

YOUTH STEER FUTURITY

February 8 - 11, 2027

Entry Deadline.....June 19, 2026

Grace Period (double entry fee).....June 26, 2026

Calf Sale/Seminar.....August 1, 2026

Registration8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.

Seminar..... Starting at 8:30 a.m. all other information will be mailed after entries are received.

Producer Thank you LetterSeptember 1, 2026

Scholarship Application Deadline.....December 4, 2026

Chapter Designated Student/Students Birth date to Livestock Office January 11, 2027

➔ BQA/YQCA Certificates to Livestock Office.....January 11, 2027

Arrival at Fair February 8, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Check-In February 8, 2 p.m. – 5 p.m.

**** All Record Books**

**** Educational Posters turned in**

Ultrasound of the steers.February 8, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m.

Parent/Exhibitor MeetingFebruary 8, 6 p.m.

Showmanship Contest.....February 9, 3 p.m.

Record Book Skills Test/SkillathonFebruary 10, 10:00 a.m.

➔ Show.....February 10, 6 p.m.

Awards LuncheonFebruary 11, 12 p.m.

Exhibitors Released of Responsibility February 11, 2:30 p.m.

Sponsor Thank you letterJune 30, 2027

SPECIAL NOTE: INDIVIDUALS MAY ENTER A MAXIMUM OF 2 YOUTH LIVESTOCK SHOWS AT THE 2027 FLORIDA STATE FAIR.

Intent and Purpose:

This program has been designed by the Florida State Fair Authority and Youth Steer Committee to accomplish the following goals:

- To provide a supply of top-quality Florida feeder calves to 4-H, FFA & YLPA youngsters at a reasonable price based on current market conditions thus affording students the opportunity for a profitable steer project. Only steers purchased at the Florida State Fair Futurity Calf Sale will be eligible for entry in this show.

- To provide competitive events where 4-H, FFA & YLPA projects help showcase Florida's Livestock Industry. Where emphasis is placed on the educational aspects of the program with premiums being paid for all competitions relating to the animal and individual exhibitor's participation.

- To provide educational seminars and/or materials in cooperation with the University of Florida on all aspects of selection, feeding, record keeping, showmanship, etc.

- To provide carcass data to the participating Florida producers to assist them with their breeding programs.

GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR FLORIDA STATE FAIR YOUTH STEER FUTURITY

INTERPRETATION OF RULES

The management of the Florida State Fair reserves the right to amend, add to and interpret the following Rules and Regulations; and to arbitrarily settle and determine all questions and differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected with or incident to the Fair.

LIMITED ENTRIES

In order to maintain the quality of the show, the Fair reserves the right to limit the number of entries to 85.

Entries will be accepted by postmark and order received into the Florida State Fair office.

ELIGIBILITY

1. Only bona fide 4-H, FFA & YLPA members in Florida are eligible to enter.

Steer Exhibitors -

MUST BE 11 YEARS OLD ON OR

BEFORE THE CALF SALE DATE. (August 1, 2026)

2. All entrants must be current members and active in the 4-H or YLPA Club Program or the Vocational Agricultural Program in Florida. Anyone having currently graduated from or dropped out of high school or currently enrolled in an Agriculture Class, but not attending class, shall be **ineligible** to enter or show. FFA Chapter, YLPA Club and 4-H Club entries will be accepted. Chapters and Clubs must be valid clubs and in good standing with their local & state organizations.

CHAPTERS/CLUBS PLEASE NOTE: Chapters/Clubs must designate 1 student that will enter and compete in all events. That student will be the representative for the Show, Skillathon, Record Book Skills Test, Showmanship, and all other competitions.

The age of the student will determine the division of their competition (Intermediate or Senior). Chapter must designate student by January 11, 2027 (hand delivered, or postmarked - Metered Mail will not be considered as a valid or legitimate postmark). **If the name is not received by January 11, 2027, the STEER will be allowed to show & compete for Animal Premiums ONLY.** The Chapter/Club appointed exhibitor will not qualify for Achievement Premiums or participation in the Champion of Champion program. **All Chapters or Clubs must have a Federal ID number to enter.**

Check our website for appropriate form.

3. Exhibitor must show as a member of the same organization they entered under and is a member of.

4. The physical condition of an entrant, which the appropriate committee considers to be a problem for that entrant to participate in the show may result in the committee not accepting an entry or not allowing that entrant to participate in the show.

5. Any exhibitor from a family with an outstanding balance owed to the Fair will not be eligible to show at the Florida State Fair.

ENTRY

1. All entries must be hand delivered or postmarked on or before June 19, 2026. A \$100 entry fee must be included with entry application. \$25 of this money will be retained by the Fair as an entry fee. The remaining \$75 will be considered as a down payment on the steer that will be selected at the calf sale. Entries postmarked or hand-delivered between June 20th and June 26th will be charged double (\$200) late entry fee, (\$50 will be considered late entry fee and \$150 will be considered down payment on steer that will be purchased at the calf sale).

2. Hand delivered entries will be accepted in the Agribusiness Office up to office closing at 5:00 p.m. on day of deadline.

3. Certified mail or a Certificate of Mailing validated by the Post Office is recommended. A metered postmark will NOT be considered as a valid postmark for entry deadline purposes.

4. The entire amount is non-refundable if a calf is not purchased.

5. ALL INFORMATION AND SIGNATURES MUST BE COMPLETED TO QUALIFY FOR ACHIEVEMENT POINTS.

6. The Steer must be fed and cared for by the Exhibitor upon the home place or farm of the Exhibitor or the Land Lab for Chapter animals. In such case where the animal cannot be fed and cared for at the Exhibitors home place or the Land Lab for Chapter animals, a letter requesting permission to house and care for the animal elsewhere in the State of Florida must be attached to the entry. Failure to notify the Florida State Fair Livestock office when such a case exists, on or before entry deadline, will disqualify the animal from showing at the 2027 Florida State Fair. The location then must be approved by the appropriate committee.

7. Entry will be verified and acknowledgments sent to the exhibitor by July 7, 2026.

8. Grooming Chute Space: There will be a \$25.00 fee for each grooming chute space. All grooming chutes must have a Florida State Fair permit which must be obtained with entry fee. Grooming chutes must be confined to areas designated by superintendent.

AGE CATEGORIES

Age categories will be divided as follows:

Intermediate Division	ages 11-13 as of September 1, 2026
Senior Division	ages 14 & over as of September 1, 2026

RESTRICTION OF ASSISTANCE

1. Youth exhibitors are expected to care for, groom, fit and show their own animals while on the grounds of the Florida State Fair.
2. Parents, other adults or similar unauthorized people are strictly prohibited from providing direct assistance in grooming, fitting or showing of youth animals while on the grounds of the Florida State Fair.
3. All grooming & fitting will be done in a designated area under the supervision of the Steer Committee.
4. Exceptions to the above rule must be approved by the committee and be in writing before the Fair.
5. Violations can result in the disqualification of the steer/exhibitor. All premiums, Achievement premiums, etc. will be forfeited.

HEALTH RULES

1. All health rules as outlined by the Florida Department of Agriculture, Division of Animal Industry and each specific department must be strictly adhered to. (See below)
2. Any violation of these rules will be grounds for disqualification of entry.
3. Certified state veterinarians will be on the grounds to check in all animals and accompanying papers.
4. No animals are to be unloaded without approval from the veterinarian on duty.
5. All animals must be treated in a humane way.

ADMISSION OF ANIMALS FOR EXHIBITION As required by the Florida Department of Agriculture and consumer Services

5C-4.0015 Definitions

5C-4.0017 General Requirements, Exemptions and Limitations.

5C-4.002 Cattle or Bison.

5C-4.0015 Definitions.

For the purposes of this chapter, the definitions in Section 585.01, F.S., and the following shall apply:

- (1) Accredited tuberculosis-free herd. As defined in Rule 5C-3.001, F.A.C.
- (2) Accredited tuberculosis-free state or zone. As defined in Rule 5C-3.001, F.A.C.
- (3) Accredited veterinarian. As defined in Rule 5C-3.001, F.A.C.
- (4) Approved livestock facility. As defined in Rule 5C-3.001, F.A.C.
- (5) Authorized Representative. An employee of the state or federal government, or a licensed veterinarian accredited by the USDA, who is authorized to conduct animal disease control and eradication activities.
- (6) Certified brucellosis-free state or area. As defined in Rule 5C-3.001, F.A.C.
- (7) Certified brucellosis-free herd. As defined in Rule 5C-3.001, F.A.C.
- (8) Classified brucellosis-Class A state or area. As defined in Rule 5C-3.001, F.A.C.
- (9) Department. As defined in Rule 5C-3.001, F.A.C.
- (10) Electronic Official Certificates of Veterinary Inspection (ECVI). An electronic certificate provided by USDA

Veterinary Services Process Streamlining System or a third-party vendor approved by the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) ECVI Data Standards Subcommittee and issued by licensed and accredited veterinarians in animal's state of origin.

