

# DEPARTMENT 120 -YOUTH BEEF SHOW

**Check-In:** *Thursday, November 5, 2026 (8:00-11:00 AM)*

**Showmanship:** *Friday, November 6, 2026 (7:30 PM)*

**Show:** *Saturday, November 7, 2026 (7:00 PM)*

**Release:** *Sunday, November 8, 2026 (8:00 PM)*

*If you are interested in leaving your animals in the barn, please fill out the exhibition form online.*

**All entries in the Youth Livestock Programs must be submitted via online system by the registration date**

**Entry Deadline- October 1, 2026**

**Youth Beef Premiums**

1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$25 · 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$20 · 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$15 ·  
4<sup>th</sup> Place - \$10 · 5<sup>th</sup>- 10<sup>th</sup> Place - \$5

**Youth Beef Premiums**

Division Champions - \$75 & Banner  
Division Reserve Champions - \$50 & Banner  
3<sup>rd</sup> Overall Division Champions - \$25 & Banner

**CHAMPION EXHIBITOR AWARDS**

**Champion Exhibitor**  
(Junior, Intermediate and Senior)  
\$250 & Banner

**Reserve Champion Exhibitor**  
(Junior, Intermediate and Senior)  
\$150 & Banner

# North Florida Fair Champion Exhibitor

A Champion Youth Exhibitor and a Reserve Champion Youth Exhibitor will be selected in each age division for each Youth Livestock Show at the North Florida Fair. These exhibitors will be selected based on the highest number of points accumulated. The Champion Youth Exhibitors in each Youth Show will be eligible to receive:

The Champion and Reserve Champion Youth Exhibitor Award is based on a premium point system. Each category is worth 100 points. Exhibitors are required to receive a minimum of 70% of the total points to be eligible for Champion Exhibitor. Exhibitors disqualified or earning a zero from any category below will not be eligible for Champion Exhibitor.

Points are accumulated by participating in the following categories:

Record Book  
Skill-a-thon  
Showmanship  
Poster  
Ask Me Booth



**CHAMPION EXHIBITOR AWARDS**

**Champion Exhibitor**  
(Junior, Intermediate and Senior)  
\$250 & Banner

**Reserve Champion Exhibitor**  
(Junior, Intermediate and Senior)  
\$150 & Banner

## **Eligibility of Exhibitor:**

- Only bona-fide North Florida youth agricultural organizations or FFA members residing in/or attending school in the following counties; **Bay, Calhoun, Dixie, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsen, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Holmes, Jackson, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Suwannee, Taylor, Wakulla, Walton and Washington** are eligible to enter.
- Exhibitors must be enrolled in elementary or secondary school.
- Exhibitors must be 8 years of age by September 1, 2026, to compete.
- Exhibitors must be under the direct supervision of their Leader/Advisor/Parent/Guardian at all times.
- Exhibitors must designate at the time of online entry, which agricultural organization (4-H or FFA) they will conduct their project under.

- All exhibitors are required to have Ethics Training and have a valid Ethics Number in order to show at the North Florida Fair.
- All exhibitors are required to submit a record book for each animal project entered.
- All exhibitors are required to take a Skill-a-thon for each animal project entered.
- All exhibitors are required to participate in Showmanship for each animal project entered.
- All exhibitors are required to participate in Herdsmanship for each animal project entered.

### **Ethics Certification: (Required)**

**Ethics Certification is required for all exhibitors at the North Florida Fair.** The North Florida Fair believes that every youth exhibitor should receive proper training and information for raising and showing a youth project. All exhibitors that exhibit at the 2026 North Florida Fair must have completed the Ethics training in order to show at the 2026 North Florida Fair.

#### ***It is important that the exhibitors understand:***

- The purpose of youth livestock projects
  - The importance of ethics in youth livestock projects
    - Proper animal handling and management
  - The difference between animal welfare and animal rights
- Be prepared to be an ambassador for animal agriculture

The Youth Livestock Show Ethics and Animal Care Workshop is designed to certify students to meet the mandatory certification requirements that will be in effect for the 2026 North Florida Fair.

