

Huron County 4-H

2026 Dog Project Requirements

- **Overview of Project #200, All About Dogs:**

- Learn about dogs.
- Will not show or compete with a dog.
- Does not have to own a dog.
- Complete project book and bring to interview judging during the fair.
- Make a poster for fair.

- **Overview of Project #201, Dog Project & Record Book:**

- Care for and work with dog for duration of project.
- Complete Dog Project & Record Book.
- Able to participate in optional dog workshops
- Participates in dog skillathon July 26, during the Dog Show.
- Participates in dog show with dog July 26.
- Make a poster to be judged during the show and displayed at fair.

- **Overview of Project #202, Dog Achievement Program:**

- Members who do not wish to compete with a dog but must have a dog as a family pet.
- A non-competitive educational project; allows member to earn pins and certificates.
- Must have access to a computer to retrieve online activities, record pages, and conduct research.
- Make a poster for display only at fair along with any certificate you earned.
- Able to participate in optional dog workshops.

Important Dates:

- April 22- Mandatory Information Meeting, 6:00pm, Secretary's Office, Fair Grounds
- May 1 – Enrollment deadline
- May 15- Possession of dog and upload to Fair Entry (Dog ID form, current Vaccination form, and pictures)
- June 30 – Fair Entries Due
- **July 26 – Dog Show in the Goat barn**
 - Registration opens at 9:00am
 - **Project #201 turns in posters**
- Aug. 16 – Project #200 and #202 posters turned in at fair, between 10:00am-3:00pm, Miscellaneous Building
- Aug. 19 – All About Dogs project interviews, 1:00pm, Miscellaneous Building
- Aug. 23 – Poster pick up, 8:00am-12:00pm, Misc. Building

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“Rulebooks” for 4-H Dog Show Areas

This Huron County 4-H Dog Project Requirements letter contains all the basic information you need to successfully get started on your dog project.

Once you have decided in which area(s) you are going to compete, you may want to download the companion rulebook that relates to each area. The rulebooks contain the same basic program information in the front. This is the same information included in this letter. The back of each rulebook contains detailed information about the specific areas of competition.

Copies are available at www.go.osu.edu/dog under the Resources heading. There are rule books for each of the following:

- Showmanship
- Obedience
- Rally
- You & Your dog, Assistance Dogs and 4-H PetPals
- Drill Team and Canine Free Style
- State Fair Dog Poster Contest, Skillathon, and Scholarships
- Agility

Sample questions for state fair, You & Your Dog, and Showmanship judging are also available at this website, as well as the score sheets which will be used at the dog show.

All dog project members are encouraged to take advantage of the dog workshops offered in Huron County at the fairgrounds. See details on pg 8 under Huron County Dog Workshops.

*To access Ohio 4-H dog information visit: www.go.osu.edu/dog

2026 Huron County 4-H Dog Project Requirements

As your 4-H club organizes this year, you will find some very important information in this project requirements letter. The Project Guide contains information on more than 100 possible 4-H projects. It is to be used, along with this letter, when selecting projects. Knowing the requirements of a project, when it will be judged and what you must exhibit will help you make the best choice. Parents should share in the project selection process and should read this requirements letter carefully before completing online enrollment.

Huron County 4-H Guidelines

- **Membership Eligibility:** Eligibility for participation in regular 4-H membership begins when a child is age 8 and in third grade, as of January 1. Any youth age 9 or above, as of January 1, is eligible for project membership, regardless of grade level. 4-H membership ends December 31 of the year which you turn 19. *Huron County Extension embraces human diversity and is committed to ensuring that all research and related educational programs are available to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. This statement is in accordance with United States Civil Rights Laws and the USDA.*
- **Meeting Attendance:** Your club must have at least eight meetings each year and you must attend at least six to complete your year's membership and exhibit at the fair. Your club may have additional requirements for attendance at meetings. You may be excused from meetings for other 4-H activities or for school activities. Meetings missed because of work, community baseball, family vacations, etc. are not excused.
- **Enrollment:** Families will self-enroll in 4-H at <https://v2.4honline.com>. Families will be given instructions explaining the process of self-enrolling in the 4-H database. Members will enroll themselves in their club and 4-H projects during the self-enrollment process. Deadline to enroll is May 1.
- **Project Enrollment Fees:** There is a \$12.00 per project enrollment fee. The enrollment fee will include one project book, up to \$12.00 in value. Some projects require multiple books, check the project pages for specifics. Each family with a member in a project #201 Dog Project & Record Book or #202 Dog Achievement Program needs an updated (2024) Dog Resource Handbook - #201R (\$24.00).
- **Project Selection:** Members may sign up for any dog project. To participate in the dog show, members sign up for project #201 (D, O, S, P, W). Members sign up for project #200 if they do not have a dog or #202 if they do not wish to compete with their dog.
- **Project Completion:** Each project has unique requirements for completion. Members who are unable to meet those requirements may write a letter to the 4-H Committee explaining why you could not complete your project.

Due to a different judge being used, members who are not evaluated through the regular fair interview process will be ineligible for placings, premiums or awards. If all project requirements are not complete, the project will be marked as incomplete.

- **Dog Ownership Date:** All dogs taken as 4-H projects must be owned and under your continual care by May 15th. All dogs must be either owned by the junior fair exhibitor or the exhibitor's immediate family, except Assistance Dogs or DAP projects. All project dogs must have an Id and Vaccination form filled out, signed by a vet, and uploaded to 4-HOnline by May 15th. A dog is not required to complete project #200, All About Dogs.