(11) Exhibition. Any fair allowing the displaying or presenting livestock, including poultry, to the general public for an animal exhibit or animal show.

(12) Fair(s). Annual public fair as defined in F.S. 616.001, that exhibits domestic animals.

(13) Group. One or more Animals maintained on the same premises or in contact with one another.

(14) Isolation. Separation of individual Animals by a physical barrier in a manner that assures one Animal does not have access to the body, excrement, or discharges of another Animal; does not share a building with a common ventilation system; and is not within ten feet of another Animal.

(15) Market class. An exhibition class consisting of finished fed animals.

(16) Official certificate of veterinary inspection (OCVI). As defined in Rule 5C-3.001, F.A.C.

(17) Official individual identification. As defined in Rule 5C-3.001, F.A.C.

(18) Official test. A test conducted by a licensed and accredited veterinarian with method approved by Department rules for the specific disease and animal species.

(19) Owner. The owner of the animal or herd or the owner's authorized agent.

(20) Pseudorabies. A contagious, infectious herpesvirus, causing communicable disease of livestock and other animals also known as Aujeszky's disease or mad itch.

(21) Recognized slaughtering establishment. As defined in Rule 5C-3.001, F.A.C.

(22) Swine brucellosis. An infectious bacterial disease caused by *Brucella suis* (*B. suis*) biovars 1 or 3, most frequently affecting swine but able to cause disease in other animals and humans.

(23) Terminal swine show. An exhibition market class consisting of swine that are isolated and housed separately from all other animals and designated for slaughter only channels.

(24) Validated brucellosis-free herd, as defined in 9 CFR §78.1 (JAN 2024). This definition of validated brucellosis-free herd is hereby incorporated by reference and available online at

<http://www.flrules.org/Gateway/reference.asp?No=Ref-17727>.

5C-4.0017 General Requirements, Exemptions and Limitations.

(1) OCVI Required. Animals presented for exhibition purposes in Florida, unless specifically exempted, must be accompanied by an OCVI.

(a) The OCVI must be complete including the breed, sex, and registration number and, if applicable, the official individual identification of each animal.

(b) Results of a specific test requirement or herd accreditation, certification or validation number for each animal must be recorded on the OCVI with the date of the test or herd accreditation, certification or validation.

(2) Expiration of Required OCVI.

(a) For Florida-origin animals, an OCVI is valid for 90 days from the date of issue; or until the expiration date of any required tests, whichever is the earliest date.

(b) For animals imported into Florida for exhibition purposes only, the OCVI is valid for 30 days.

(3) Inspection. Prior to immediate acceptance at an exhibition, all animals presented for exhibition must be made available for inspection by an authorized representative for:

(a) The required Official Individual Identification of the Animal; and

(b) Clinical signs of disease including, but not limited to: caseous lymphadenitis, blisters/ulcers around the mouth, nostrils, coronary band, pinkeye, pox, scabies, lice, ringworm, atrophic rhinitis, or multiple warts that are clearly visible; and

(c) Evidence of compliance with Animal tests and OCVI requirements, where required.

(4) Animals Rejected for Exhibition.

(a) Any Animal in noncompliance with Animal tests and OCVI requirements, or

(b) Any Animal not meeting the Official Individual Identification requirements, or

(c) Any animal which is suspected of having or showing clinical signs of dangerous transmissible, contagious or infectious disease on visual inspection, or any animal which is known to be exposed to such diseases must be:

1. Immediately withdrawn from exhibition and returned to the place of origin, or

2. Examined at the owner's expense, by a Florida-licensed accredited veterinarian who certifies by a signed, written statement, that the animal is free of dangerous transmissible, contagious or infectious diseases and pests. The accredited veterinarian's examination must take place within 24 hours of the initial inspection by the authorized representative.

5C-4.002 Cattle or Bison.

(1) OCVI Required.

(a) Florida-origin cattle or bison moved for exhibition must be accompanied by an OCVI dated not more than 90 days prior to exhibition.

(b) Cattle or bison imported from other states for exhibition must be accompanied by an OCVI dated not more than 30 days prior to exhibition.

(2) Official Identification Required. All cattle or bison entered for exhibition purposes, including market class animals, must have an official individual identification. If the breed registry and brand or tattoo are used to complete the identification requirements, then the breed registry number and brand or tattoo must be listed on the OCVI accompanying the animal to exhibition.

(3) Testing Requirements.

(a) Tuberculosis.

1. Florida-origin cattle or bison may be entered for exhibition without a tuberculin test.

2. Dairy Cattle. Dairy cattle imported into Florida, may be entered for exhibition provided they have: a. a negative caudal fold tuberculin skin test within 60 days prior to the date of the exhibition, or; b. originate from an accredited tuberculosis-free herd in an accredited tuberculosis-free state or zone.

3. Beef Cattle. Beef cattle or bison imported into Florida may be entered for exhibition provided they have:

a. a negative caudal fold tuberculin skin test within 60 days prior to the date of the exhibition or;

b. originates from an accredited tuberculosis-free herd or state.

(b) Brucellosis.

1. Test Required. Cattle or bison, six (6) months of age or older, must have evidence of a negative brucellosis test within 30 days prior to the date of the exhibition.

2. Exemption from Required Brucellosis Test.

a. Steers and spayed heifers; and

b. Cattle or bison originating from,

(I) a certified brucellosis-free herd. The OCVI must show the certified herd number and the date of the last herd certification test, or;

(II) classified brucellosis-free state or area, or

(III) Cattle or bison from non-quarantined herds originating from a classified brucellosis-Class A state or area provided that the cattle are under 18 months of age.

GENERAL

1. Please Note: Due to health and safety issues, no cooking will be allowed in the barns; food and drink should not be consumed in animal areas; and exhibitors should wash hands after handling animals.

2. Animals are restricted to designated areas of the Fairgrounds (Cattle - barns and judging area) and must not be taken from designated area. Violators are liable for any damage incurred by owner or animals.

3. Smoking is not permitted in the barns.

4. NO DOGS ALLOWED IN THE BARNs!!!!!!

5. The use of alcohol is prohibited in the barns and livestock area.

6. Only animals being shown at the Florida State Fair are permitted on the Fairgrounds.

7. Failure to maintain animals and exhibit to acceptable standards and/or failure to cooperate with Fair Officials may result in premium forfeiture.

8. Any person who violates any of the general rules or special rules as published in this Premium List will forfeit all privileges and premiums won.

9. Neck rope must be used upon arrival/unloading.

10. Each Exhibitor will be required to wear a lanyard for the duration of the Steer Show.

11. Use of nose leads, rings, metallic or "jim-bob" type halters is prohibited. At the fair, halters must be made of nylon or cotton and in excess of ½" in width.

LIABILITY FOR LOSS OR THEFT

1. The owner or custodian of property of any kind brought to the Fairgrounds; either for exhibitor or for other purposes, assumes as a condition of its admission to the grounds, all risk and/or responsibility for its loss, damage or theft.

2. The Fair, its officers and employees cannot and will not accept responsibility and liability for any damage or injury resulting from theft, fire, the elements, accidents or other conditions or causes; whether to exhibits, property of exhibitor, vehicles on the grounds and articles left therein or any other property of any nature whatsoever.

YOUTH LIVESTOCK SHOW ETHICS AND ANIMAL CARE WORKSHOP

The Florida State Fair believes that every youth exhibitor should receive proper training and information for raising and showing a youth animal project. It is important that the exhibitor understand:

- The purpose of youth livestock projects
- The importance of ethics in youth livestock projects
- Proper animal handling and management
- The difference between animal welfare and animal rights
- Be prepared to be an ambassador for animal agriculture

The Youth Livestock Show Ethics and Animal Care Workshop is designed to certify students to meet the mandatory certification requirements that will be in effect for the 2027 Florida State Fair.