#### **North Florida Fair Workshop Dates**

Saturday, July 18, 2026 @ 1:00 PM

Saturday, September 19, 2026 @ 1:00 PM

**These are LIVE, ON-SITE workshops, held at the North Florida Fairgrounds  
Please register online at [www.floridastatefairag.com](http://www.floridastatefairag.com)**

**PLEASE NOTE: FOR EXHIBITORS SHOWING AT THE 2026 NORTH FLORIDA FAIR SEPT 19<sup>th</sup>, 2026, WILL BE THE LAST ACCEPTED DATE TO TAKE YOUR ETHICS TRAINING...NO EXCEPTIONS WILL BE MADE!**

#### **Eligibility of Animal:**

- As of August 1, the exhibitor must show ownership of animal and be in possession of the animal.
- No Bulls.
- All animals must not have horns greater than 1 inch beyond the hairline. Any animal with greater than 1 inch of horn beyond the hairline will be disqualified.
- A maximum of 5 animals per exhibitor will be accepted and no more than two (2) animals per age class.
- Registered and Non-Registered Cattle are allowed to show.
- Cattle will be shown in the following Divisions

- American Influenced
- All Other Breeds (AOB)
- Cattle will be shown by age
  - Class 1: Spring Heifer calf born April 1, 2026, and after
  - Class 2: Winter Heifer calf born Jan 1– March 31, 2026
  - Class 3: Fall Heifer calf born Oct. 1– Dec. 31, 2025
  - Class 4: Senior Heifer calf born July 1 – Sept. 30, 2025
  - Class 5: Early Yearling Heifer born April 1- June 30, 2025
  - Class 6: Junior Yearling Heifer born Jan. 1 – March 31, 2025
  - Class 7: Senior Yearling Heifer born Sept. 1, 2024 – Dec. 31, 2024

**Youth Beef Premiums**

**1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$25 · 2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$20 · 3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$15 ·**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Place - \$10 · 5<sup>th</sup>- 10<sup>th</sup> Place - \$5**

**Youth Beef Premiums**

**Division Champions - \$75 & Banner**  
**Division Reserve Champions - \$50 & Banner**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Overall Division Champions - \$25 & Banner**

**Proof of Ownership:**

- As of August 1, the exhibitor must show ownership of the animal and be in possession of the animal.
- Bill of sale or statement of ownership with the name of breeder (seller), breeders address and phone #, date of purchase, date of birth, breed of animal, USDA Tag ID number must be included on the entry form. Submitted with registration online.
- Statement of ownership must be signed by a parent or guardian.
- If proof of ownership is not with the entry form, the animal will be disqualified.
- Health certificates are required at check-in.
- Bring health certificate and registration papers on check-in day.

**Official Entry Form & Entry Fees:**

- A **\$15.00** per animal entry fee is required at the time of online entry.
- Copy of bill of sale or statement of ownership, livestock exhibitor certificate, copy of ethics certificate and waiver must be submitted at the time of entry via the website links.

## Health Requirements & Identification

- Health certificates are required.
- All animals must have an official identification number from the State of Florida (rabbit, poultry and horses excluded). This ID must follow USDA office requirements.
  - EID (also referred to as RFID) is REQUIRED for all Steer and Beef Breeding entries. Animals must be tagged with this EID at time of fair check-in and MUST match a health certificate.
  - Official ID on the animal must correspond with the number on the Health Certificate at time of Fair Check-in.

## Record Books (Required):

- All species are required to submit COMPLETED Record Books for the Fair office no later than **Friday, October 16, 2026**. Record books may be mailed to the fairgrounds. If mailing your record books, it must be received by **Friday, October 16, 2026, OR delivered to your County Extension Agent** to be accepted. Species include Beef Breeding, Steers, Dairy Goats, Breeding Sheep, Poultry, Rabbits/Cavy, Boer Goats. All record books must be completed through the animal's check-in date. The Fair is not responsible for any submission lost by the Postal Service. It is the exhibitor's responsibility to confirm that the Fair has received their record books.
- Only 2026 North Florida Fair Record Books will be accepted.
- Record Books will not be accepted without the completed Signature Pages. Record Books will be reviewed and any exhibitor submitting an incomplete record book will RECEIVE A ZERO and will be notified along with their leaders/advisor. The exhibitor along with their parent or advisor will be required to complete the record book at final check-in to be eligible for show and participation at the North Florida Fair. The exhibitor will be given a 1-hour window to complete & resubmit on final check-in day. Any record book deemed incomplete at resubmission will forfeit the exhibitor from participating & showing at the North Florida Fair.
- The project officially begins **August 1, 2026**.
- The ownership deadline is **August 1, 2026**.
- All Photos must be in color and from the current project year. Photos should not look like scrapbooks and should be kept in a square and rectangular shape.
- Final Record Books must be handwritten by the exhibitor in their own words. Failure to comply is considered grounds for disqualification of the exhibitor resulting in ineligibility for show & participation in the program.
- If additional pages are needed, print a duplicate page, and add them into the book. Be sure to staple in the left-hand corner & include them in your final calculations.
- Record Books not submitted by the deadline will result in exhibitor disqualification from the program.
- Parents and advisors/leaders are responsible for reviewing for completeness prior to signing.
- Disqualified exhibitors will be notified by the North Florida Fair.
- Graded Record Books will be returned at the Fair.
- Exhibitors must score 70 or better in order to receive record book recognition and/or awards.
- Exhibitors will be in age divisions: junior, intermediate and senior.

