



# 4-H HORSE PROGRAM

Georgia 4-H horse programs provide young people with an interest in horses and horse events an opportunity to participate in a series of activities designed to improve citizenship, sportsmanship, horsemanship, character, discipline, and responsibility.

## WHAT DOES 4-H OFFER?

Georgia 4-H is proud to offer numerous state supported educational competitions such as: Horse Quiz Bowl, Horse Judging, Hippology and Horse Show with the opportunity to compete at the regional and national level for selected individuals and teams. All of these experiences are offered to engage enthusiastic equine youth to be involved in programs that are both educational and challenging for 4-H'ers for multiple age groups.



### HORSE PROJECT ACHIEVEMENT

The Horse Project Achievement competition gives 4-H'ers the opportunity to explore various horse topics. 4-H'ers gain horse knowledge, as well as develop confidence and communication skills. Junior and Senior 4-H'ers create a portfolio and participate in an interview to showcase their involvement in 4-H and their equine projects. 4-H'ers can compete on the county, district and state levels. In addition, they may be selected to participate in National 4-H Congress.



### STATE HORSE QUIZ BOWL

In this competition, students strengthen their communication and leadership skills as they contribute to the team effort and demonstrate their knowledge of equine-related subject matter in a competitive setting. Participants compete with their team to answer questions on anatomy, conformation, feed and nutrition in a double-elimination style match.



### STATE HIPPOLOGY & STATE HORSE JUDGING

Hippology and Horse Judging competitions promote not only horse knowledge but help develop confidence and communication skills. Through Horse Judging, 4-H'ers gain knowledge and skills by evaluating halter and performance events. 4-H'ers then have the opportunity to defend their placings in selected classes with reasons and questions classes. In addition to horse evaluation, students that participate in Hippology gain knowledge of equine skills, equipment and equine husbandry.



### STATE HORSE SHOW AND EDUCATIONAL CONTESTS

This annual event provides 4-H members with the opportunity to exhibit knowledge of their horse project through demonstration, public speaking, photo, art and essay competitions. In addition, classes are offered in Stock Seat, Hunt Seat, Ranch Horse, Saddle Seat, and Contest Event divisions. 4-H'ers, 4th - 12th grade, may compete in these divisions. Participation in the State 4-H Horse Show develops leadership, initiative, and self-reliance.



## HORSE PROGRAM



### QUICK FACTS

- Youth must be enrolled in their local county 4-H Club.
- Youth in grades 4-12 can participate.
- Participants can be involved in a general 4-H Club or dedicated Horse Club.
- 4-H'ers can own or lease a horse.
- Horse ownership is not a requirement and several educational "horseless" competitions are offered.
- Adult volunteers are needed to help run local and state events.
- Contact your local County Extension Office for more specific information on age, club, and volunteer opportunities.

## IMPORTANT DATES - 2021

Please check with your local County Extension office for application and registration deadlines as they may be earlier than the provided state 4-H deadline.

- **January 23** - State Horse Quiz Bowl - Athens, GA
- **May 1** - State Hippology & Horse Judging Contest - Athens, GA
- **June 7-12** - State Horse Show - Georgia National Fairgrounds, Perry, GA
- **July 20-23** - Georgia 4-H State Congress - Atlanta, GA
- **July 28- August 1** - Southern Regional 4-H Horse Championship - Georgia National Fairgrounds, Perry, GA

## HOW TO GET STARTED?

- Contact your local County Extension Office for more information [here](https://extension.uga.edu/county-offices) or at [extension.uga.edu/county-offices](https://extension.uga.edu/county-offices)
- Learn more about horse programs and clubs from your Extension Agent and the Georgia 4-H Website, [georgia4h.org](https://georgia4h.org)
- Visit the State 4-H Horse Show online [link](#) to download Georgia Horseman Manuals.
- Download the [Horse Show Rules](#)
- Recruit adult volunteers to help grow horse programs in your county
- Help spread the word about Georgia 4-H horse programs to others in your community.