ALL STUDENTS THAT ARE ENTERED IN THE FLORIDA STATE FAIR MUST HAVE COMPLETED THE ETHICS TRAINING TO SHOW AN ANIMAL AT THE 2027 FLORIDA STATE FAIR.

This program has been endorsed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services and the University of Florida, Institute of Food and Agriculture Sciences (IFAS).

****Please note: Even though you have attended an Ethics Workshop in the past, your certification number may have expired. Be sure to check your certification number to be sure it is still valid.**



You may check your current certification number at: [FL Ethics Certification Program - Florida State Fairgrounds](#)



We will offer On-Site Workshops to new exhibitors and anyone who needs to be renewed. Zoom classes will NOT be offered.

Check our Florida State Fair Agribusiness website for information, times, and dates on Youth Livestock Show Ethics and Animal Care Workshops that will be held around the state. Please check the website periodically for newly scheduled workshops.

FUTURITY CALF SALE

1. Calf Sale will be held on August 1, 2026, starting at 8:30 a.m. at the Florida State Fairgrounds.
2. All entered students will be required to attend this workshop to be eligible to participate in the FSF Youth Steer Futurity.
3. Attendance exemptions will only be considered upon receipt of a letter stating reason for exemption and must be signed by the exhibitor, parent and Ag Teacher or 4-H Agent. Letter must be received at least 1 week prior to Calf Sale to be considered.
4. All calves will be provided by Florida cattle producers. Calves will weigh a minimum of 500 pounds.
5. Each Exhibitor may purchase and show only one steer.
6. Steers will be allotted on a combined basis of preference and random drawing order.
7. Exhibitor will be required to sign an agreement not to show and sell the steer purchased for the Futurity at any other terminal show other than the Florida State Fair Youth Steer Futurity.
8. Steers will be weighed, tagged, tattooed, and photographed for official entry into the Florida State Fair Youth Steer Futurity.
9. All steers must be removed from the Fairgrounds immediately after the calf sale.
10. A **COPY** of the thank-you letter to the producer of the steer you purchase at the calf sale is required to be mailed to the Florida State Fair by September 1, 2026. Exhibitors will receive 20 points toward Achievement Premium Points if letter is received by the deadline. Exhibitor may still receive 10 points if received before December 4, 2026.

STEER QUALIFICATIONS

1. At the time of check-in on February 8, 2027, there will be a minimum weight of 950 pounds for all steers.
2. In addition to weighing 950 pounds, each steer must have gained an average of at least 1.75 pounds per day, from time of first weigh-in (August 1, 2026) to final weigh-in (February 8, 2027).

For Record Book purposes please use 191 days.

SHOW RING PREPARATION/CLIPPING

1. **WE NO LONGER REQUIRE CLOSE CLIPPING**
2. No Clipping of Steers will be allowed on the Fairgrounds.
3. The following show ring preparation policy is being implemented for the Show and Showmanship: **NO GROOMING MATERIAL IS ALLOWED ON THE ANIMAL.** All animals must be washed clean and dried without the use of ANY grooming material/aids (BLOW & GO). The use of brush and/or scotch comb is encouraged. Animals will be checked in the staging area. **Animals that fail the check will be refused entry into the show ring.**

ARRIVAL/CHECK-IN

1. Steers will be received from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. **ONLY February 8, 2027.**
2. All steers must enter through the Livestock Gate at the Orient Road entrance, and park in the designated parking lot.

Vehicles parked in non-designated areas will be towed away at the owner's expense.

3. All trailers must be parked in the designated area.

4. Any animals arriving late due to an emergency must call the Agribusiness Office at (813) 621-7821.

5. Exhibitors must bring their animal to the weigh-in to qualify for Achievement Contests.

 6. Upon arrival, if a sub-committee of three members of the Steer Committee determines that a steer cannot be handled/managed safely by the Exhibitor, the steer's ear tag will be verified, it will then be disqualified and removed from the Fairgrounds. Any steer that has been deemed unmanageable or unsafe by the committee may be removed from the Fairgrounds. Once a steer has been removed from the Fairgrounds it cannot be returned.

 7. For safety purposes, all exhibitors unloading their steers must wear closed-toe shoes. Crocs, flip-flops, and other open-toe footwear are prohibited.

 8. Steers cannot have horns longer than 1 inch and cannot have sharp points or edges. Any steer that returns to the fair with horns longer than 1 inch will be disqualified. Anyone purchasing a steer with horns and receiving a discount due to the steer having horns, have 60 days to prove the animal has had the horns removed. Proof must be submitted to the Agribusiness office.

9. All steers will be examined (using Ultrasound) by a committee from the University of Florida IFAS in an effort to estimate fat thickness over the rib eye. The committee will utilize an electronic device for this purpose. Results of this examination will be made available to Show Officials and Exhibitors.

 10. Livestock Owners Certificate signed by owner (exhibitor) must be submitted at check-in. The appropriate form will be emailed with the January letter to exhibitors.

11. All exhibitors must turn in their Record Books, Educational Posters, and sign up for showmanship at the check-in window located in the Agribusiness Office - TECO Arena during the designated check-in time.

12. There will be a meeting for parents and exhibitors at 6:00 p.m. on February in the Farm Credit Show Tent.

ADMISSION

1. Each exhibitor will be issued three (3) armbands for the duration of the show. These are intended for use by exhibitors and parents. The exception will be made when more than one exhibitor is from the same family. Any additional exhibitors from the same family will be issued 1 armband.

 2. Armbands will be picked up at check-in. Additional armbands **CANNOT** be purchased. Single day admission tickets can be bought in advance at discount prices. See the Advance Ticket Form on the website for details. Tickets will be for sale at the gate.

3. Vehicle/Trailer Parking Passes: All Trailers will be parked in the designated areas within the interior of the grounds. Exhibitors will receive a Vehicle Pass for the duration of the show to be able to park in the Ag Lot outside of Gate 3. Only vehicles with the appropriate tags are permitted in this area.

4. Each passenger must have an armband or admission pass.

5. Livestock Gate Drop-Offs Times (This is in addition to arrival): Vehicles will be allowed to enter through the

Livestock Gate between the hours of 6 am to 10 am and 3 pm to 6 pm to drop-off needed feed and/or supplies. After unloading supplies, vehicles will proceed to the Ag Lot for parking.

6. Parking Map and Detailed Instructions will be posted on the Agribusiness Website prior to the Fair.

7. Reserved parking is provided, and exhibitors must park in the assigned Ag Lot or your vehicle will be subject to towing.

8. Champion of Champion Lot: Limited Parking Spaces can be purchased by Exhibitors within the interior of the grounds. All information will be posted on the FSF Agribusiness website. Spaces will open for purchase on January 1st, 2027. All proceeds will go towards the Youth participating in the Champion of Champions program.

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND LIVESTOCK ETHICS PROGRAM

The Florida State Fair believes that every animal participating in activities of the Florida State Fair shall at all times be provided proper care and management in the best interest of the animal's welfare.

1. Quality assurance testing or a survey may be done at the Florida State Fair and/or on carcasses.

2. All animals are subject to testing at anytime:

A. To determine whether an animal qualifies for competition in a particular breed classification.

B. To determine whether the animal has been unethically fitted in any way.

C. To determine whether any false information or representation was made in a competition entry.

3. Exhibitor's signature on the Entry Form acknowledges that they have read and agree to IAFE Code of Show Ring Ethics (see page 12). Please note: Rule #4 deals specifically with drugs.

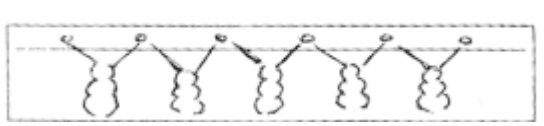
4. Use of drugs, in animals, not in compliance with manufacturer's label as to dosage, time of withdrawal limitations, or other manufacturer's limitations and show regulations are **PROHIBITED**. The use of tranquilizers or possession of same after arrival at the Fair, will be construed as tampering. Violators will be disqualified and will forfeit all premiums and awards, including sale price of animals, if applicable, and future entry of exhibitor and/or family at the Florida State Fair.

5. The presence of any drug, antibiotic or biological residue in the animal at slaughter will result in the condemnation of the carcass and forfeiture of all sale proceeds and premiums. Exhibitor will also be liable for any charges incurred by the Florida State Fair due to contaminated animal.

6. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices, using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices that are not recognized as acceptable training, restraint, or animal movement techniques are prohibited.

