



2024 Quality Assurance Certification Requirement for Delaware State Fair Market Animal Exhibitors

All Delaware State Fair junior exhibitors showing a market animal (steer, market lamb, market goat or market hog) are required to have a current quality assurance certification in order to enter and exhibit in a market class at the Delaware State Fair. The YQCA program is a national certification that now covers all livestock species with a single certification for all youth ages 7-21 nationwide. Program ages are calculated as of January 1 of the current year. **Please note that a YQCA/BQA/PQA or DEQA certificate must be good through the end of July 2024 in order to enter a market animal in the 2024 Delaware State Fair. A copy of that certificate must be uploaded in ShoWorks at the time of entry in order for an entry to be complete and accepted.** Options for obtaining a qualifying quality assurance certification to be able to enter and show a market animal at the 2024 DSF are:

- **Ages 5-6-** A parent, guardian or responsible adult must have a current quality assurance certification. Options to fulfill this requirement include PQA(Pork Quality Assurance) or BQA (Beef Quality Assurance <https://www.bqa.org/certification/online-certification>) adult online trainings or parents can either attend a YQCA classroom training session(email Susan directly to register) with their 5-6 year old to obtain a valid QA certification to meet the DSF requirement. Please contact Susan Garey if you would like to be granted access to the online Adult PQA certification training to cover youth ages 5-6. An email address is required.
- **Ages 7-18-** The youth market exhibitor must have a current YQCA certification obtained either through an YQCA classroom training session or YQCA online.
- **Ages 19-21-** The youth market exhibitor must have a current YQCA certification that can **only be obtained online as per the YQCA program rules.**

Youth YQCA certification is valid for one year.

In order for youth ages 8-21 to participate in either an online or in person classroom YQCA training session, they must register and create a profile at <http://yqcaprogram.org> For

youth ages 8-12, parents are required to register their youth on the YQCA website. Once a child is registered, select the appropriate class you plan to attend. Fees will be charged at the time of registration and can be paid by credit card.

The YQCA classroom training costs \$3.00 and the online training costs \$12.00. These fees are paid online and go directly to YQCA even if you are attending an in person training. This should be completed prior to coming to the in person training. Youth completing the online YQCA training will take the online module that corresponds to their age as of January 1 of the current year.

The following YQCA in person class training dates have been scheduled for this spring:

- **Wednesday, April 24, 2024**- UD Carvel Center- Sussex County Extension Office, Georgetown 6:30-8:30 pm- registration required in advance-must register by April 22.
- **Monday, April 29, 2024**- New Castle County Extension Office, Newark 6:30-8:30 pm- registration required in advance- must register by April 26.
- **Wednesday, May 22, 2024**- Paradee Center- Kent County Extension Office, Dover 6:30-8:30 pm- registration required in advance- must register by May 20.

If you plan on attending any of these sessions, you must register in advance so that we can ensure enough space and training materials. Please contact Susan Garey truehart@udel.edu or (302) 242-1510 if you have any questions or concerns in regards to Quality Assurance/YQCA certification needs.