Project #200- All About Dogs

- Beginning level members who may or may not have a dog. Dog ownership is not required for this project.
- This project will allow you the opportunity to learn how dogs think and the meaning of their body language. Learn what keeps dogs happy and healthy.
- Members do not bring a dog to project judging, the Huron County Dog Show, or the Huron County Fair.
- Eligible for State Fair, see pg. 15

Project	Completion Requirements	Fair Exhibit	Fair Entry
Enrollment deadline: May 1 #200 - All About Dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interview Judging: Wednesday, August 19, at 1:00 p.m. in the Miscellaneous Building • Complete a poster to be judged and displayed at the fair, see pg 7. • Bring completed project book to judging: All About Dogs #200 (\$12.00) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a poster to be judged and displayed at the fair, see pg 7. • Topic: Something you learned from the project 	Deadline: June 30 fairentry.com Class 141 – Learning About Dogs Entry 1 – All About Dogs

Project #201- Dog Project and Record Book

- Members planning to compete with a dog enroll in this project.
- Each member enrolling in this project must purchase one Dog Project & Record Book #201 each year, regardless of the number of dog projects; and have an updated Dog Resource Handbook #201R (2024). One handbook per dog family is adequate. This handbook is your informational resource and may be used multiple years.
- Attendance at dog workshops is optional, see pg. 8.
- Eligible for State Fair, see pg. 15.

Project	Completion Requirements	Fair Exhibit	Fair Entry
Enrollment deadline: May 1 Animals must be uploaded to Fair Entry by May 15. *New for 2026- must enroll in all the projects that correspond with the classes you wish to participate in: #201D You and Your Dog #201O Obedience #201S Showmanship #201P Performance #201W Working Dogs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete skillathon, July 26, see pg. 8 • Purchase books: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dog Project & Record Book #201 (\$12.00) ○ Dog Resource Handbook #201R (updated 2024) (\$24.00). *Reusable • Bring completed project book to show • Complete a poster to be judged during the show and displayed at the fair, see pg 7 • Upload required Id and Vaccination form by May 15 (see attached). • Participate in the Huron County Dog Show, July 26. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a poster to be judged during the show and displayed at the fair, see pg 7. • Topic: Grooming 	Deadline: June 30 fairentry.com **Exhibitors are limited to a maximum of 2 dogs. One entry must be made for each entry number (class) participating in: Class 140 – Dogs (Members enrolled in #201)

<p><u>Premier Exhibitor</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ALL dog exhibitors are eligible, regardless of age or winning previously. • Points are tabulated on : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - You & Your Dog placing - Highest class placing - Skillathon placing - Poster contest placing. - Complete Book • Exhibitor must participate in all five areas to be eligible. • Placings of 1st - 4th will earn 1-4 points respectively. • Participating in a class is worth 5 points if exhibitor does not place. • Lowest score overall wins. • Ties will be broken with the most consistent placings, then with skillathon scores if needed. 	<p>Registration opens at 9:00am and Show starts at 9:30am</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Show Order: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agility- Off Leash ▪ You & Your Dog Pet ▪ You & Your Dog Show ▪ Showmanship ▪ Rally ▪ Novice ▪ Preferred Novice ▪ Pre-Novice ▪ Beginner Novice B ▪ Beginner Novice A ▪ Assistance/Working Dogs ▪ Awards Presentation ○ Dog Show Ties <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Dog skillathon score will be the first consideration in breaking a tie. ▪ Remaining ties broken with the You and Your Dog total points. ▪ Additional skillathon questions will be used as needed. 	<p><i>*Detailed class descriptions are available on pages 12-14 for project #201</i></p> <p><i>*Treats are not to be used during the show, other than as part of a creative achievement.</i></p> <p><i>*Dog crates are strongly encouraged to be used during the Dog Show.</i></p>	<p><u>You & Your Dog (mandatory):</u> Entry 1 - You and Your Dog – Pet *If this is YOUR ONLY class! OR Entry 2 - You & Your Dog – Show *If entering another class (i.e. Performance, Obedience, etc.).</p> <p><u>Showmanship (optional):</u> Entry 3- Showmanship</p> <p><u>Performance (optional):</u> Entry 4 - Agility – Off Leash *Must attend at least 4 workshops to participate in Agility. Entry 5 – Rally</p> <p><u>Obedience (optional):</u> Entry 6 – Beginner Novice A Entry 7 – Beginner Novice B Entry 8 - Pre-Novice Entry 9 – Preferred Novice (designed to bridge the gap between on-leash and off-leash) Entry 10 - Novice</p> <p>Entry 11 - Assistance/Working Dogs</p>
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Project #202- Dog Achievement Program (DAP)

- Members who do not wish to compete with a dog, but must have a dog as a family pet, enroll in this project.
- This non-competitive educational project allows one to earn pins and certificates.
- Members must have access to a computer to retrieve online activities and record pages and to research suggested resources.
- Not eligible for State Fair.

Project	Completion Requirements	Fair Exhibit	Fair Entry
<p>4-H Enrollment Deadline: May 1 https://v2.4honline.com</p> <p>Project # to self-enroll: #202 – Dog Achievement Program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Purchase books: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Dog Achievement Program Manual #202 (\$12.00 or download at https://ohio4h.org/animalsciences/dog/dog-achievement-program, if choosing to download the member must still pay the \$12.00 enrolment fee.) ○ Dog Resource Handbook #201R (updated 2024) (\$24). *Reusable • Complete a poster to be displayed at the fair, see pg 7 • Bring the certificates you earned to be displayed with your poster at the fair. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complete a poster to be displayed at the fair, see pg 7. • Topic: Something you learned in the project • Print your certificates, to be displayed with your poster. 	<p>Deadline: June 30 Fairentry.com</p> <p>One entry per member: Class 141 – Learning About Dogs Entry 2 - Dog Achievement Program (DAP)</p>

General information, rules and detailed guidelines ALL members should read and be familiar with!