TIE PROCEDURE

1. All steers must be double-tied with both halter lead and neck rope. The proper procedure for this is:



Each steer is tied with a rope attached to the halter in addition to a neck rope. Steers will be tied between two rings on no more than 18 inches of rope.

FEEDING AND BEDDING

1. All steers will be bedded on sawdust/shavings only. No bedding hay allowed.
2. Feed and water pails must be provided by the exhibitor.
3. Two designated feeding times have been established, before 9:30 a.m. and between 5 p.m. and 7 p.m.
4. All exhibitors of livestock will be required to maintain their exhibit space in a clean, sanitary condition by removing any filth and/or litter, and placement in designated pickup areas. The sanitation department of the Fair will remove refuse from designated pick-up areas only.
5. No bed dividers/panels are allowed in the steer beds.

ATTIRE

For showmanship and show, all exhibitors will be required to be clean, neat, and dressed according to the standards of the youth organization they are representing. FFA – Black jeans, white collared shirt, FFA Jacket, and Tie. 4-H – Black/khaki jeans, white collared shirt, 4-H vest, jacket, and/or tie are strongly recommended. YLPA – Dark blue jeans, black collared shirt with logo patch. No caps or hats. Closed-toed shoes or boots are required. Exhibitors not conforming to the Dress Code will not be allowed to enter the show ring.

JUDGING/SHOW

1. The Youth Steer Show will be judged at 6:00 p.m., February 11, 2027.
2. Classes will be divided by weight at the discretion of the Steer Committee with premiums paid in all classes.
3. Judging will be done by a committee of three judges.
4. Exhibitors that are not in control of their steers will be tied to the rail & will receive last place in the class. In extreme cases, steers will be removed from the ring.
5. All show halters must have at least 3 feet lead rope from the snap.
6. All first & second place steers must be ready to come back into the ring by the end of the last class.
7. The judging objective will be to rank steers with consideration of values to all facets of the industry. The steers should exhibit: A) acceptable muscling, B) sufficient but not excessive outside fat covering, C) yield a carcass weight of 575-825 pounds and, D) have a balance of carcass quality and cutability desired by the retail industry.
8. Steers will be weighed and have ultrasound reading for outside fat thickness and rib eye area at weigh-in just prior to the show.

9. Three judges (from three different industry segments) will evaluate the live cattle

- A. Consideration will be given to confirmation compatible with all facets of the industry.
- B. Extremes in (a) body type, (b) muscle expression, (c) unsoundness of skeletal structure and (d) temperament.

FLORIDA STATE FAIR AUTHORITY GENERAL DISPUTES POLICY

With respect to any disputes which may occur with respect to an exhibitor at the show, such disputes shall be handled by the appropriate Livestock Committee (the "Committee") in accordance with the following:

1. An exhibitor may file a protest with respect to another exhibitor for violation of the rules and regulations of the Committee and/or the International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) National Code of Show Ring Ethics by submitting a written protest (a "Protest") on a form (the "Protest Form") which will be available at the Agribusiness Department. The Protest must include the exact basis, cause and description of the dispute, the name of the protesting exhibitor, the name of the exhibitor being protested, and any materials in support of the Protest as well as any other matters which may be required in the Protest Form, and shall be accompanied by payment of \$50 which shall be refunded only if the Protest is sustained by the Committee. The Protest Form must be signed by the exhibitor (as the protesting exhibitor), and if the exhibitor is a minor, the Protest Form must also be signed by the exhibitor's guardian or parent, unless the parent or guardian is not available under circumstances that warrant, as determined by the Agribusiness Department in its sole discretion. Failure to properly sign the Protest Form shall deem the Protest Form incomplete and a nullity, and in such event, the Protest will not be considered. Any Protest must be submitted (and received by the Agribusiness Department) at least two (2) hours prior to the time that the show is scheduled to occur in order to be considered prior to the show. If a Protest is submitted less than two (2) hours prior to the time that the show is scheduled to occur ("a "Late Submittal"), then the Committee will handle the Protest after the show in accordance with its rules and regulations and the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics, but the Late Submittal shall not affect the award of ribbons for the show. To minimize disruption to the show, an exhibitor who intends to file a Protest should do so at the earliest feasible time. In any event, a Protest must be filed with the Agribusiness Department prior to the scheduled release hour for the protested exhibitor's animal to be considered.
2. The Agribusiness Department will forward any Protest Form which is duly signed (by an exhibitor as the protesting exhibitor, and if the exhibitor is a minor, the Protest Form must also be signed by the exhibitor's guardian or parent), and any accompanying materials submitted by the protesting exhibitor in support of the Protest to the Committee for its consideration. The Agribusiness Department will also notify the exhibitor being protested of the Protest as soon as reasonably practicable after the Protest has been duly submitted and make available a copy of the written Protest to

the exhibitor being protested. The exhibitor being protested may, but shall not be required to, provide a written response to the Protest (a "Response") by submitting a Response to the Agribusiness Department, including any materials in support of the response to the Protest, and the Agribusiness Department shall provide the Response to Committee. A Response shall be on a form obtained from the Agribusiness Department, and must be signed by the protested exhibitor, and if the protested exhibitor is a minor, the Response must also be signed by the protested exhibitor's guardian or parent, unless the parent or guardian is not available due to circumstances that warrant, as determined by the Agribusiness Department in its sole discretion. The Agribusiness Department shall make available a copy of the Response to the protesting exhibitor upon request by the protesting exhibitor, but it shall be the protesting exhibitor's responsibility to monitor the Protest and to obtain a copy of the Response. The Agribusiness Department will attempt to notify the protesting exhibitor and the exhibitor being protested of the time of the Committee's review and consideration of the Protest by calling their respective cell phone numbers if provided on the Protest Form and/or the Response Form, but it shall be the protesting exhibitor and protested exhibitor's responsibility to monitor the Protest and obtain the time of the Committee's review and consideration of the Protest and to be available at the time scheduled for the Committee's consideration of the Protest. For any Late Submittal, the Committee will handle the process for review of the Protest after the show.

3. The Committee members present will review the Protest and the Response, if any, in the context of its rules and regulations and the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and will decide to resolve the Protest by a majority of the Committee members present. In the event of a tie vote, the Protest shall be deemed denied by the Committee. The decision of the Committee will be final.

4. The Committee also may apply and enforce its rules and regulations and the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics, with respect to exhibitors at the show.

5. By entering the show, all exhibitors, and their respective parents and/or guardians, shall be deemed to have acknowledged and accepted this General Disputes Policy.

*A Special Thanks to
Zoetis Animal Health
Caroline Feagle
for providing the vaccines for the Calf Sale*

ANIMAL PREMIUMS

Grand Champion of the Show	\$300
Reserve Champion of the Show	\$200
1st Place Winner in each class	\$150
2nd Place Winner in each class	\$120
3rd Place Winner in each class	\$115
4th Place Winner in each class	\$110
5th Place Winner in each class	\$105
6th Place Winner in each class	\$100

7th Place Winner in each class	\$95
8th Place winner in each class	\$90
9th Place Winner in each class	\$85
10th & All Others in each class	\$80

**** Exhibitors must be present at Awards Luncheon on Thursday, February 11th, to qualify for premium checks. Any exceptions must be in writing, presented to the Agribusiness Office, and approved by the Steer Committee before the Luncheon. Exhibitors are encouraged to wear official dress.**

CHAMPION PRODUCER AWARDS

The producer of the Grand Champion Steer & Reserve Champion Steer will be presented a plaque.

ACHIEVEMENT PREMIUM OPPORTUNITY!!

The Florida State Fair believes in the value and importance of exhibitor participation in all educational opportunities offered through their animal project. Achievement Premiums will be paid in addition to current animal premiums and will reward exhibitors based on their participation in a wide variety of educational events. **PLEASE NOTE:** Some areas of participation are mandatory and some are optional.

- All points will be totaled, and exhibitors will be ranked in order of points totals.

CHAMPION YOUTH

A Champion Youth Exhibitor will be selected in each age division for each Youth Livestock Show at the Florida State Fair. This exhibitor will be selected based on the highest number of points accumulated.

