

WISCONSIN STATE FAIR

2026 JUNIOR SHOW UPDATES

Greetings! Join us in the celebration of the 175th Wisconsin State Fair, August 6-16th! Below are some important Junior Show updates. As always, please be sure to read all of your species entry information (rules, regulations, arrival, release and shows times) located on: <https://wistatefair.com/competitions/junior-livestock/>.

ALL SPECIES

SHOWMANSHIP: Entry in the Showmanship contest must be made with Junior online entries, no later than the Late Junior Entry deadline. Exhibitors will not be entered automatically, and onsite entries will not be accepted.

As a reminder: The same animal must be used in all heats and finals of Showmanship. If it is determined that the same animal was not used in all heats and finals, the exhibitor will be disqualified from the Showmanship contest and prize money will be withheld.

YQCA: YQCA certificates must be uploaded to the entry system before you will be able to make entries. YQCA certification must be completed before entry and remain active through August 16, 2026.

SHOWRING: Cell phones, smartwatches, ear buds, headphones, and other electronic devices may not be present or used in the showing.

JUNIOR POULTRY: *As of April 20, 2026 – Entries are not currently open.* The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection has suspended poultry shows and exhibitions through May 10, 2026, in Southern Wisconsin counties due to Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza. We will continue to monitor the Avian Influenza information provided by [DATCP Home Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza in Poultry](#). Please sign up for eblasts and check the Exhibitor Facebook Page to keep up with the latest information.

JUNIOR DAIRY CATTLE ARRIVAL: Tuesday, August 4th: 8 am–10 pm and Wednesday, August 5th: 6 am–Noon. **No arrivals will be permitted between 10 pm on Tuesday, August 4th and 5:59 am on Wednesday, August 5th.** (Vet checks will continue to be conducted upon arrival).

JUNIOR BOER AND MARKET GOATS: The schedule on Saturday, August 8th will begin with the Junior Boer Goat show at 8 am followed by the Open Boer Goat show at noon.

JUNIOR RABBITS: The show on Friday, August 7th will begin at 8 am.

JUNIOR SWINE HEALTH REQUIREMENT UPDATE:

Swine moving to Wisconsin State Fair must have the following:

Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (CVI) with the complete physical origin and physical destination address and the following information:

A. Official swine identification

- USDA silver ear tag
- USDA 840 button ear tag
- Breed association tattoo
- A tattoo or ear tag with the premises identification number and a unique identifier
- Ear notch if the pig is a purebred and the notch is registered

- B. Statement** (on CVI) that a veterinarian has inspected the entire herd of origin **within 30 days** before the show and that no apparent disease was present at the time of inspection.

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JUNIOR DNA DEADLINE (Postmarked on or before May 20, 2026): Please note - Local Post Offices are no longer postmarking envelopes; they are now being postmarked at regional processing centers. **Please mail your DNA samples early enough to arrive at the regional center for a timely postmark!**

JUNIOR BEEF, SHEEP AND SWINE: Check entry information for updated release times for Junior Beef, Sheep and Swine departments.

2026 JUNIOR DEADLINES and Reminders

May 20 at 7 pm Central Time

- Online entries (no late entry fees) close
- YQCA Certification must be completed and valid through August 16, 2026
 - **NEW for 2026!** Have a PDF copy of your certificate ready to upload with your entries
- DNA/840 Ear Tag Identification Deadline – postmarked by May 20, 2026
 - **PLEASE NOTE:** Some local Post Offices are no longer postmarking envelopes; **please mail your DNA samples early enough to arrive at the regional center for a timely postmark!**
- VAIC (Volunteer Adult Independent Contact) applications due

May 27 at 7 pm Central Time

- **Late** online entries (with \$130/exhibitor late fee) close - *Entries not completed/paid by this time will not be accepted, and no changes or additions to entries or substitution animals are allowed after this time.*

ENTRY INFORMATION is available at wistatefair.com/competitions/junior-livestock/. The purchase of 840 tags/DNA sample envelopes does **not** constitute entry into 2026 Wisconsin State Fair.

ONLINE ENTRIES and DNA PURCHASES are at entry.wistatefair.com. Use the email address and password from your previous entries or purchases. If you need assistance with a password reset, please email entryoffice@wistatefair.com.

STALLING

- **GROUP STALLING** – Approved Volunteer Adult Group Contacts are posted on wistatefair.com. **Your choice of VAGC determines the group you will stall with in the barn.** If you are entering in more than one species (example: Junior Dairy and Junior Sheep), you must choose a stalling group from the drop-down menu **for each species** as you make your entries.
 - List of VAGCs is available at wistatefair.com/pdfs/competitions/entry_info/vagc.pdf
- **INDEPENDENT STALLING** – If you are not planning to stall with a group, choose “Independent” when entering and name a VAIC (Volunteer Adult Independent Contact), over age 21 as of August 6, 2026, who must complete a VAC application by the May 20, 2026, deadline. Independent exhibitors are stalled separately; we cannot accommodate requests (other than siblings) for independent exhibitors to be stalled together.
 - Additional information at wistatefair.com/pdfs/competitions/entry_info/VAC_junior_info.pdf

ADMISSION TICKETS

- **If you are staying in the Youth Center, please do not purchase exhibitor \$7 admission tickets to exchange for Youth Center wristbands. Please purchase wristbands directly through your VAGC's dorm reservations.**

YOUTH CENTER MEAL PRICES: All meals (breakfast, lunch, and dinner) are \$9 per meal.

STAY CONNECTED!

- Sign up for our eblasts at <https://wistatefair.com/competitions/exhibitor-email-updates/>
- Like, share and invite others to join Wisconsin State Fair's Exhibitor Facebook page at facebook.com/WISStateFairExhibitors/
- Follow the Wisconsin State Fair Exhibitors Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/WISStateFairExhibitors/>
- Questions? Please email us at entryoffice@wistatefair.com or call 414.266.7052 (Monday – Friday).