- Points will be earned towards Champion Exhibitor. Exhibitors receiving a zero will forfeit competing for Champion Exhibitor.
- Record Books are judged on the Modified Danish System; Blue, Red and White.
- Record Books will be available for pick up at release.

**Skill-a-thon (Required):**

**Thursday, November 5, 2026 (12:00 PM)**

- The Skill-a-thon will be given at the North Florida Fair.
- The Skill-a-thon is designed to test the exhibitor’s knowledge in areas associated with their livestock project.
- All exhibitors are required to participate in the Skill-a-thon in order to show.
- Failure to take the Skill-a-thon will result in disqualification from the program.
- There is no time limit during the multiple-choice section of the test; however, there will be time limits on the hands-on station to ensure movement.
- Exhibitors must score 70 or better to receive Skill-a-thon recognition and/or awards.
- Exhibitors will be in age divisions; junior, intermediate and senior.
- The 2026 Educational topic is the same as the Florida State Fair’s please refer to the following website for study material: <http://www.floridastatefairag.com>.
- Exhibitors will earn points toward Champion Exhibitor. Exhibitors receiving a zero will forfeit competing for Champion Exhibitor.

**SKILL-A-THON AWARDS**

**Award Awarded to Junior, Intermediate and Senior Division Winners!**

**Banners Awarded to 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Junior, Intermediate and Senior Division Winners!**

**Exhibitors scoring 70 or above on their Skill-a-thon will receive the following award**

<b>90%-100% - \$30</b>	<b>80%-89% - \$20</b>	<b>70%-79% - \$10</b>
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**Showmanship (Required)**

**Friday, November 6, 2026 @ 7:30 PM**

The main objective in being a good showman is to present the animal to the judges in the best possible manner. The animal must be set up properly, clean and trained well enough to respond to the exhibitor’s commands. The exhibitors must be courteous, attentive and demonstrate knowledge of their project.

- Failure to compete in showmanship will result in a zero for Champion Exhibitor Points and forfeiting all premiums.
- Exhibitors will be in age divisions; junior, intermediate and senior.
- Official North Florida Fair Show Ring attire is required.

- Exhibitors must be in the arena 15 minutes prior to the show starting for an official dress check.
- During all shows only the judges and committee members are allowed inside the ring. All others will remain outside the closed off area.
- Awards will be given to the top three (3) places in each age division.
- Exhibitor earns points towards Champion Exhibitor (no monetary premium will be paid).

**Showmanship Divisions**

**Junior** (8-11 years old) · **Intermediate** (12-14 years old)  
**Senior** (15-18 years old -through grade 12 in high school)

**Belt Buckles Awarded to Junior, Intermediate and Senior Showmanship Division Winners!**

**Banners Awarded to 2<sup>nd</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Junior, Intermediate and Senior Showmanship Winners!**

**No Premium Monies will be awarded!**

**Show (Required)**

**Saturday, November 7, 2026 @ 7:00 PM**

- Classes will be divided at check-in and posted **Friday, November 6, 2026.**
- Animals will be judged on the American Judging System. Place ribbons will be given to each entry.
- Exhibitors must show their own animals in the show.