❖ Posters (Required)

- All members enrolled in a dog project will complete a poster to display at the fair, no dogs come to the fair.
 - Project #200 will be judged at the fair with their interview
 - No separate fair entry required.
 - Project #201 will be judged at the Dog Show and must complete a separate fair entry:
 - **Class 142 – Dog Poster Contest**
 - Entry 1 - Dog Poster Contest, Senior (ages 15-18, as of January 1)
 - Entry 2- Dog Poster Contest, Intermediate (ages 12-14, as of January 1)
 - Entry 3 – Dog Poster Contest, Junior (ages 8-11, as of January 1)
 - Project #202 will display a poster and the certificates they earned. They will not be judged.
 - No separate fair entry required.
- Topic:
 - Project #200 and #202: Something you learned from the project
 - Project #201: Grooming
- Placings of 1st-4th will be awarded for projects #200 and #201.
- Poster Drop off:
 - Project #200 and #202- Sunday August 16 at the Miscellaneous Building between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
 - Projects #201- Turn in poster at the Dog Show and the extension office will hold onto it until the fair.
- Poster Pick up:
 - Sunday August 23 at the Miscellaneous Building between 8:00 a.m. and 12:00.
- Poster Rules:
 - **Put name, club and age (as of January 1) on back of poster.**
 - Each poster must be made by the 4-H or FFA member this year.
 - Posters must be made using size 22” x 28” regular poster board, displayed horizontally. Poster boards are not to be mounted on any type of stiff backing. Shadow boxes, overlays, or three-dimensional posters are not permitted. Items hanging off the sides of the poster are not permitted. Stick on letters and stickers are permitted. Posters need not be laminated or covered with a thin plastic material; however lamination will help preserve the poster. **No foam boards.**
 - Posters will be judged on Educational Content (50 pts.), Neatness/Appearance (30 pts.), and Originality (20 pts).
 - The same poster may not be used for the Huron County and State Fair Dog Poster Contests.

❖ Workshops

- Members enrolled in Project #201 & #202 may participate in Dog Workshops
- Workshops will be held at the fairgrounds in the Doug Wilson Building. Dates and times TBA.
- Workshops are not mandatory, unless participating in agility, but dog project members are encouraged to participate. Participation helps familiarize the dog with the fairgrounds, socializes the dog and prepares the member and dog for judging.
- In order to participate in Agility, the member and dog must attend at least 4 workshops.
- Workshop topics will be decided based on the attendee's level of experience and need.
- All dogs must be up to date on their vaccinations and have them uploaded to 4-HOnline to participate.
- Participants need to bring training treats, water, and poop bags.
- All dogs must remain in the vicinity of the Doug Wilson Building.
- Dogs are not permitted to roam the fairgrounds.
- Workshops are conducted by approved 4-H dog project volunteers.
- Dogs must not be left unattended.
- Female dogs in heat may not attend the workshops.
- Only dogs in the 4-H program may be in the training areas during workshops.
- Parents and guests are asked to stay out of the building and training area (grass) during workshops, so members and dogs do not get distracted.

❖ Skillathon

- Sunday, July 26, at the dog show in the goat barn at the fairgrounds.
- Members enrolled in project #201 MUST participate in the skillathon.
- Members will rotate through four educational stations. Stations will cover information from the following topics from the Dog Resource Handbook:
 - Breed Id: Non-Sporting and Herding groups
 - Canine Good Citizen
 - Collars and leashes
 - Internal/external parasites
- Scores from the skillathon will be used as the interview score in You & Your Dog classes at the dog show.
- Dogs are not to be brought to the skillathon.

❖ Dog Project Rules

- Eligibility
 - FFA members are eligible to show, provided they meet school FFA dog project requirements. FFA members must follow the Huron County 4-H Dog Project Requirements and entry procedures.
 - Only domestic dogs may be shown. Wolf and wolf hybrids are not permitted.
 - All dogs must be six months of age by the date of the show. Dogs in Agility must be 18 months or older. Proof of age is the burden of the exhibitor. Dogs not meeting age requirements cannot be shown.
- Ownership
 - Dogs used in 4-H project #201 must either be owned by the junior fair exhibitor or the exhibitor's immediate family. Ownership of Assistance Dogs is respective of each applicable organization. Dogs must be in the continual care of the junior fair exhibitor for the duration of the project. The date of ownership must be no later than May 15 (April 1 for State Fair). Proof of ownership is the burden of the exhibitor and exhibitor's family. Hardship cases will not be considered. Dogs cannot be leased. Dogs cannot be shared by siblings or other individuals.
- Training and Showing
 - Lessons, instruction and advice for the exhibitor are encouraged. As long as the exhibitor is present in the learning situation and handles or trains the dog the majority of the time present, such assistance can include occasional handling or training by another person. Only the exhibitor can train or show the dog on or after May 15th.
 - Junior Fair exhibitors are expected to perform and demonstrate skills listed for each class they enter. Score sheets used in judging are posted online at the State 4-H website: www.go.osu.edu/dog . The most current form of all applicable score sheets will be used.
 - Treats are encouraged for training but may not be used during the show. The exception is for a creative achievement.
- License and Health Requirements
 - All project dogs must be currently licensed. Actual certificate of dog license is not needed. Exhibitors must list their dogs' license number on the Dog Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate.
 - The Dog Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate must be fully completed, signed by a licensed, accredited veterinarian and uploaded to 4-HOnline by May 15th. This is the only certificate which will be accepted. A photo of the dog will also be required when uploading to 4-HOnline.
 - If a dog's Rabies or vaccinations expire between May 15th and the dog show, an updated form must be turned in to the extension office before participating in any further dog activities.
 - All vaccinations must be current through the Huron County Dog Show.
 - ALL dogs must have current Rabies vaccinations, administered by licensed, accredited veterinarians. Veterinarians must document on the 2025 Huron County 4-H Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate whether the exhibitor's dog rabies vaccination is current for 1 year or 3 years by filling in the "date expires" blank.
 - ALL dogs must be vaccinated for Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus by licensed, accredited veterinarians. Bordetella vaccination is recommended, but not required. If the veterinarian does not administer certain vaccinations, those vaccinations must be noted by the administering veterinarian, either on the vaccination form or letterhead.
 - The Dog Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate is included with this document. This same form may be used for the Ohio State Fair Dog Show, provided the vaccinations are current through State Fair exhibition.
 - Dogs CANNOT be shown if vaccinations are given by anyone other than a licensed, accredited veterinarian.

