

MISSOURI 4-H HORSE JUDGING CONTEST

WHO?

4-H members ages 8-18

WHEN?

3rd Saturday in March

WHERE?

William Woods
University - Fulton

WHAT YOU WILL DO

- **Place 4 Halter Classes** - Placing classes is essentially ranking best to worst. The classes are made up of 4 horses and placing is based on balance and quality, structural correctness, breed characteristics, and muscling.
- **Place 4 Performance Classes** - Placing classes is essentially ranking best to worst. The classes are made up of 4 horses and placing is based on functional correctness, attitude, quality of movement, and manners.
- **Give Reasons** - Youth ages 14-18 give reasons for 2 placing classes (1 halter; 1 performance) and ages 8-13 give reasons for 1 halter placing class. When you give reasons, you share why you placed the items in a class in a certain order.

WHY DO IT?

- Gain knowledge of characteristics to look for in equine halter and performance classes.
- Gain critical thinking, communication, and decision-making skills.
- Develop a connection to the equine industry as a career.



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TIMELINE

October - Enroll in 4-H and a horse project (not required, but recommended).

November to February- Attend horse project meetings.

February- Register for state contest.

March- Attend 4-H State Horse Judging Contest.

THINGS YOU MIGHT DO AT PROJECT MEETINGS

- Review online ID practices.
- Meet with a local equestrian to learn about their career.
- Learn about the confirmation and performance judging classes.
- Practice preparing and giving reasons.

RESOURCES

- [Online Practice Judging Contest](#)
- [Curriculum and Other Resources](#)

