted during the current 4-H year.
4. A garment or outfit consists of one to three pieces such as, but not limited to, party clothes, tailored suits, vest, slacks, shirt, skirt, active sportswear, and/or coats. Blouses, shirts, and sweaters are usually considered garments. If they are used to complete an outfit, they must be constructed or selected.
5. Members will fill need to fill-out the Fashion Revue form.
6. A photo of the participant in the outfit judged is required on the day of judging. It should be attached to the entry form for the judge's use and will be returned to the member.
7. All participants will receive participation ribbons.
8. Only senior 4-H members in grades 9-12 can advance to the Iowa State Fair.

DIVISION 122: CLOTHING SELECTION

Class 12201: Junior. Clothing Selection: Youth in grades 4-6

Class 12202: Intermediate Clothing Selection: Youth in grades 7 and 8

Class 12203: Senior Clothing Selection: Youth in grades 9-12

Clothing Selection Rules:

1. The purpose of this class is to select and/or purchase an outfit that represents the 4-H member's goal or intended use for the selected outfit.

2. Judging is based on color, fit, style, suitability, quality, construction, features, presentation, required care, and cost comparison.
3. There is no consideration in the judging on cost spent, only in the process of record keeping and reflection on the cost of the individual items as part of the process.
4. Outfits may be purchased at a department store, boutique, online store, sidewalk sales, retail shops or mall stores. Outfits may also be purchased at garage sales or other secondhand venues at any price point. Outfits may be gifts, hand-me-downs, relative or friend's modern or vintage clothing, or existing personal clothing as long as the 4-H member selected the item as part of this specific outfit for the stated purpose.
5. Home-sewn clothing that was not sewn specifically for the participant are acceptable, such as purchases from a used clothing store.
6. All participants will receive participation ribbons.
7. Only senior 4-H members in grades 9-12 can advance to the Iowa State Fair.

DIVISION 123: THE \$20 CHALLENGE

Class 12301: Junior \$20 Challenge: Youth in grades 4-6

Class 12302: Intermediate \$20 Challenge: Youth in grades 7 and 8

Class 12303: Senior \$20 Challenge: Youth in grades 9-12

\$20 Challenge Special Rules:

1. This class is designed to expand the 4-H member's shopping experience by shopping venues emphasizing recycling, reducing, and reusing. Outfits **must** be purchased at a garage sale, consignment store, thrift store, secondhand store, or similar place. **This class is not for new clothing, regardless of price.**
2. Online venues are allowed and **must** be second-hand in nature. Shipping and handling are not included in the total calculations.
3. Traditional shopping venues may NOT be used, regardless of a low regular or sale price. Hand-me downs or clothing as gifts do NOT qualify for this class.
4. Twenty dollars is the purchase price limit including tax. However, some secondhand stores and venues do not charge sales tax.
5. Receipt(s) for every item needs to be included as a part of the calculated total and must be submitted with the entry. Failure to provide receipts will be reflected in the evaluation.
6. An outfit consists of a major clothing piece such as shirt, sweater, jacket, and pants or a dress. Shoes, undergarments, and accessories are not included in the \$20 purchase price limit.
7. Alterations are permitted to achieve a desired look or fit.

8. Members will need to fill out the \$20 challenge form and take it to the judge during judging.
9. A photo of the participant in the outfit is required on the day of judging. It should be attached to the entry form for the judge's use and will be returned to the member.
10. The outfit pieces should be purchased to meet the 4-H member's goal or intended use for the purchased outfit. The 4-H member should have had an experience in choosing shopping alternatives, evaluating fit, quality and construction features, price, and cost comparison.
11. All participants will receive ribbons.
12. Only senior 4-H members in grades 9-12 can advance to the Iowa State Fair.

DIVISION 124: INNOVATIVE DESIGN

Class 12401: Junior Innovative Design: Youth in grades 4-6

Class 12401: Intermediate Innovative Design: Youth in grades 7-8

Class 12402: Senior Innovative Design: Youth in grades 9-12

Innovative Design Special Rules:

1. The purpose of this class is to encourage creativity and out-of-the-box thinking when creating an outfit.
2. Designs can be theatrical costumes, cosplay, wearable technology, sustainable/upcycled fashion, accessible fashion, and/or outfits that use unconventional materials.
3. The outfit must be showcased as a worn garment modeled by the exhibitor or by the individual it was designed for.
4. Exhibitors may make their garment entirely, or permanently alter the silhouette of pre-existing materials through some method of permanent alteration or addition.
5. All participants will receive participation ribbons.
6. Only senior 4-H members in grades 9-12 can advance to the Iowa State Fair.