The Champion Youth Exhibitors in each Youth Show will be eligible to receive:

SENIOR AGE CATEGORY**

Champion Youth -	\$500.00 cash
2 nd Place -	\$400 cash
3 rd Place -	\$300 cash
4 th Place -	\$200 cash

INTERMEDIATE CATEGORY

Champion Youth -	\$100.00 Cash
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Please Note: Only Senior exhibitors will be eligible to qualify for the Final Round Robin Champion of Champions contest. Intermediate exhibitors will only complete the segments of the Skillathon and Record Book Skills Test that are designated for their age level. See "Champion of Champion Information" on website for additional information.

- Available achievement premium dollars will be allocated on total points earned. (All points will be totaled and divided by

total achievement premium dollars - thus determining a dollar value per point).

Tie breakers will be in this order: 1) Skillathon, 2) Record Book Test and 3) Record Book.

PLEASE NOTE: Champion Youth - an exhibitor can only place in the top four - 2 times within a show.

IMPORTANT!!!! CHAMPION YOUTH

& CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

The top four (4) Senior Exhibitors based on Achievement Premium points will be invited to participate in the Champion of Champions Round Robin competition. See "Champion of Champions" section on website for additional information.

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

** Senior exhibitors must compete in the Final Round Robin Champion of Champions Contest to receive cash monies.

PLEASE NOTE: Champion of Champions - an exhibitor can only win 1st place in the Champion of Champions Contest 1 time – after that, they will qualify for Achievement Premiums only.

STEER POINT SYSTEM

Entry correct & complete.....	0 - 10 points
Attend Calf Sale.....	0 - 30 points
Producer Thank You letter.....	0 - 20 points
Beef ABC's <u>or</u> YQCA.....	0 - 30 points
BQA.....	0 - 30 points
Educational Poster	0 - 30 points
Record Book - Mandatory	0 - 100 points
Record Books Skills Test - Mandatory	0 - 100 points
Skillathon - Mandatory	0 - 100 points
Herdsmen	0 - 100 points
Showmanship (Int. & Sr.).....	0 - 100 points
Blue.....	80 points
Red.....	70 points
White.....	60 points
1 st	20 points
2 nd	15 points
3 rd	10 points
4 th	5 points

NEW Stockyard Story Video..... 0 - 100 points

750 TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE

ACHIEVEMENT PREMIUM PAYMENT

Exhibitors will be mailed, after the Fair, a recap of the total Achievement points earned during the 2027 Florida State Fair. Along with the recap they will be provided with the names and addresses of two (2) Achievement Premium Sponsors. To receive payment for these points, exhibitors will be required to:

1. Write and mail a Thank You letter to each sponsor.

2. Send a copy of each Thank You letter to the Fair. Checks for Achievement Premiums will be issued when a copy of the Thank You letters to the sponsors has been received. To qualify for Achievement Premiums all copies of the Thank You letters must be received by June 30, 2027.

NO Achievement Premium checks will be issued after June 30, 2027.

CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS ACHIEVEMENT PREMIUMS - POINT CATEGORIES

BEEF ABCs - Optional

(Alternative to YQCA certification)

1. All Exhibitors can earn Achievement Premium Points by attending the Beef ABC's. More information and schedule will be coming soon.
2. Up to 30 points can be earned by attending the clinic.
3. The Educational Seminar will not be held again this year.

YQCA - YOUTH FOR THE QUALITY CARE OF ANIMALS (Alternative to attending the Seminar)

YQCA is a national multi-species quality assurance program for youth ages 8 to 21 with a focus on three core pillars: food safety, animal well-being, and character development. YQCA is available as an online program for youth everywhere in the United States. YQCA in-person workshops may be available to youth where state 4-H, YLPA or FFA offices or state/national livestock organizations have partnered to have qualified trainers offer in-person workshops.

1. All exhibitors can earn Achievement Premium Points by completing this online certification.
2. A maximum of 30 points can be earned by becoming YQCA certified.
3. YQCA certification information and the on-line training is available at [YQCA Program](#). Please be aware that there will be a cost associated with this program.
4. A copy of exhibitor's YQCA certificate must be mailed to the Agribusiness office on or before January 11, 2027.
5. Contact the Florida State Fair Agribusiness office with any questions at 813-627-4337.
6. This program will cover a variety of information based upon the exhibitor's age. The information covered in this online program will not be mandatory to know for the skillathon. Please refer to the skillathon manual for that information.

BEEF QUALITY ASSURANCE – Optional

1. All exhibitors can earn Achievement Premium Points by becoming BQA certified.
2. Up to 30 points can be earned by becoming BQA certified.
3. Youth BQA certification information and the on-line training is available at [BQA Certification](#). The Cow-Calf certification is the most relevant. Training is free and certification is good for three (3) years.
4. A copy of the exhibitor's BQA certificate must be mailed to the Agribusiness office on or before January 11, 2027.

5. Contact the Florida State Fair Agribusiness Office with any questions at (813) 621-7821.

RECORD BOOKS –

MANDATORY FOR CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

 1. The **NEW Youth Steer Record Book is available on the website.**

2. Exhibitors must present their record book at check-in. The completed record book must be approved and signed by the 4-H or YLPA Club Leader or FFA Advisor.

3. All Record Books will be scored on a basis of 0 - 100 and points will be added to Achievement Premium points.

4. This Record Book is mandatory. Exhibitors that do not complete the record book will forfeit all Achievement Premiums.

5. Record Book will be returned by mail after the Fair.

 6. The **ZSuites Record Book will not be available for the 2027 Youth Steer Show.**

RECORD BOOK SKILLS TEST –

MANDATORY FOR CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

1. A Record Book Skills Test will be given on Wednesday, February 10th, at 10:00 a.m.

2. This test is mandatory. Exhibitors that do not take the test will forfeit all Achievement Premiums.

3. The test will cover all aspects of record keeping.

SKILLATHON –

MANDATORY FOR CHAMPION OF CHAMPIONS

1. A Skillathon will be held in conjunction with the Record Book Skills Test.

2. The Skillathon is mandatory. Exhibitors that do not participate in the Skillathon will forfeit all Achievement Premiums.

3. The Skillathon is a series of "hands on" stations where students will be asked to perform specific tasks.

4. Students will be provided with study guides on information to be covered in the Skillathon.

5. Intermediate exhibitors will only participate in the Intermediate level skills. Seniors will participate in all levels of Skillathon.

EDUCATIONAL POSTER – Optional

Educational Poster may earn 30 points maximum.

1. Exhibitors can earn additional points toward Achievement Premiums by entering an Educational Poster.

2. The purpose of the posters is to educate the public about the animal industry.

3. Posters must be turned in during designated check-in.

4. Posters must be removed during the scheduled release times.

5. Acceptable poster size:

a. 22" x 28"

b. 20" x 30"

6. Acceptable material for poster:

a. Posterboard

b. Foam board

7. No attachments to the poster to extend the acceptable size of the poster.

8. Poster attachments must be within the poster size and not exceed 1' in depth.

9. Posters must relate to the 2027 Skillathon topic of Nutrition. Posters are not to be on showmanship.

10. Posters are not to be reused for another animal division in the current year or future years. Once the poster is judged/displayed it is disqualified for additional competition within the current year or future years. Posters are either photographed or marked submitted. The decision of the judge is final.

11. Other requirements:

a. Poster must have a title

b. Poster must have your name on the back and exhibitor's age as of September 1, 2026

c. If the poster is a game/activity it must have instructions and an answer key **ON FRONT**.

d. If other resources (such as journals, and websites) are used, they must be cited on the back of the poster.

12. See page 14 at the end of the Rules and Regulations for the **NEW** Poster Scoring Rubric.

13. Posters will be disqualified for:

a. Incorrect Poster Size

b. Not on current year Skillathon topic

c. Plagiarism (use of complete article from web or sourcebook).

d. Previously judged poster in other category current year or past years.

 e. AI generated material

HERDSMAN COMPETITION

1. Exhibitors can earn Achievement Premium Points by participation in the Herdsman Contest.

2. All exhibitors will receive actual points from 0 - 100. Judging will be done on an individual basis.

3. Exhibitors will be given 2 warnings if their area is not kept clean. After that a "Red Tag" will be issued and 25 points will be deducted from their Achievement Premium points (for a maximum of 2 deductions).

4. Committee members will be appointed to monitor the area, and the Herdsman points will be determined by a compilation of their scoring.

SHOWMANSHIP CONTEST

1. Exhibitors can earn Achievement Premium Points by participating in the Showmanship Contest.

2. The Showmanship Contest will be held on Tuesday, February 9th, at 3 p.m. This event is optional, but all exhibitors are encouraged to enter.

