

ITASCA COUNTY 4-H Competitive Events: Deadlines, Consequences and Exemptions

This document is designed to assist 4-H members, families and 4-H staff in understanding state and county 4-H individual competitive event deadlines, consequences applied to each situation/deadline, and the use of the one-time exemption to remove all consequences for a single situation/deadline.

	4-H event participation	County fair ribbon and premium	County fair purple ribbon eligibility	State fair or state trip advancement	County fair auction	County fair showmanship and interview awards	County fair rate-of-gain awards
Membership enrollment or re-enrollment received after May 15	Youth must be enrolled as 4-H members to identify a 4-H animal. 1,2	Eligible to exhibit for blue, red or white placing and related ribbon premium.	Not eligible. 3,4	Not eligible. 3,4	Not applicable.	Eligible.	Not applicable.
Animal Science ID received after deadline (Feb 17 for market beef; May 15 for all others)	Youth must be enrolled as 4-H members to identify a 4-H animal. 1,2	Eligible to exhibit for blue, red or white placing and related ribbon premium.	Not eligible. 3,5,6	Not eligible. 3,5,6	Not applicable.	Eligible. 6	Not applicable.
Fair registration received after county's pre-entry deadline August 1	Youth must be enrolled as 4-H members to identify a 4-H animal. 1,2	Eligible to exhibit for blue, red or white placing and related ribbon premium.	Not eligible. 3,4	Not eligible. 3,4	Not applicable.	Eligible.	Not applicable.
State Fair/State Showcase trip acceptance received after State Fair/ Showcase Trip acceptance deadline	Youth must be enrolled as 4-H members to identify a 4-H animal. 1,2	Eligible to exhibit for blue, red or white placing and related ribbon premium.	Eligible.	Not eligible until the full trip lineup has been depleted. 8	Not applicable.	Eligible.	Not applicable.
Other county individual competitive event registration received after deadline	Youth must be enrolled as 4-H members to identify a 4-H animal. 1,2	Eligible to exhibit for blue, red or white placing and related ribbon premium.	Not eligible. 3	Not eligible.3	Not applicable.	Not applicable.	Not applicable.

- Youth may enroll in project areas at any time. However, to be eligible to exhibit at the county fair with full privileges the information in the Competitive Event Table must be met.
- For youth enrolling in 4-H for the first time and/or joining clubs or programs organized after the June 1 deadline, enrollment will be received for a period of one calendar week after the group is organized. Because of the animal science ID deadlines, youth enrolling after June 1 will not be able to exhibit in animal science projects with full privileges.
- 4-H members may choose to utilize their one-time exemption recognizing that they have missed a 4-H deadline and waive all consequences for that deadline. The one-time exemption applies for the career of the 4-H member and transfers among Minnesota counties.
- The one-time exemption form must be submitted with the late enrollment or late registration form.
- For the Animal Science ID deadline, the 4-H member has one calendar week after set deadline to turn in, to the Extension Office, the animal ID form and the one-time exemption form. (The animal must be owned by the deadline.)
- When a 4-H member uses their exemption for a late ID, then the animal(s) being ID'd may only be shown by that same 4-H member at a 4-H county and/or state 4-H event. The late ID'd animal(s) cannot be exhibited by another sibling at a 4-H event during the current 4-H year.
- If the county determines the 4-H member is "not eligible," this consequence is removed, if the youth chooses to use the one-time exemption.
- Grievance procedures and one-time exemptions are not allowed when possible outcomes could affect another youth (e.g. State Fair trip acceptance deadline.)
- Central County ID options: 1) Attend designated county ID with animal(s); 2) Make arrangements with someone else to ID animal(s) at designated date/place; 3) Make arrangements with 4-H Program Staff to attend another county's central ID date (not eligible for rate of gain); 4) Use one-time exemption and identify own animal(s). (Arrangements must be made with 4-H Program Staff prior to identifying own animals; not eligible for rate of gain.)

1/29/26