CALHOUN COUNTY 2026



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach

2026 Calhoun County Exposition Schedule of Activities

(This is only a partial list of all the events that will be going on during the Expo)

Tuesday, July 7

- 9:00 A.M. Pet Check-In
- 10:00 A.M. Pet show, Clover Kids showing first
- 3:00 P.M.– 5:00 P.M. 4-H building and booth set-up

Wednesday, July 8

- 7:00 A.M.-12:00 P.M. All species tack may be unloaded (if you do not come now, please wait until 5:30 P.M.)
- 8:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M. Clover Kids Static Judging
- 3:00-5:30 P.M. Goat, Sheep, Swine, Rabbit, Poultry Weigh-In and Check-In
- 5:30 P.M. Any additional Tack may be unloaded

Thursday, July 9

- 7:00-10:00 A.M. All Beef Weigh-in & Check-In
- 10:00 A.M.– 8:00 P.M. 4-H Building Open
- 12:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. Manson Clover Kid 4-H Building Host
- 2:00 P.M. Rabbit and Poultry Show, Clover Kids showing first
- 5:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M. Lytton, Pomeroy, Fonda Area Clover Kids

Friday, July 10

- 10:00 A.M.- 8:00 P.M. 4-H Building Open
- 12:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M. Rockwell City Clover Kid 4-H Building Host
- 1:00 P.M.- 2:00 P.M. Bacon Buddies Show
- 3:00 P.M. Goat and Sheep Show, Clover Kids showing first

Saturday, July 11

- 8:00 A.M. 4-H/FFA Beef Show, Clover Kids Immediately following
- 10:00 A.M.- 8:00 P.M. 4-H Building Open
- 12:00 A.M. -2:00 P.M. Lake City Clover Kid Area 4-H Building Host

Sunday, July 12

- 8:00 A.M.– 10:00 A.M. Livestock Release
- 10:00 A.M.– 2:00 P.M. 4-H Building Open
- 11:00 A.M. Fairgrounds and Livestock Clean Up
- 12:00 P.M. Exhibitor Lunch provided by the Calhoun County Fairboard
- 2:00 P.M. Static Release

Fair Rules

General Rules:

We are not judging the project. We are providing an experience.

1. All K-3 exhibit opportunities will be cooperative and not competitive. Clover Kids are not eligible for the State Fair.
2. Exhibits are open to all Calhoun County youth in K-3 who have been enrolled in the Clover Kid program for the 2025/2026 year.
3. All animals will be brought to the fair at the designated check-in time and will remain on the grounds until the scheduled release time at the Expo. If animals need to be removed before designated release time; a release form must be signed and completed by appropriate officials and handed into the Extension Office.
4. Specific rules and regulations can be found under each department.
5. Dogs and other animals who are not participating in the Pet Show will not be permitted on the grounds at any time during the Expo.
6. Calves, lambs, and goats should be identified using the 4HOnline system with an official 4-H ear tag. Tags may be purchased from the Extension Office for \$5.00.
7. Clover Kid animals/livestock need to be identified in 4HOnline before May 15.
8. Clover Kid families are required to login to the Fair Entry system before June 15, to submit entries for each species and projects they plan to exhibit.
9. There is a \$10.00 flat rate fee for all livestock exhibitors, PLUS \$1.00 fee for each livestock exhibit entered. \$1.00 fee for each static exhibit entered.
11. A participation ribbon will be awarded to all K-3 exhibitors.
12. Show programs and exhibitor numbers will be located in the livestock office (blue and white Morton building on the livestock side of fairgrounds).
13. Clover kids do not need to take the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA) course.
14. Livestock and animals must be inspected by the Expo veterinarian before being unloaded onto the fairgrounds.
15. All sexually intact sheep and goats must have an individual scrapie flock of origin identification tag in the ear.
16. Fairgrounds and Livestock Clean Up at 11:00 A.M. on Sunday, July 12th is **REQUIRED** for all 4-H, Clover Kids and FFA exhibitors. There will be a hefty fee in order to participate in fair the following year if clean up is not attended. Check in for the Fairgrounds Clean Up will be at the Livestock Office to ensure exhibitors are accounted for.
17. After the Fairgrounds and Livestock Clean Up there will be an Exhibitor Lunch provided by the Calhoun County Fairboard beginning at 12:00 P.M.