3. Exhibitors must sign up for the Showmanship Contest at check-in.

4. To be eligible to enter the Showmanship contest, all exhibitors must adhere to the Attire Statement. See page 7.

5. Exhibitors must show their own animal.

6. There will be 2 age categories based on age as of September 1, 2026:

Intermediate - ages 11 - 13

Senior - ages 14 and over

7. Exhibitors will be judged on the Danish system for Blue, Red and White awards and will be ranked 1st thru 4th place.

8. Belt Buckles will be awarded to first place winners in both Senior and Intermediate Divisions.



STOCKYARD STORY VIDEO – Optional

1. Exhibitors can earn Achievement Premium Points by submitting a Stockyard Story Video.

Individual videos only. No team videos are allowed.

2. Videos must be registered for each animal project. **In the case of Beef & Steer, it CANNOT be the same video.**

3. Exhibitors must compose an original video based on their own research and use of Skillathon materials. Assistance in recording the video is allowed.

4. Topic of Stockyard Story Videos must relate to the Skillathon topic of **Nutrition** as related to Beef. This does not include showmanship.

5. **Length of Video: 45 seconds to 1 minute.** Juniors, Intermediates, and Seniors will follow the same video requirements.

6. It is highly recommended that exhibitors wear official show attire, 4-H, FFA or YLPA association or club shirt when recording the videos. Review the Attire section on the Stockyard Story Rules on page 17.

7. Failure to adhere to the rules may result in disqualification.

8. Since all videos will be judged prior to the Fair, **all video registration forms with video links or uploaded file (.MP4 or .MOV formats only) must be submitted on or before January 11, 2027.** Each exhibitor must complete the Online Registration Form which is located on the Florida State Fair Agribusiness website – [Stockyard Story Video Application](#)

9. Videos become the property of the Florida State Fair with the right to be published for promotional, educational, marketing or training purposes.

10. Please refer to pages 16-18 of the rules and regulations for additional information on video requirements and page 19 for the judging rubric.

AWARDS LUNCHEON

1. An Awards Luncheon will be held on Thursday, February 11th at 12:00 p.m. in the Horse Pavilion.

2. **Exhibitors must be present at Awards Luncheon to qualify for premium checks. Any exceptions must be in writing, presented to the Agribusiness Office, and approved by the Steer Committee before the Luncheon.**

3. Each exhibitor will receive one (1) complimentary ticket.

4. Additional tickets for parents, teachers, etc. can be reserved by including \$15.00 per ticket with entry form.

5. Exhibitors are encouraged to wear official dress.

RELEASE

1. All exhibitors must continue feeding and caring for their animal until the official release time of 2:30 p.m. on February 11th.

2. **Each exhibitor assumes all liability in case of death or injury to his steer until animal is loaded on truck at 2:30 p.m.**

3. Each exhibitor's steer must be left tied until release time with at least 1/2-inch rope halter. A \$25.00 deduction will be made from the premiums of any steer found loose after release time.

4. All tack must be removed from the steer barn area by **2:30 pm** on the afternoon of load out, Thursday, February 11th.

5. Removal of any animals or exhibits prior to this designated release time will cause forfeit of all premiums won, all fees paid and the right to further participation in the Fair.

6. Exhibitors are not allowed to remove steer's ear tag.

DISPOSAL OF ANIMALS:

1. The Youth Steer Committee will seek bids to purchase the steers to receive the highest possible price. All steers will go to the buyer.

2. Exhibitors will be paid the actual carcass value of their steer.

3. The Fair will issue two supplement payments to exhibitors:

A. 33 cents/ hanging carcass weight per pound.

B. 33 cents/hanging carcass weight per pound up to \$250.00 Steer hanging carcass weight is figured at 63% of live weight.

4. Checks for payment of animal carcass will be mailed with Achievement Premiums.

GAIN IN WEIGHT

1. Due to the mandatory weigh-in, all exhibitors will automatically compete in this division. Beginning weight will be the sale weight on August 1, 2026.

2. Average weight will be calculated on 191 daily gain time.

3. Final weight used will be that recorded at time steer is weighed into the show.

4. The highest average gain per day during the feeding period will determine the winners.

GAIN IN WEIGHT PREMIUMS

Premiums:

1st place - \$125.00 & Award	6th place - \$100.00
2nd place - \$120.00	7th place - \$ 95.00
3rd place - \$115.00	8th place - \$ 90.00
4th place - \$110.00	9th place - \$ 85.00
5th place - \$105.00	10th place - \$ 80.00

ULTRASOUND GRADE AND YIELD CONTEST

The Florida State Fair reserves the right to base contest on Ultrasound results.

The 70th Annual Ultrasound Grade and Yield Contest will be held in conjunction with the Florida State Fair. We feel that this contest, emphasizing the end product of the beef industry, and provides a valuable educational complement to the Florida State Fair Youth Steer Futurity held during the Fair. At weigh in for the show, all steers will be ultra sounded by a certified technician and the images interpreted for ribeye area, fat thickness and marbling score. Assuming that the dressing percentage of show steers is 63% and the kidney, pelvic and heart fat is 2.5% of the hot carcass weight, the ultrasound images will be used to determine the quality and yield grades of each carcass. Following the image interpretation, a comprehensive report is prepared. Among the major topic headings are: Maturity Groups, Degree of Marbling, USDA Carcass Grade, Hot Carcass Weight, Rib Eye Area, Fat over Eye, Percentage of Kidney and Pelvic Fat, and USDA Yield Grade.

1. Eligibility - All steers in the Florida State Fair Youth Steer Show are eligible for competition in the Florida State Fair Ultrasound Grade and Yield Contest.

2. Premiums - All premium monies in the Contest will be paid to the exhibitor of the steer.
3. Judging - The relative industry value of quality grade, yield grade and weight will be used to determine placing. The relative value will be based on the USDA Premiums and Discounts chart published the week of the show.
4. The decision of the judges shall be final.

ULTRASOUND GRADE AND YIELD PREMIUMS

Grand Champion - \$125.00	6th Place - \$100.00
Reserve Champion - \$120.00	7th Place - \$ 95.00
3rd Place - \$115.00	8th Place - \$ 90.00
4th Place - \$110.00	9th Place - \$ 85.00
5th Place - \$105.00	10th Place - \$ 80.00

** These awards are for overall contest winners (not class winners).

**A Special Thanks to
Florida Cattleman &
Livestock Journal
For sponsoring the Grand and Reserve Grand
Champion Steer Ultrasound Grade & Yield
Awards**

ULTRASOUND GRADE AND YIELD PRODUCER AWARDS

The producer of the Grand Champion and Reserve Grand Champion contest winners will be presented with a plaque.

PREMIER STEER & RESERVE PREMIER STEER

The Premier Steer and Reserve Premier Steer will be selected on a basis of 40% live placing and 60% Ultrasound Grade and Yield data.

The Exhibitor of Premier Steer will receive a Belt Buckle & \$150.00.

The exhibitor of Reserve Premier Steer will receive a Belt Buckle & \$125.00.

PREMIER PRODUCER AWARDS

The producer of the Premier Steer and Reserve Premier Steer will receive special awards and recognition at the Florida Cattlemen's Convention.

THE 1st PLACE CHAMPION YOUTH AWARD IS IN MEMORY OF CHARLES P. LYKES

Mr. Charles P. Lykes was one of the key people that helped to establish the Florida State Fair Youth Steer Futurity Concept. Without his vision, guidance, and support, this program would not have been possible. The \$500.00 cash award, given to the Champion Youth in the steer competition, is being given in Mr. Lykes's memory.

BILL CAREY SPORTSMANSHIP AWARD

The Family of Bill Carey and the Florida State Fair have established this award in memory of William "Bill" Carey. Mr. Carey was extremely active in the Youth Steer Show & Sale for many years. His passing was a true loss to this program. This award will be given to the youth that best demonstrates good sportsmanship through competition, leadership, and congeniality with their fellow exhibitors, Show staff and fair goers. The winner of this award will receive \$100.00 cash.

CHARLIE MOORE SCHOLARSHIP

A scholarship fund has been established in memory of Charlie Moore and his many years of dedication to the Florida State Fair. One recipient will be selected to receive a \$400 scholarship. The money will be awarded in one payment when the Fair receives proper certification that the student is enrolled in some form of continuing education past high school within an accredited College or University in the State of Florida.