- Any dogs exhibiting abnormalities or symptoms of sickness, disease, or parasite infestation as determined by show officials will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the show area. If a dog is under veterinary care for a health condition that is not infectious or contagious, the exhibitor must bring a health certificate from the attending veterinarian verifying the condition and treatment. Decision of show officials is final.
- Bitches showing ANY signs of heat are not permitted at the dog show. They are not permitted to show! If a bitch shows any signs of heat, she will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the show grounds. Any bitch, which appears so attractive to males as to be a disturbing element, will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the show grounds. Decision of show officials is final.
- Pregnant and/or lactating (nursing) bitches are not permitted at the dog show and are not permitted to be shown.
- Any male or female dog that is a disturbing element to other dogs will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the show area.
- Safety and Sportsmanship
 - All youth enrolled 4-H dog project #201 and #202 must sign the Permission to Participate form. A parent or guardian is also required to sign the document. The document is attached to this requirements letter and must be uploaded to 4-HOnline by May 15th. All 4-H members, parents, and other adults participating in 4-H activities will adhere to OHIO 4-H CODE OF CONDUCT.
 - Exhibitors are totally responsible for their dogs while on the fairgrounds. Dogs must be kept on leash while at the fairgrounds. Dogs must be kenneled in designated areas. Exhibitors are expected to clean up after their dogs. Dogs are not permitted outside the show area and kennel area. Dogs must not be left unattended.
 - Anyone abusing physically(including hitting) and/or verbally a dog/show personnel will be removed from the fairgrounds and will not be permitted to return any time during the dog show.
 - Any dog exhibiting unsafe or threatening behavior, including excessive barking, running from its handler, biting/snapping, etc., any time before, during, or after exhibition will be penalized according to the seriousness of the misbehavior.
 - Dogs are not permitted to wear any type of muzzle, prong collar, or electronic collar while at the dog show. Exhibitors will be disqualified if their dogs are seen wearing muzzles, prong collars or electronic collars.
 - JUDGES DECISIONS ARE FINAL. Exhibitors, parents, volunteers, and other individuals ARE NOT PERMITTED to talk with judges at any time during the dog show. Discussion and/or confrontation with judges will result in disqualification of exhibitor and removal of individuals from the dog show. Talking with the judge after the show for constructive criticism is acceptable.
 - Judges and/or show officials have the right to disqualify anyone exhibiting poor sportsmanship from showing, or from receiving any awards, at any time during the Dog Show, as well as order the removal from the show area and fairgrounds of anyone showing unsportsmanlike conduct. This is in addition to participants having points deducted from the Sportsmanship category on their score sheets.
 - An exhibitor disciplining a dog in the show ring will be excused from further competition in that class. An exhibitor may not use excessive verbal commands or move toward the dog to correct it.
 - Only the exhibitor's dog, exhibitor, and show officials are permitted in the show ring area at any time throughout the show.
 - All dogs must be kept on leash at all times. The only exception is for dogs performing off leash during judging. In this case, the dog enters the ring with a leash and the leash is removed at the judge's command.