STATIC CLASSES

DATE:

Tuesday, July 8

Registration Required by: June 15

(<http://calhoun.fairentry.com>)

TIME:

8:00 A.M. — NOON

LOCATION:

Calhoun County 4-H Building at Fairgrounds

SPECIAL RULES:

1. Clover Kids will have the opportunity to discuss their static exhibits with a caring adult or senior 4-H member as items are entered.
2. Limit one entry per class.
3. All items must be made by the child. Adult supervision is permitted, and encouraged. Items may be made at home, in school, club meeting, daycare, workshop or a camp.
4. Exhibits should be appropriate for presentation to a general audience.
5. All participants are expected to comply with all copyright/trademark regulations. Copyrighted material cannot be distributed without permission.
6. The Calhoun County Extension and Outreach Office and the Calhoun County Fair board will use diligence to ensure the safety of all items entered at the Exposition, however, they are not responsible for damage or loss.

Division 420: Static

Class - 42001 Creative Arts— An exhibit that is related to art, photography, and music. Examples: painting, picture, crafts, etc.

Class - 42002 Ag & Natural Resources—An exhibit that is related to plants, agriculture, and the environment. Examples: potted plant, vegetables, etc.

Class - 42003 Family & Consumer Science—An exhibit that is related to food, clothing, or home decorating. Sewn or home-made crafted items can be included in this class.

Examples: cookies, muffins, tie blanket, etc.

STATIC CLASSES

Class - 42004 Personal Development– An exhibit that is related to the youth or created by the child. Examples: story book, growth chart, poem, etc.

Class - 42005 Science, Engineering, & Technology– An exhibit that is related to science, engineering, technology, or other items designed and built by the child, such as wood item. Examples: Lego creations, spaghetti tower, etc.

Class - 42006 Other– An exhibit that does not fit in any other classes.

Division 410: County Challenges

Class - 41010– Bucket of Flowers Theme: Red, White and Bloom

SPECIAL RULES:

1. Find any container, (max size: 5 gallon bucket) and drill holes in the bottom for drainage.
2. Fill the bucket part way with packing peanuts, pop cans, etc.
3. Add soil and plants (all plants must be real).
4. Label in permanent marker your name, club, and the name of plants.
5. You can embellish your container or leave it plain.
6. Member will determine the design, organization, and materials.
7. Containers should be brought to the 4-H building on static judging day.
8. Decorating the container and adding accents is optional.
9. Containers will be placed around the Expo Building to beautify the fairgrounds and then must be picked up on Sunday at designated release time.
10. Members are responsible for watering their bucket of flowers during the week of fair.

Class 40112-Photography Challenge 2026 Theme: America in Action (New)

Photography Challenge Special Rules:

1. Member may make one entry.
2. Photo must have been taken since the county fair of the previous year.
3. Photo must be in good taste and appropriate for public display in a 4-H setting.
4. Photo must be exactly 4"x6", flat, unmounted, displayed in a plastic bag or page protector.

5. Photo must be printed on a home printer, from a kiosk, or ordered online on standard photo paper. Photo must not be printed on linen paper, canvas, wraparound, nor printed on cloth.
6. Photo may be black and white or color.
7. Photo may be taken with any camera i.e. film camera, digital camera, cell phone, tablet.
8. Photo may be enhanced such as cropped, color enhanced, or sharpened.
9. Photographs depicting unsafe practices or illegal activities will not be displayed.
10. Exhibit must have an index card with the members name and 4-H Club listed on the card. No goal card is needed.

