

# 4-H Horse Program

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



### 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.



### Hippology and Horse Judging

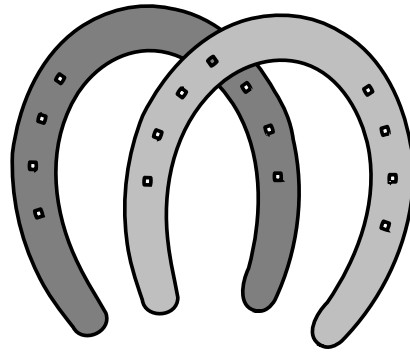
Hippology and Horse Judging competitions promote horse knowledge and help develop confidence and communication skills. Through Horse Judging, 4-H'ers gain knowledge and skills by evaluating halter and performance events. 4-H'ers then have the opportunity to defend their placings in selected classes with reasons and questions classes. In addition to horse evaluation, students that participate in Hippology gain knowledge of equine skills, equipment and equine husbandry.



### Horse Show and Educational Contests

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





## 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.

## How to Get Started

- Contact your local County Extension Office for more information. Find your county office contact by visiting [extension.uga.edu/county-offices](http://extension.uga.edu/county-offices)
- Learn more about horse programs and clubs from your Extension Agent and by visiting [www.georgia4h.org/horse](http://www.georgia4h.org/horse).
- Explore the Georgia 4-H Horse website by clicking on each program and downloading the Georgia Horseman Manuals.
- View and download contest and 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.

## Important Dates for 2024-2025

*Please check with your local County Extension office for application and registration deadlines.*

- **January 25, 2025**  
State Horse Quiz Bowl, Eatonton, GA
- **March 1, 2025**  
*Deadline to enter a project horse in the State Horse Show*
- **May 1, 2025**  
*Deadline for completing all Master Horseman requirements*
- **June 3, 2025**  
State Hippology & Horse Judging Contests, Perry, GA
- **June 3-7, 2025**  
State Horse Show, Georgia National Fairgrounds, Perry, GA
- **July 22-25, 2025**  
Georgia 4-H State Congress, Atlanta, GA
- **July 30-August 3, 2025**  
Southern Regional 4- H Horse Championship - Georgia National Fairgrounds, Perry, GA



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