○ Show equipment/Handler's & Dog's Appearance

- Exhibitors must provide their own collar, leash, water dish, kennel, clean up supplies and any other equipment needed.
 - **For all disciplines: - No retractable leashes**, head halters, fancy collars, harnesses, martingales and studded collars are acceptable outside the ring. Pinch collars, collars with prongs or spikes, electronic collars, or any other special training collars are not permitted anywhere on the fairgrounds. Remove all hanging tags. Flat securely attached tags are permitted. Nothing may hang from the dog's collar, except in You & Your Dog-Pet.
 - **Obedience collars** accepted in the ring include well-fitting plain buckle or quick release collars, martingales or slip collars of an appropriate single length of leather, fabric or chain with two rings, one on each end.
 - **Obedience leashes** may be of fabric or leather and must be 6 feet in length for Beginner Novice and Pre-Novice classes. For other obedience classes, the leash need be only of sufficient length to provide adequate slack in the heel on leash exercise. Chain leashes are not acceptable.
 - **Rally collars** while in the rally show ring include well-fitting plain buckle or quick release collars, martingales, or slip collars of an appropriate single length of leather, fabric or chain with two rings, one on each end. Flat securely attached tags are permitted on these collars. Nothing may be hanging from the dog's collar.
 - **Rally leashes** for Rally Novice classes, leashes must be made of fabric or leather and long enough to provide adequate slack.
 - **You and Your Dog collars** may be well-fitting plain buckle or quick release collars, martingales or slip collars of an appropriate single length of leather, fabric or chain with two rings, one on each end, or head halters. Identification tags may hang from the dog's collar in You & Your Dog – Pet.
 - **You and Your Dog leashes** may be of fabric or leather. Chain leashes are not acceptable.
 - **Agility collars** Well-fitting plain buckle or quick release collars must be worn by all dogs.
 - **Agility leashes** Leads for use in On-Leash Agility may be of fabric or leather and must be 6 feet in length.
 - **Food, treats, or toys** are not permitted in the show ring area during obedience classes. Exhibitors may take dogs out of holding rings and out of show area to give rewards, bathroom break, etc., and then return immediately when finished.
- Handler's Appearance:
 - **Acceptable Clothing for all disciplines:** Exhibitors should be neat, clean, and well-groomed in appearance. They should wear clothing that is comfortable to handle in and appropriate for dog shows. Clothing should not distract, limit or hinder the judge's view of the dog. Youth with long hair should tie it back to keep it from interfering with handling or the judge's view.
 - **Inappropriate Clothing for all disciplines:** Clothing that is too tight or too revealing, such as short skirts, short shorts, tank tops, halter tops, spaghetti straps, low cut blouses or shirts, shorts hanging too low on the waist, clothing with holes or tears in the fabric, blue jeans, faded or torn jeans of any kind, or other similar types of clothing. Do not wear shirts with club names or logos, or clothing with lettering and distracting or offensive wording or designs. Do not wear hats. Do not wear sandals, open-toed shoes, high-heeled shoes, clogs or similar type footwear. Exhibitors dressed inappropriately will have points deducted or may be excused from the show ring.
 - **Obedience Acceptable Clothing:** Slacks, dressy shorts, skorts, capri or crop pants, colored dress jeans, collared blouses and shirts, polo shirts, or similar attire, closed-toe shoes, rubber-soled shoes, flats, and similar type footwear.
 - **Rally Acceptable Clothing:** All Rally classes includes slacks, dressy shorts, skorts, capri or crop pants, colored dress jeans, collared blouses and shirts, polo shirts, or similar attire, closed-toe shoes, rubber soled shoes, flats, and similar type footwear.

- **You & Your Dog and Agility Acceptable Clothing:** Slacks, dressy shorts, skorts, capri or crop pants, colored dress jeans, collared blouses and shirts, polo shirts, or similar attire, closed-toe shoes, rubber-soled shoes, flats and similar type footwear. Exhibitors in You & Your Dog - Show should wear the clothing they are wearing in their other class(es). Club shirts, jeans and shorts are acceptable for Agility.
- Dog's Appearance:
 - Dogs must be clean, well brushed and in good physical condition appropriate for the dog's age. The coat must be free from mats and loose hair. Ears must be clean and free from hair in the ear canal. The eyes must be free from matter, and teeth should not have any tartar buildup. Some staining on the teeth of older dogs is permissible. Toenails must be of proper length. Hair between the pads should be trimmed to prevent matting and collecting dirt. It is not required that whiskers be trimmed, but if the dog's face is shaved, the stubble should be removed. Regulation show clip is not required for purebred dogs.
- Hair in Dog's Eyes:
 - Any dog whose hair surrounding the eyes, ears or beard interferes with its performance may have its hair tied back with elastic bands or small plain barrettes. Ribbons or bows are not permitted.

❖ Detailed Dog Class Descriptions (Project #201)

***A more detailed explanation of the exercises for each class can be found at <https://ohio4h.org/animalsciences/dog/dog-resources>, under Rules for Ohio 4-H/Ohio State Fair Participation.**

○ You & Your Dog

- **You & Your Dog – Show:** This class is for all 4-H members who show the same or a different dog in other dog classes (obedience, rally, assistance or agility). All dog project members showing in other classes must also enter this class. Members enter You & Your Dog-Show only once; even if they are showing 2 dogs in the other classes. Members will choose one dog to do this class with.
- **You & Your Dog – Pet:** This class is for youth who want to learn about dogs without involvement of competitive classes, such as obedience or performance. This class is for 4-H members who are NOT showing the same or another dog in any other classes. *Dogs entered in You & Your Dog- Pet still come to the dog show for judging.*
- **Judging criteria for both You & Your Dog classes:**
 - Member's Interview (60 points): In Huron County the score comes from the Dog Skillathon. For the interview at state fair, age-appropriate questions will come from the Dog Resource Handbook chapters. Check the website listed on page 1 for age appropriate questions.
 - Dog Project & Record Book (40 points): All sections that apply to the You & Your Dog project must be filled out completely, including photographs. If you have more than one dog, the animal records section may be copied before you begin and complete one set for each dog.
 - Member's Appearance & Attitude (40 points): Exhibitors should be neat and clean in appearance. Appropriate clothing must be worn.
 - Dog's Appearance and Manners (50 points): Dogs should be clean and well-groomed. They should show good manners and be able to be controlled by the handlers. Dogs should allow examination without resistance or aggression.