Class 40113- Recipe Challenge 2026 Theme: Lemon Chia Seed Muffins (New)

Ingredients:

1 cup whole wheat flour

1 cup all-purpose white flour

½ cup white sugar

1 ½ teaspoons baking powder

1 tablespoon chia seeds

1 cup nonfat milk

1/3 cup oil (canola or vegetable)

2 eggs

1/3 cup lemon juice (or you can use 1 tablespoon lemon zest and 3 tablespoons fresh lemon juice in place of the 1/3 cup lemon juice)

Instructions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Line a muffin tin with liners or spray with cooking spray.
2. Stir together whole wheat flour, white flour, sugar, baking powder, and chia seeds in a medium bowl.
3. Mix together milk, oil, eggs, and lemon juice in a small bowl.
4. Pour wet ingredients into dry ingredients. Stir until just combined. Divide the batter into the muffin tins.
5. Bake until the muffins are golden and a tester inserted in the center of a muffin comes out clean. This should take about 16-18 minutes.
6. Store leftovers in an airtight container.

Recipe Challenge Special Rules:

1. The purpose of this challenge is to use the above recipe, then make, bake, and present your best Lemon Chia Seed Muffins.
2. Members may make one entry.
3. It is important that the recipe be followed as written, as your exhibits will be compared to others. No substitutions.
4. Entry should be labeled and packaged the same as any other prepared food that is exhibited (paper plate with clear plastic bag).

**Class 40115- Sewing Challenge: 2026 Theme-Threads of Tradition (Quilt Block)
(New)****Sewing Challenge Special Rules:**

1. Members may make one entry.
2. The 2026 Sewing Challenge Theme is: Threads of Tradition. This will be a quilt block that will go into a quilt to be raffled off to support the Calhoun County Exposition.
3. Members may ask for the help of adults in design and construction, but most of the planning and construction needs to be completed by the youth.
4. The quilt block may use any design, but is **required** to stick with the red, white, and blue color scheme. This will be a patriotic quilt.
5. The quilt blocks will be judged this year and raffled off as a quilt next year.
6. Members may use any quilt block pattern as long as the block is 12 inches x 12 inches in size.

Class 40106- Bucket of Junk Challenge 2026 Theme: Scrap to Strong (New)**Bucket of Junk Special Rules:**

1. The purpose of this challenge is to collect items you collect or find and tell the judge the story behind the items.
2. Members may make one entry.
3. All buckets of junk must be taken home on Sunday, July 12th.

SMALL ANIMAL CLASSES

Identification is Required by: May 15 (<http://v2.4honline.com>)

Registration is Required by: June 15 (<http://calhoun.fairentry.com>)

Division 400: Livestock

SPECIAL RULES:

- 1) Calf must be born after January 1, 2025.
- 2) Members may make one entry.
- 3) Clover Kids will show the audience the animal and talk to a judge. Questions from judge may include: name, type of animal, what your animal eats, favorite thing about your animal, etc.
- 4) Calves are to remain on a halter at all times.
- 5) Calves must remain in their stall during the 4-H cattle show.
- 6) Adult supervision is required in wash racks.
- 7) Joint leading and/or close proximity of an adult needs to be employed at all times to promote and protect children's safety.
- 8) All bottle calves must have a negative BVD test prior to check-in.



Class - 40002 Bucket Bottle Goat

SPECIAL RULES:

- 1) Goat must be born after January 1, 2025.
- 2) Member may make one entry.
- 3) Clover kids will show the audience the animal and talk to a judge. Questions may include name, type of animal, what the animal eats, favorite thing about your animal, etc.
- 4) Goats are to remain on a halter at all times.
- 5) Goats must remain in their stalls during the 4-H goat show.
- 6) Adult supervision is required in wash rack.
- 7) Joint leading and/or close proximity of an adult, needs to be employed at all times to promote and protect children's safety.



SMALL ANIMAL CLASSES

Identification is Required by: May 15 (<http://v2.4honline.com>)

Registration is Required by: June 15 (<http://calhoun.fairentry.com>)

Class - 40003 Bucket Bottle Lamb

SPECIAL RULES:

- 1) The lamb must be born after January 1, 2025.
- 2) Member may make one entry.
- 3) Clover Kids will show the audience the animal and talk to a judge. Questions may include: name, type of animal, what the animal eats, favorite thing about your animal, etc.
- 4) Lambs are to remain on a halter at all times.
- 5) Lambs must remain in their stall during the 4-H sheep show.
- 6) Joint leading and/or close proximity of an adult, needs to be employed at all times to promote and protect children's safety.
- 7) Adult supervision is required in wash racks.