BUDDY McCULLOUGH FRIENDSHIP AWARD

This award was established in 2003 in memory of A.L. "Buddy" McCullough for his continuing work with our Youth in the Florida State Fair Steer show program and throughout the State. The winner will receive a \$100.00 check.

CARL JOHNSON MEMORIAL

A special thanks to the family of Carl Johnson for sponsoring the Premier and Reserve Premier Steer Belt Buckles in memory of Mr. Johnson. Mr. Johnson was one of the hardest working members of the Youth Steer Committee from working with producers selecting steers, hauling the animals to his ranch, housing all the steers during the accumulation process, to helping in any aspect of the Youth Steer Futurity. Mr. Johnson had a tremendous love for all the Youth Exhibitors and his knowledge and expertise is greatly missed.

CINDY REVELS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

This award is given in honor and memory of Cindy's many years of her dedicated work to the Florida State Fair Youth Steer program. Her love of youth was immense. Also, her love of the cattle industry and the Steer Futurity was apparent through her many hours of working at procuring steers, working at the calf sale, and helping to make the Steer Show run smoothly. The winner will receive \$250.00.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Please check our website for information on scholarships that are available to our exhibitors. Information will be posted on or before October 1, 2026.

CAMPGROUND

1. PLEASE NOTE: ALL CAMPERS/RVS MUST HAVE A CAMPING PERMIT IN ORDER TO BE ALLOWED ON THE FAIRGROUNDS WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE USED FOR CAMPING.



2. ALL GOLF CARTS MUST HAVE A PERMIT TO BE DRIVEN ON FAIRGROUNDS.

3. Campground Rules and Reservation Form is available on our website.

MOTEL ACCOMMODATION

1. For motel accommodation information, see our website for the Preferred Hotel List.

OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPHER

1. An official photographer will be designated by the Florida State Fair.

2. Photographs of winners and participants will be taken by the Official Photographer for official use in Public Relations.

IAFE (INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS AND EXPOSITIONS) NATIONAL CODE OF SHOW RING ETHICS

Exhibitors of animals at livestock shows shall at all times deport themselves with honesty and good sportsmanship. Their conduct in this competitive environment shall always reflect the highest standards of honor and dignity to promote the advancement of agricultural education. This code applies to junior as well as open class exhibitors who compete in structured classes of competition. This code applies to all livestock offered in any event at a livestock show. In addition to the "IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics," fairs and livestock shows may have rules and regulations which they impose on the local, county, state, provincial and national levels.

All youth leaders working with junior exhibitors are under an affirmative responsibility to do more than avoid improper conduct or questionable acts. Their moral values must be so certain and positive that those younger and more pliable will be influenced by their fine example. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers and absolutely responsible persons who violate the code of ethics will forfeit premiums, awards and auction proceeds and shall be prohibited from future exhibition in accordance with the rules adopted by the respective fairs and livestock shows. Exhibitors who violate this code of ethics demean the integrity of all livestock exhibitors and should be prohibited from competition at all livestock shows in the United States and Canada.

The following is a list of guidelines for all exhibitors and all livestock in competitive events:

1. All exhibitors must present, upon request of fair and livestock show officials, proof of ownership, length of ownership and age of all animals entered. Misrepresentation of ownership, age, or any facts relating thereto is prohibited.

2. Owners, exhibitors, fitters, trainers, or absolutely responsible persons shall provide animal health certificates from licensed veterinarians upon request by fair or livestock show officials.

3. Junior exhibitors are expected to care for and groom their animals while at fairs or livestock shows.

4. Animals shall be presented to show events where they will enter the food chain free of violative drug residues. The act of entering an animal in a livestock show is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer and/or absolutely responsible person for show management to obtain any specimens of urine, saliva, blood, or other substances from the animal to be used in testing. Animals not entered in an event which culminates with the animal entering the food chain shall not be administered drugs other than in accordance with applicable federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules. Livestock shall not be exhibited if the drugs administered in accordance with federal, state and provincial statutes, regulations and rules affect the animal's performance or appearance at the event.

If the laboratory report on the chemical analysis of saliva, urine, blood, or other sample taken from livestock indicates the presence of forbidden drugs or medication, this shall be prima facie evidence

such substance has been administered to the animal either internally or externally. It is presumed that the sample of urine, saliva, blood, or other substance tested by the laboratory to which it is sent is the one taken from the animal in question, its integrity is preserved and all procedures of said collection and preservation, transfer to the laboratory and analysis of the sample are correct and accurate and the report received from the laboratory pertains to the sample taken from the animal in question and correctly reflects the condition of the animal at the time the sample was taken, with the burden on the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to prove otherwise.

At any time after an animal arrives on the fair or livestock show premises, all treatments involving the use of drugs and/or medications for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal shall be administered by a licensed veterinarian.

5. Any surgical procedure or injection of any foreign substance or drug or the external application of any substance (irritant, counterirritant, or similar substance) which could affect the animal's performance or alter its natural contour, conformation, or appearance, except external applications of substances to the hoofs or horns of animals which affect appearance only and except for surgical procedures performed by a duly licensed veterinarian for the sole purpose of protecting the health of the animal, is prohibited.

6. The use of showing and/or handling practices or devices such as striking animals to cause swelling, using electrical contrivance, or other similar practices are not acceptable and are prohibited.

7. Direct criticism or interference with the judge, fair or livestock show management, other exhibitors, breed representatives, or show officials before, during, or after the competitive event is prohibited. In the furtherance of their official duty, all judges, fair and livestock show management, or other show officials shall be treated with courtesy, cooperation and respect and no person shall direct abusive or threatening conduct toward them.

8. No owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person shall conspire with another person or persons to intentionally violate this code of ethics or knowingly contribute or cooperate with another person or persons either by affirmative action or inaction to violate this code of ethics.

Violation of this rule shall subject such individual to disciplinary action.

9. The application of this code of ethics provides for absolute responsibility for an animal's condition by an owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or participant whether or not he or she was actually instrumental in or had actual knowledge of the treatment of the animal in contravention of this code of ethics.

10. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person to have disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show for violation of this Code of Show Ring Ethics and any other rules of competition of the fair or livestock show without recourse against the fair or livestock show. The act of entering an animal is the giving of consent that any proceedings or disciplinary action taken by the fair or livestock show may be published with the name of the violator or violators in any publication of the International Association of Fairs and Expositions, including *Fairs and Expositions* and any special notices to members.

11. The act of entering an animal in a fair or livestock show is the giving of verification by the owner, exhibitor, fitter, trainer, or absolutely responsible person that he or she has read the IAFE National Code of Show Ring Ethics and understands the consequences of and penalties provided for actions prohibited by the code. It is further a consent that any action which contravenes these rules and is also in violation of federal, state, or provincial statutes, regulations, or rules may be released to appropriate law enforcement authorities with jurisdiction over such infraction.

FLORIDA STATE FAIR AUTHORITY LIVESTOCK ADDENDUM

OWNER represents to Florida State Fair Authority ("AUTHORITY") that no animals that are exhibited or otherwise transported onto FLORIDA STATE FAIRGROUNDS will in anyway be suffering from any contagious or infectious disease. In addition, OWNER shall defend, indemnify, and hold the AUTHORITY, the applicable Show Committee and each of their respective officials, officers, directors, employees and agents harmless of and from all losses, damages, claims, expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees at the trial and appellate levels, actions and causes of action arising out of, or in any way connected with, or by reason of this Agreement, the presence of OWNER's livestock at FLORIDA STATE FAIRGROUNDS, and/or use of FLORIDA STATE FAIRGROUNDS including, but not limited to any claim for the death of, or injury to any person or livestock, or damage to, theft of, or destruction of any property arising out of any act or omission of OWNER, OWNER's officers, agents, employees, trainers, drivers, riders, handlers, contractors and livestock, violation of any Federal, State and Local environmental laws, rules, ordinances and/or regulations, actions for negligence, wrongful death, torts,

defects in the real and personal property at FLORIDA STATE FAIRGROUNDS and from any alleged liability, cause, litigation or proceeding whatsoever, even if such injury, death, loss or property damage results, in whole or in part, from the negligence of AUTHORITY, or the applicable Show Committee and their respective officials, officers, directors, employees and agents or otherwise. Neither AUTHORITY nor such applicable Show Committee shall be liable to OWNER, or any officer, agents, employees, trainers, drivers, riders, handlers, or other contractors, invitees or guests of OWNER for any injury or damage to livestock, person or property. AUTHORITY, its officers or agents, assume no liability for any loss or damage to property (including but not limited to livestock) on account of fire, theft, or any other cause including infectious or contagious diseases. In addition, OWNER acknowledges receiving and agrees to abide by the applicable rules and regulations of the AUTHORITY titled FLORIDA STATE FAIR LIVESTOCK RULES & PRIZE LIST and same are incorporated by reference herein.
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FSF 2027 Educational Poster Rubric

This rubric outlines the criteria for judging your poster and serves as the judges' scoring tool.
It was developed to inform you how your poster was evaluated.