- Exhibit or Creative Achievement (40 points): This must be from current project year and show some knowledgeable phase of project work OR demonstrate something learned in the project with your dog or something you taught your dog. NOTE: Only “Exhibit” allowed at State Fair.
- Obedience
- The purpose of obedience is to demonstrate the dog’s usefulness as a companion. Youth train their dogs to behave in the home, in public places and in the presence of other dogs. 4-H obedience competition demonstrates the handler’s ability to work as a team with their dog by performing a specified routine in the ring. Members may show up to 2 dogs in obedience classes; other than Beginner Novice A, where they can only show 1 dog.
 - Summary of Progression of Obedience Classes for Huron County:
 - **Beginner Novice A** - 1 year, then move to Beginner Novice B or Pre-Novice. Beginner Novice A can never be repeated by handler OR dog.
 - All Beginner Novice A exercises are performed on leash: Heel, Figure 8, Sit for Exam, Sit/Stay, Recall.
 - **Beginner Novice B** - can repeat class with same dog or different dog until the dog wins the class
 - Beginner Novice B class exercises: Heel on leash, Figure 8 on leash, Sit for Exam on leash, Sit/Stay with leash attached, on ground, Recall off leash
 - **Pre-Novice** - can repeat class with same dog or different dog until the dog wins the class
 - Pre-Novice class exercises: Heel on leash, Figure 8 on leash, Stand for Exam on leash, Recall on leash, Long Sit on leash (1 min), Long Down on leash (1 min)
 - **Preferred Novice** – Added to bridge the transition between on-leash and off-leash obedience classes. Can repeat class with same dog or different dog until the dog wins the class
 - Preferred Novice class exercises: Heel on leash with Figure 8, Stand for Exam off leash, Heel Free, Recall, Stay- Sit or Down, Sit Stay – Get your leash
 - **Novice** - can repeat class with same dog or different dog until the dog wins the class.
 - Novice class exercises: Heel on leash and Figure 8, Stand for Exam off leash, Heel Free, Recall, Sit Stay- Get your leash, Group Exercise- Sit and Down Stay
 - Class Selection Rules
 - Exhibitors in “A” level classes must progress to a higher level of obedience with the same or a different dog. “A” level classes can never be repeated by handler or dog.
 - Exhibitors in “B” level classes can show in these classes every year with the same dog, unless winning first place. After winning first place in the Huron County 4-H Dog Show, the exhibitor/dog team must move to a different level.
 - Dogs that have placed in “B” level obedience classes may repeat the same classes provided they are not performing at a higher level or have won the class. They may never show in a lower level obedience class again.
 - Exhibitors may move back and forth between Beginner Novice B and Pre-Novice in subsequent years. Neither a youth nor dog may show in both the same year. The class chosen for the year should be based on the difference in exercises.

- Rally
 - Rally is a sport in which the dog and handler complete a course that has been designed by the rally judge. The judge tells the handler to begin, and the dog and handler proceed at a brisk pace through a course of designated stations, 10-20 depending on the level. Each of these stations has an 8 ½” x 11” sign providing instructions regarding the next skill that is to be performed, via words, directional arrows, colors, and geometric shapes. The dog and handler team moves continuously at a brisk but normal pace with the dog under control at the handler’s left side. There should be a sense of teamwork between the dog and handler both during the numbered exercises and between the exercise signs; however, perfect heel position is not required. After the judge’s “Forward” order, the team is on its own to complete the entire sequence of numbered signs correctly. Unless otherwise specified in the Rally Regulations, handlers are permitted to talk, praise, encourage, give additional commands and or signals using one or both arms, clap their hands, pat their legs or use any verbal means of encouragement. The handler must move in a natural manner. The handler’s arms need not be maintained in any particular position. At any time during the performance, loud or harsh commands, intimidating signals, and touching the dog (unless specified in the Rally Regulations) will be penalized.
 - Assistance, interference, or attempts to control a dog from outside the ring is not permitted. A judge who is aware of such double handling or interference must substantially penalize the dog.
 - A 25-point deduction will be made for any dog fouling the ring. The exhibitor and his/her dog are not to be excused from the ring. Judging is to continue once the area is properly cleaned. Fouling includes urine, feces, or vomit.
 - Exhibitors in Rally Novice: all exercises are judged on leash. All dogs must enter and leave the ring on leash. Must have 10 to 15 stations (Start and Finish not included) with minimum of three (3) and a maximum of five (5) stationary exercises per class.
- Agility
 - In order to participate in Agility in Huron County, the member and dog must attend at least 4 workshops.
 - 4-H Agility is a team sport that youth and their dogs participate in together. Patterned after the equestrian sport of show jumping, youth and their dogs learn to work together as a team to negotiate the course. 4-H Agility gives opportunity for handler and dog teams to develop confidence, problem solving skills, patience and responsibility.
 - The Huron County Dog Program received a generous grant from the Ohio 4-H Foundation in 2014 to purchase dog agility equipment. Members participating in the Dog Workshops at the fairgrounds have the opportunity to try different agility obstacles with their dogs. If a dog is showing in agility for the first time, they will be on leash. All other dogs will be shown off leash.
 - Obstacles include various jumps, A-frame, pause table, weave poles, classic dog walk, and tunnels.
- Assistance/Working Dogs
 - The purpose of assistance dogs is to provide services to humans. Most 4-H Assistance Dogs are Pilot Puppies being socialized and trained. These puppies are then returned to the parent organization for specialized training. This class also includes other working dogs, such as therapy dogs, police dogs, search-and-rescue dogs, military dogs, herding dogs and detection dogs. Assistance dogs are judged using the Canine Good Citizen test.

❖ Ohio State Fair Junior Dog Show

- Youth may enter any classes they are eligible for at the state fair. Event information is available online at the Ohio 4-H website: ohio4h.org/animalsciences/dog. There are two options for dog project participation at the state fair:
 - Companion Animal Day- # 200 All About Dogs and #201 You & Your Dog project members do project interviews at the state fair WITHOUT DOGS. Visit ohio4h.org/animalsciences/dog for dates and times. Participants must be selected during Huron County State Fair Selections on July 18th at 9:00 a.m. in the Extension Office with their completed project book and poster.
 - The Dog Show at the Ohio State Fair- Held June 19-21, 2026. Visit ohio4h.org/animalsciences/dog for entry forms and deadlines. Areas of competition include obedience, showmanship, rally, and agility.
- Ohio State Fair Dog Skillathon
 - A Dog Skillathon will be held during the State Dog Show. This contest is open to any regular 4-H or FFA member. Participants do not have to be enrolled in a dog project. A parent/guardian or responsible adult MUST sign the youth's skillathon score sheet at registration, verifying the correct age division BEFORE the youth can participate in the skillathon. The four subject matter station categories will be posted online at ohio4h.org/animalsciences/dog. Go to "Statewide Programs", "Animal Sciences", and "Ohio 4-H Skillathons". Registration is the day of the event; no pre-registration is required.
- Ohio State Fair Dog Poster Contest
 - Deadline for posters to be received in Columbus is Monday, June 29. Posters received after this deadline will not be judged, however, they will still be displayed.
 - Any youth enrolled in a 4-H dog project may enter a poster.
 - Age divisions will be as follows: Junior (ages 8-11), Intermediate (ages 12-14), and Senior (ages 15-18). All ages are as of January 1.
 - Each poster must be made by the 4-H or FFA member this year.
 - Posters must be made using size 22" x 28" regular poster board, displayed horizontally. Poster boards are not to be mounted on any type of stiff backing. Shadow boxes, overlays, or three-dimensional posters are not permitted. Items hanging off the sides of the poster are not permitted. Stick on letters and stickers are permitted. Posters need not be laminated or covered with a thin plastic material; however lamination will help preserve the poster.
 - Each poster must be clearly labeled in the front lower right hand corner with the exhibitor's name, county, and age as of January 1.
 - State Fair Dog Poster Entry Forms are available from the Extension Office or on the state fair website.
 - Each youth must complete an entry form and send the completed entry form along with poster to OSF Dog Poster Contest, Nationwide and Ohio Farm Bureau 4-H Center, 2201 Fred Taylor Drive, Columbus, Ohio 43210.
 - Posters will be judged on Educational Content (50 pts.), Neatness/Appearance (30 pts.), and Originality (20 pts).
 - The same poster may not be used for the Huron County and State Fair Dog Poster Contests.



2026 Ohio 4-H and Ohio State Fair Dog Project Identification Form and Vaccination Certificate

Upload to Fair Entry by May 15

IDENTIFICATION FOR (To be completed by Exhibitor)

Exhibitors: Complete this identification form. Exhibitors, parents/guardians must read the statement at the bottom of this section and sign to verify they have read the 2026 Ohio 4-H and Ohio State Fair Dog Show General Rules and Rules specific to show venues, agree to abide by them, and have a 2026 Permission to Participate form on file in the county Extension office. Refer to the reverse side of this form.

Exhibitor's Name _____

County Enrolled in 4-H _____ Phone (____) _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Dog's Call Name _____

Dog's Birth Date _____ Age _____ Mo./Day/Yr.

Predominant Breed _____

Color & Markings _____

Sex: [] Male [] Neutered Male [] Female [] Spayed Female

Dog License Tag No. _____ (Must list tag number)

Signatures Required: We verify we have read the 2026 Ohio 4-H and Ohio State Fair Jr. Fair Dog Show Rules/Show Venue Rules & agree to abide by these rules. We have a signed 2026 Permission to Participate in Ohio 4-H Dog Activities Disclosure and Release of Claims form on file in our county Extension office and agree to be bound by the terms set forth therein.

Exhibitor's Signature _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____

Date Signed _____

VACCINATION CERTIFICATE - VETERINARIAN MUST COMPLETE THIS ENTIRE SECTION!!

Exhibitors: Take this form to your veterinarian! This Vaccination Certificate MUST be completed and signed by a licensed veterinarian. All dogs MUST have current rabies vaccinations. Your veterinarian must document on this form whether your dog's Rabies vaccination is current by filling in the "Date Expires" blank. Additionally, the Ohio 4-H Dog Program requires all dogs have current vaccinations for Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus for exhibition at the Ohio State Fair Dog Show. Bordetella vaccination is recommended, but not required. Veterinarian protocol for vaccinations will be followed. All vaccinations must be administered by a licensed veterinarian.

For the Ohio State Fair Dog Show, all vaccinations must be current through the last day of the 2026 show.

Rabies

Date Given _____ Date Expires _____

Product _____ Serial # _____

DHLPP

Date Given _____ Date Expires _____

With the exception of Rabies, specific vaccination requirements may be waived as noted by veterinarian in the space below. _____

Clinic Information

Clinic Name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Administering Veterinarian's Name _____

Veterinarian's Signature _____

Date _____ Clinic Phone (____) _____

The **2026 Ohio 4-H and Ohio State Fair Junior Fair General Dog Show Rules and Rules specific to show venue** must be followed. The Exhibitor and a Parent/Guardian must sign in the designated area on the other side of this form acknowledging reading these rules and agreeing to abide by these rules. They must also sign and verify that a signed **2026 Permission to Participate in Ohio 4-H Dog Activities Disclosure and Release of Claims** form is on file in their county Extension office and agree to be bound by the terms set forth therein. ANY dog exhibiting unsafe or threatening behavior at any time before, during, or after exhibition **MUST** be removed from the fairgrounds for the remainder of the dog show. All decisions of the Show Committee shall be final. All 2026 Ohio State Fair Dog Show Rules/Specific Show Venue Rules and other information can be found at: www.go.osu.edu/osfdogs.

Individuals who violate any rule and/or exhibit poor sportsmanship during the Ohio State Fair Junior Fair Dog Show **WILL BE DISQUALIFIED** from showing and removed from the Fairgrounds. Show Committee and/or Judges' decisions are FINAL. Individuals are NOT permitted to have any discussion with judges at any time throughout the Dog Show. *(This does not include discussions or questions during an Agility or Rally briefing or walkthroughs.)* Individuals with concerns must express them in writing, give them to Show Personnel, and those concerns will be discussed at the fall State 4-H Dog Advisory Committee meeting. Confrontations with Judges and/or Show Personnel will result in removal of those individuals from the Fairgrounds and in disqualification of exhibitors.

Permission to Participate

As a 4-H member, I am aware that:

1. Dogs have a tendency to behave in ways that may result in injury to me or other persons in the immediate vicinity;
2. Dogs may react in an unpredictable way to unfamiliar environments, sounds, strange odors, sudden movements, unfamiliar objects, persons, dogs, or other animals;
3. I am to listen to adult volunteers, trainers, coaches, and judges when working with my dog(s) in group settings, and when around other dogs and 4-H members, and people;
4. Other participants in the 4-H Dog Program may fail to maintain control over their dogs or fail to act within their abilities, thus causing harm to me, my dog(s), other participants, volunteers, or spectators;
5. Other participants in an activity, event, or program may act in a negligent manner which otherwise may result in harm to me and/or my dog(s);
6. I should be aware of my dog's body language and stress indicators at all times while we are participating in 4-H activities;
7. I should be able to remove my dog from situations where he/she may respond in a reactive or aggressive manner;
8. If I cannot maintain control over a dog I am using for a 4-H project, I understand that I will not be able to use this dog for a 4-H project; and
9. If a dog I am using for a 4-H project has been or becomes aggressive toward other people and/or other dogs, I will not use this dog for a 4-H project.

As a parent or guardian, I understand and agree that my child is capable of being in control of his/her dog(s) at all times. I understand and agree that if a dog my child is currently using, or plans to use, has been or becomes aggressive toward other people and/or dogs I will not allow my child to use this dog as a 4-H project.

You must complete the front side of this Identification Form. You and your parent or guardian must sign and date this form.

Health Requirements

1. **Dogs less than 6 months old are NOT permitted on the Fairgrounds.** All dogs **MUST** have current Rabies vaccinations. Please have your veterinarian document on this form that your dog's Rabies vaccination is current by filling in the "Date Expires" blank. Additionally, the Ohio 4-H Dog Program requires that all dogs have current vaccinations for Distemper, Hepatitis, Leptospirosis, Parainfluenza, and Parvovirus for exhibition at the Ohio State Fair Dog Show. Bordetella vaccination is recommended, but not required. **If your veterinarian does not administer the required vaccinations, they must document that in the space provided or on business letterhead and attach it to this form. The Ohio State Fair Dog Show follows the exhibitor's veterinarian's vaccination protocol.**
2. All vaccinations must be administered by a licensed veterinarian. **For the Ohio State Fair Dog Show, all vaccinations must be current through the last day of the 2026 show.** *Note: Vaccination deadlines and requirements for county fairs may differ.*
3. **THIS IS THE ONLY CERTIFICATE THAT WILL BE ACCEPTED AT HEALTH CHECK.** Other certificates of vaccination, computerized vaccination records, pet record cards, or kennel records will not be accepted. **It is the exhibitor's responsibility to make sure all health requirements for State Fair are met.**
4. Dogs exhibiting abnormalities or symptoms of sickness, disease, or parasite infestation as determined by the health check officials will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds. If a dog is under veterinary care for a health condition that is not infectious or contagious, the exhibitor must bring a health certificate from the attending veterinarian verifying the condition and treatment. Decision of the health check officials is final.
5. **Bitches showing signs of heat are not permitted on the Fairgrounds. They will not be allowed to show.** Each dog must go through a health check each day shown where all females will be checked for signs of heat. **If a bitch shows any signs of heat, she will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds.** Any bitch, which appears so attractive to males as to be a disturbing element, will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds. Decision of the health check officials is final. *(Note: Check with your veterinarian several months prior to the show if you think your dog is due to be in heat during the show. They may be able to medicate your dog to delay estrus.)*
6. **Pregnant and/or lactating (nursing) bitches are not permitted on the Fairgrounds. They will not be allowed to compete.**
7. Any male or female dog that is a disturbing element to other dogs will be eliminated from the show and must be removed from the Fairgrounds.

► Your veterinarian must fill in ALL of the blanks! They must print their name on the line labeled "Administering Veterinarian's Name" and sign their name on the line titled "Veterinarian's Signature." Your veterinarian must fill in the date and clinic phone at the bottom of the certificate. Any additional health conditions allowing dog to show **MUST** be addressed by veterinarian on business letterhead. This includes a titer testing.

Bring this completed form with you to the Ohio State Fair Dog Show Health Check Station, along with your dog, prior to going to Registration.