Class - 40004 Pets

SPECIAL RULES:

- 1) Members may make one entry.
- 2) Clover Kids will have the opportunity to show the audience their pet and talk to a judge.
- 3) Cats and dogs must have a current rabies certificate. Bring the certificate to the pet show check-in.
- 4) Pets should arrive and remain on a leash, in a crate, cage, or bowl until the show begins.
- 5) Exhibitors are responsible for their pet and any messes it makes.
- 6) No wild animals are allowed.
- 7) Please do not bring aggressive or skittish animals.
- 8) Pets must arrive at designated check-in time and be taken home following the show.



SMALL ANIMAL CLASSES

Identification is Required by: May 15 (<http://v2.4honline.com>)

Registration is Required by: June 15 (<http://calhoun.fairentry.com>)

Class - 40005 Poultry



SPECIAL RULES:

- 1) Members may make one entry consisting of one hen.
- 2) Clover Kids will show the audience the bird and talk to a judge. Questions may include: name, type of bird, what the animal eats, what is your favorite thing about the animal, etc.
- 3) Poultry must have a negative test for pullorum/typhoid within 90 days of the fair.
- 4) Poultry pens will be furnished.

Class - 40006 Rabbit



SPECIAL RULES:

- 1) Members may make one entry.
- 2) Clover Kids will show the audience the rabbit and talk to a judge. Questions may include: name, type of rabbit, what does the rabbit eat, what is your favorite thing about rabbits, etc.
- 3) All rabbits over 3 months of age must be tattooed in the left ear.
- 4) Rabbit pens will be furnished.

CLOTHING EVENT

Registration is Required by: May 24 (<http://calhoun.fairentry.com>)

Division 430: Clothing Selection

Class - 4301 Clothing Selection

SPECIAL RULES:

1. This Event will take place on **Saturday, May 30, 2026** at St. Paul's Lutheran and Presbyterian Church, 527 Main Street, Rockwell City.
2. Families will be notified of the time of their event by the Extension Office when the schedule is finalized.
3. Registration must be made using the Fair Entry system.
4. Entry for this class is due May 23, 2026 by 11:59 p.m.
5. The chosen garment may be selected from one's own wardrobe, borrowed, or purchased, and can be acquired from a combination of sources.
6. Youth must fill out the goal card below.

My name is _____.

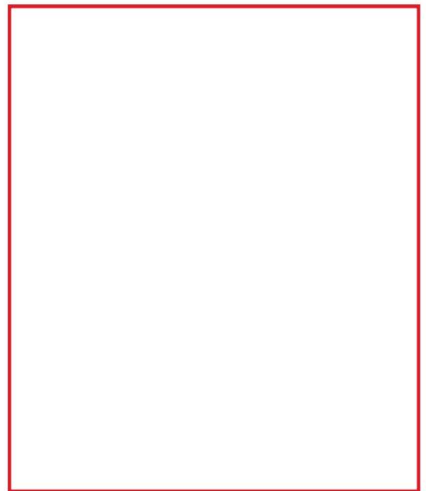
I selected my outfit for _____

_____.

I like my outfit because _____

_____.

Draw a picture of your outfit in the box!



This institution is an equal opportunity provider. For the full non-discrimination statement or accommodation inquiries, go to www.extension.iastate.edu/diversity/ext.





Barnum Clover Kids: Kourtney Lenz

Farnhamville/Lohrville: Clover Kids: Kourtney Lenz

Lake City Clover Kids: Nicole Bixenstine and Kendra Davis

Manson Clover Kids: Caitlyn Butler, Andrew Miller and Anthony Olson

Lytton, Pomeroy, Fonda Area Clover Kids: Emily Holtapp, and Kelsey Holtorf

Rockwell City Clover Kids: Mary Lauver, Jessica Pitts, Sarah Reynolds, Ashley Hildreth, and Tonya Reynolds

SCC Clover Kids: Kourtney Lenz