Required Elements	• Size – 22"x28" 20"x30" – less than 1" thick • Front – Poster title, current skillathon topic, Game/activity must include directions and answers on the front. • Back – name and age as of 9/1/2026 • Resources citation – examples: Citation of Online Resource Name/Title – URL Link Ex: Florida State Fair Boer Goat Skillathon Manual - https://floridastatefair.com/wp-content/uploads/2025/12/Goat-Skillathon-2026-Health-and-Wellness-FINAL.pdf Citation of Professional Contact – Full Name, Area of Expertise, Date of Contact Ex: Professional Contact – John Brown, Swine Nutritionist, November 9, 2026	/5
Layout and Design	• Gets the attention of the person viewing the poster. • Labels are used and visible from 3 feet away. • Well organized, use of space, and clear. • Graphics are neat, concise, and large enough to be seen easily. • All components must be securely attached to the board. No push pins or protruding staples. • No BRAND names.	/5
Degree of Difficulty/Effort	• Effort • Planning • Subject topics reflect age division topics • Grammar and spelling	/5
Educational Component	• Informs the public. • Take what you have learned and explain it clearly in your own words. • Uses charts, models, or supplies to help explain the topic (Note: anything attached cannot exceed 1 inch or be harmful) • Graphics are appropriate to add clarity/meaning to the understanding of the poster. • Information is correct and current. • Clear learning message. • Logical flow of information that adds meaning to the content of the poster.	/15
TOTAL		/30

Keep in mind that the poster should assist in youth readiness. The content should directly prepare the youth for the hands-on assessment.

DQ: See above for size and thickness. All others will be DQ.

DQ: Not the current Skillathon topic

DQ: Previously judged posters in another category, current year, or past years.

DQ: Plagiarism (Use of others' images or words) For example: Copying the skillathon manual, a website, magazine, etc. and gluing it on the poster, etc. This includes AI generations.

Updated: April 2026



2027 FLORIDA STATE FAIR

STOCKYARD STORY VIDEO

Achievement Premium Points Opportunity for Beef, Steer, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Goat, Boer Goat, and Sheep

PURPOSE

The Florida State Fair Champion of Champions Stockyard Story Video encourages exhibitors to share their knowledge, passion, and experiences through engaging educational videos. This challenge helps youth exhibitors develop communication, creativity, leadership, and agricultural advocacy skills while educating others about the livestock industry.

VIDEO REQUIREMENTS

- Videos must be between 45 seconds to 1 minute in length.
- Video can be edited on TikTok, Instagram, YouTube, or a third-party app (Canva, Adobe Express, CapCut, InShot, iMovie, etc.)
- Must be in either .MP4 or .MOV format.

PARTICIPANT RULES

- Exhibitors must compose an original video based on their own research and use of Skillathon materials. Assistance in recording the Stockyard Story Video is allowed.
- Topic of Stockyard Story Video must relate to the Skillathon topic of Nutrition as related to your project of Beef, Steer, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Goat, Boer Goat, and Sheep
- Junior, Intermediate, and Senior exhibitors will follow the same video requirements.
- Individual videos only. No team videos are allowed.
- For Beef and Steer, the same story **cannot** be used for both submissions. Participants must submit two different videos with distinct storylines.
- Failure to adhere to the rules may result in disqualification, which is the decision of the judges.
- AI-generated images/videos/clips will cause the video to be disqualified.

VIDEO TOPICS

- Topic of Stockyard Story Video must relate to the Skillathon topic of Nutrition as related to your project of Beef, Steer, Dairy Cattle, Dairy Goat, Boer Goat, and Sheep.

VIDEO CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

- Include educational information related to the livestock project.
- Demonstrate the exhibitor's knowledge.
- Be appropriate for all audiences.
- Feature the exhibitor as a meaningful part of the story.
- Promote positive agricultural practices and sportsmanship.

CREATIVE STYLE ENCOURAGED

Popular formats include:

- Day in the Life
- POV (Point of View)
- How-To Tutorials
- Myth vs. Fact
- Before & After Transformations
- Quick Facts or Did You Know?
- Story Time
- Behind-the-Scenes Content
- Mini Documentaries
- What People Think vs. Reality

Creative elements may include voiceovers, text overlays, interviews, time-lapse footage, photos and video clips, transitions and effects, fast-paced editing, humor, and personality.

The best videos do not feel like a school presentation. They feel like content someone would stop and watch while still learning something about agriculture.

ATTIRE

Official show attire is not required, but it is highly recommended that exhibitors wear official show attire, a 4-H, FFA, or YLPA association or club T-shirt. Appropriate everyday clothing can be worn, but videos may be disqualified if an exhibitor is dressed inappropriately. Please refer to your county school district's dress code guidelines for acceptable attire.

MUSIC, COPYRIGHT, AND CONTENT USE

All music, sounds, photos, graphics, and other media must comply with copyright laws. Audio available through TikTok, Instagram, YouTube Shorts, or other licensed platforms may be used when permitted by those platforms. Florida State Fair reserves the right to disqualify entries that violate copyright or trademark regulations.

VIDEO QUALITY

Videos may be filmed using a phone, tablet, or camera. Creativity and communication are valued more than professional production quality.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Deadline: January 11, 2027

All videos must be submitted through the official Florida State Fair Stockyard Story Video submission form. Upload the video file at the link below. It must be in either .MP4 or .MOV formats

A list of resources must be cited on the submission form.

SUBMIT HERE: [Stockyard Story Video Application](#)

JUDGING

The rubric on the following page lists the criteria for the judging of your video and is used as the scoring tool for the judging. It was developed to inform you as to how your video will be evaluated.

OWNERSHIP AND USE

Submitted videos become the property of the Florida State Fair and may be used for promotional, educational, marketing, and training purposes.

EXAMPLES OF STOCKYARD STORIES – COMING SOON!!!

**2027 Florida State Fair
Stockyard Story Judging Rubric**

Exhibitor Name:	Age Category: Jr. Int. Sr.
Species:	

Tier One

Does the video follow the following guidelines?

REQUIRED ELEMENTS		Yes	No
1. Does the story run within the 45-60 second time limit? Time: _____		15	0
2. Is a list of resources on the submission form?		15	0
3. Was the information in the story accurate and related to the topic of nutrition?		15	0
4. Are there any AI-generated images, videos, or clips in the story?		0	15
5. Is the exhibitor dressed appropriately for the story?		10	0
6. Was the entry complete with all necessary information?		10	0
		COLUMN TOTALS	
		TOTAL SCORE	

Tier Two

If the Total above is 80, continue with the Tier Two Judging Rubric.

Category	5	4	3	2	1	Score
Hook & Attention Grabbing Opening	Immediate attention-grabber; highly engaging and makes viewers want to keep watching	Strong opening that creates curiosity and interest	Adequate opening that captures some attention	Slow, unclear, or predictable opening	Fails to engage viewers in the first few seconds	
Education & Message Delivery	Topic is explained clearly, accurately, and creatively; strong educational value with a memorable takeaway	Clear and accurate educational message with minor gaps	Information is understandable but lacks depth or clarity	Educational message is somewhat confusing, incomplete, or difficult to follow	Topic is unclear, inaccurate, or lacks educational value	
Visual & Audio	Exceptional visuals, editing, and composition; Clear voice, balanced sound, appropriate music	Strong visual presentation; Good audio with minor issues	Acceptable quality; Understandable but average	Distracting quality issues; Frequent audio distractions	Poor visual experience; Difficult to hear or understand	
Audience Relevance & Engagement	Highly engaging and well-suited for social media; effectively connects with the target audience and encourages interest	Relevant and engaging for most viewers; educational goal achieved	Moderately engaging; audience interest maintained at times	Limited audience appeal or unclear purpose	Little engagement value; fails to connect with the audience	
						TOTAL SCORE

Judge's Comments: