

4-H General Projects Department

Youth who are 8 years of age on or before September 1, 2016 and have not reached their 19th birthday on or before September 1, 2016, may enroll in 4-H clubs. All exhibitors showing in the 4-H classes must be properly enrolled in one of the local 4-H clubs in McLean County by December 1, 2016 for re-enrolling members and April 15, 2017 for new members. Project **check-in** is 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 1, 2017, **unless otherwise noted** in the fair book. General Project **check-out** is Noon-2 p.m. on Sunday, Aug. 6, 2017. Projects left on site may not be brought back to the Extension office.

Showcase

All 4-H exhibits division classes (except llamas) are eligible for a **Best of Class** showcase award of \$15 and **Reserve Best of Class** showcase award of \$5. Only "A" rated projects are eligible to compete for these awards. Some 4-H class sections are eligible for a **Best of Show** showcase award of \$20 and **Reserve Best of Show** showcase award of \$10 and are indicated by (**4H20/10**). Only Best of Class and Reserve Best of Class exhibits are eligible to compete for these awards. Showcase awards are determined by the judge. Showcase premiums will only be awarded if funds are available. Explanation and funding of showcase awards is explained on pages 15-17.

2017 State Fair Requirements

1. To be eligible for nomination as a delegate, projects must have an "A" rating.
2. County 4-H members are allowed one State Fair exhibit due to the limited entries allowed per county. All 4-H members nominated as a delegate in more than one project will select one project to exhibit at the State Fair.
3. Exhibitors **MUST** notify the Extension office that they will be taking their project to State Fair by Noon on Saturday, August 5 and attend a State Fair Q & A Session. Sessions are at 4:30 p.m. on Friday, August 4 or at 5:30 p.m. on Saturday, August 5 or at 10:30 a.m. on Sunday, August 6 (at the McLean County Fair in Cloverleaf Hall), to be aware of eligibility requirements and to register themselves and their exhibit for the 2017 Illinois State Fair.
4. All projects that are selected at the county level must be the one exhibited at the State Fair, adjusted for State Fair requirements. Modifications can be made to the original county exhibit to 1) meet State Fair requirements, and 2) to incorporate suggested improvements made by a local judge.
5. All 4-H members selected for State Fair exhibition will **participate in conference judging** and/or action-oriented presentations. **The exhibitor** will be responsible to transport their own exhibit to and from the Illinois State Fair on the appropriate judging day. **McLean County's projects will be judged at the State Fair on Saturday, August 12.**
6. If a 4-H member selected as a State Fair delegate knows that they are not able to participate in the State Fair, it is important to contact the Extension staff at the 4-H Fair office **by Friday, August 5 at noon**, so alternates can be contacted.
7. Public Presentations and Fashion Revue are competitive events. Top individuals will receive special recognition that will be announced at the end of the day.
8. State Fair Guidelines may differ from county guidelines. Please refer to State Fair Rules to check project eligibility.
9. State Fair eligible projects are noted by a class number following the class name. (Ex. **Animal Science - (50135)**)