

WISCONSIN STATE FAIR

Presented By  U.S. Cellular

Dear Junior Beef, Dairy, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep and Swine Exhibitors,

NEW FOR 2018! Wisconsin State Fair is pleased to announce implementation of a new national certification program available for youth. Completion of this informative and educational program, “Youth for the Quality Care of Animals” (YQCA), will be required for all youth who exhibit animal projects (Beef, Dairy, Goats, Poultry, Rabbits, Sheep and Swine) at the 2018 Wisconsin State Fair Junior Shows. This interactive program will reinforce current animal industry best practices and awareness of critically important animal messaging. This special program features interspecies information designed to supplement project education for Beef, Dairy, Goat, Poultry, Rabbit, Sheep, and Swine exhibitors.

YQCA was developed and funded by national livestock industry professionals, extension specialists and livestock show managers. YQCA certification is rapidly being endorsed and implemented for exhibitors at Fairs and animal exhibitions across the country. It replaces the National Pork Board’s Youth Pork Quality Assurance (PQA) program and Wisconsin’s Meat Animal Quality Assurance (MAQA) program.

Course content includes an age appropriate module from each of the following program areas:

- Animal Welfare (basic needs, proper animal handling, biosecurity, etc.).
- Food Safety (medications, medicated feeds, withdrawal times, avoiding residue, etc.).
- Character Education (ethics, goal setting, career exploration, etc.).

YQCA certification is offered in two formats to meet varied learning styles and active schedules:

- Online – Fee: \$12/exhibitor/year Available 24/7 at www.yqca.org

-OR-

- Face-to-Face/Trainer-Led – Fee: \$3/exhibitor/year

To find a list of face-to-face/trainer-led sessions in Wisconsin, create an account on www.yqca.org.

Under the appropriate age in “Course List” choose “Instructor-Led Training”. A drop down box will list all current available options for Wisconsin.

Both certification types (Online and Face-to-Face) must be paid online with a credit card. The nominal course fees (\$12/\$3) ensures the course content/learning platform stays current.

Annual certification should take approximately 60 minutes. After viewing each module, the exhibitor must successfully pass a quiz which demonstrates content mastery. Youth wishing to exhibit in the 2018 Wisconsin State Fair Junior Shows **must** provide his/her YQCA certification number when entering by the entry deadline on **June 6, 2018**. Youth who do not provide a YQCA certification number, or did not pass the YQCA modules for the current calendar year will not be eligible to participate in the 2018 Wisconsin State Fair Junior Shows.

If you have any questions on this exciting new program, please email entryoffice@wistatefair.com. We look forward to seeing you at the 2018 Wisconsin State Fair, August 2 – 12!

Wisconsin State Fair Agriculture Department