**Youth Beef Premiums**

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 4<sup>th</sup> Place - \$10 · 5<sup>th</sup>- 10<sup>th</sup> Place - \$5**

**Youth Beef Premiums**

**Division Champions - \$75 & Banner  
 Division Reserve Champions - \$50 & Banner  
 3<sup>rd</sup> Overall Division Champions - \$25 & Banner**

**Educational Posters (Optional) (Earn points toward Champion Exhibitor)**

- Posters must be submitted at the Skill-a-thon **Wednesday, November 4, 2026.**
- Posters must be done on 20 x 30 foam board **ONLY.** NO trifolds or poster board will be allowed and will be disqualified.
- Posters must be done in a landscape/horizontal format. Any other orientation will be disqualified.
- Posters from other fairs will not be accepted. Clean, neat posters with no bent corners, staples, tape, holes, etc. that show signs of being previously displayed will not be accepted.
- Poster must relate to the current Skill-a-thon topic.
- Exhibitors using any resource must cite the source on the back of the Poster.
- Include a clear legible title on the front of the poster.
- On the back of the poster include:
  - Name
  - Age Division
  - Program (i.e., Poultry, Steer, Dairy Goat, etc.)
  - Sources
- Exhibitors will be in age divisions, Junior, Intermediate and Senior.
- Cloverbud posters are optional.
- Posters must be removed at check-out.
- Points will be earned toward Champion Exhibitor. Exhibitors not submitting a poster or receiving a zero will forfeit competing for Champion Exhibitor.
- Judging will be based on the following:

Topic & Educational Value	25 points
Originality and Creativity	25 points
Quality of Work	25 points
Citing Work	25 points
<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE</b>	<b>100 points</b>

**Ask Me Booth (Optional) (Earn points toward Champion Exhibitor)**

**Thursday, November 5-Sunday, November 8, 2026**

- Exhibitors are encouraged to participate in the Ask Me Booth Demonstrations.
- Exhibitors may sign up for two (2) thirty (30) minute demonstrations.
- Each Ask Me Booth demonstration is worth 50 points each towards Champion Exhibitor.
- Exhibitors who are exhibiting animals are the only ones eligible to demonstrate in the Ask Me Booths.
- All exhibitors participating in the Ask Me Booth Demonstrations **MUST BE IN OFFICIAL DRESS...NO EXCEPTIONS!**
- Exhibitors must register for the Ask Me Booth prior to Fair.
- Exhibitors must check-in and check-out with the committee member on duty.
- Groups of friends/parents/advisors/leaders are not permitted to gather around exhibitors while they conduct their Ask Me Booth time slot. The intent of this area is for exhibitors to interact with & educate the public about poultry and their projects.

## **ADDITIONAL CONTESTS**

### ***Fitting & Grooming***

**Friday, November 5, 2026 @ 7:00 PM**

The main objective in a Fitting & Grooming contest is to present a well-groomed animal to the judge. A well-groomed animal displays the exhibitor ability to fit the animal to a prime finished appearance. A clean, well-trained animal is important to this process. The fitting and grooming of cattle should best display the breeding and conformation qualities of the animal.

- The fitting contest is for fun and education. Three overall winning teams will be selected as the Fitting Contest Winners and will receive recognition in the form of a prize.
- All participants may compete in one fitting and grooming team.
- Animals should not be fitted and groomed prior to the contest.
- Exhibitors will form teams of no more than 3 individual per team; max of 2 Seniors. Maximum of 2 exhibitors from the same Chapter/Club.
- Arrive early to the contest and have your equipment ready. Once the contest starts you may not leave the area or you will be disqualified.
- Absolutely no coaching from spectators.
- NO adults will be allowed in the arena during the contest except for the judge and the committee.
- You will have 30 minutes to complete your animal.
- All fitting and grooming techniques must be within acceptable practices of the Nation Code of Show Ring Ethics.
- Any unsafe action or techniques will result in immediate disqualification.
- Judges scores are final.

**Awards will be given to the  
1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Teams**

### **Fair Arrival:**

**Thursday, November 5, 2026 (8:00-11:00 AM)**

- FDACS will be on site inspecting all animals before unloading. After animals have been inspected management will check-in animals and will assign pens.
- PLEASE HAVE YOUR HEALTH PAPERS ACCESSIBLE AND READY TO PRESENT.
- NO animal will be unloaded on the grounds until they have been inspected by the FDACS team, NO EXCEPTIONS!
- Only animals that have been registered to show and exhibit are allowed on the North Florida Fairgrounds and in the barns, NO DOGS, NO EXCEPTIONS!
- All trailers will be parked at a remote location on the fairgrounds.

## **Tack Space:**

Tack Space will consist of tack boxes, brooms, shovels, rakes, chairs, hoses, feed buckets, etc. An educational façade may be included in the tack space provided it meets the following criteria:

- All Clubs/Chapters may have a designated tack/chute space, space permitting.
- Leaders/Advisors will submit a Chute Request Form and submit it no later than **October 1, 2026**.
- Chute numbers will be emailed to the leader/advisor after registration closes.
- Tack boxes must be no taller than 6 foot high and no longer than 5 foot, in order to fit into the designated tack spaces.
- Tack areas can be set up once all of the animals have been unloaded and checked in.
- Educational information highlighting the exhibitor's livestock projects.
- Side panels are strongly recommended to separate the animals and/or tack space. These structures may be the likes of livestock panels, fencing, etc. If fencing is used it should be no more than 4 feet high.
- Fans and fan holders with safety cages and guards may be used, but not in the public walkway areas.
- Chutes must be labeled with an appropriate sticker from the livestock office.

For safety reasons no overhead structures will be allowed over the animals or over tack areas. No additional flooring will be added to the tack space (i.e. platform, raised porches, wood paneling, etc. The only acceptable flooring will be indoor/outdoor carpeting in the tack space. No benches, chairs or structures of any kind will be allowed in the public or animal walkways.

## **Herdsmen Contest (Mandatory)**

Proper herdsmanship will be upheld by all exhibitors of the North Florida Fair. In order to ensure a proper and safe environment for our exhibits, public guests and exhibitors, all exhibitors will participate of the Herdsman Contest during their time at the 2026 North Florida Fair.

The exhibits will be judged daily from 10:00 AM-10:00 PM on the following basis:

- Orderliness and cleanliness of service area, cages, beds, animals and public walkways.
- Neatness, courtesy and behavior of exhibitors.
- Cooperation with fellow exhibitors and show officials in presenting attractive exhibits.
- Availability of exhibitors to furnish information about their exhibits.

**Awards will be given to the  
1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Outstanding Herdsman Teams**

**Show management reserves the right to withhold any or all Herdsman Awards if they are not merited by virtue of superior housekeeping.**

### **Daily Care of Animals & Quarters:**

- All animals are the responsibility of the exhibitor to be fed, watered and pens cleaned daily until the animal(s) leave the grounds.
- All feeders must be removed from pens immediately after feeding. No self-feeders allowed.
- Feed & Water: Exhibitors will supply their own feed, feed buckets, hay and hay rakes. Bring your own water buckets.
- Exhibitors are required to have proper footwear on while inside the livestock barns.
- Exhibitors are prohibited from spending the night in the livestock barns and/or pens.
- Please note: no cooking will be allowed in the barns; food and drink should not be consumed in any animal area.

### **Daily Pen Cleaning:**

- Exhibitors are responsible for daily pen cleaning.
- Bedding: The upper layer of shaving must be removed and shavings replaced daily. Hay is not permitted.
- Any exhibitor failing to do a daily cleaning of the animal pen will be fined \$25 per occurrence and will be disqualified from showing at the North Florida Fair and will be asked to remove the animal from the grounds. All premiums will be forfeited.

### **Animal Grooming:**

- Animals must be properly groomed for shows and showmanship. Grooming chutes/grooming stands are not allowed to be set up early.
- Grooming chute/grooming stand areas must be cleaned of hair, manure and trash immediately after grooming and shearing, failure to do so will result in a \$25 fine per occurrence.
- Grooming and clipping of animals is limited to the exhibitor, advisor/leader, and/or parent ONLY.

### **Release:**

#### **Sunday, November 8, 2026 (8:00 PM)**

- All pens must be left free of any materials. Bedding must be removed & water buckets must be dumped outside of the barns. Any material left in the pen will result in forfeiting all premium monies won.
- Trailers will not be allowed on the grounds without Release Pass.
- Release Passes will be distributed once all the pens/stalls are clear of debris.
- **If you are interested in leaving your animals in the barn, please fill out the exhibition form online.**
  - a. The North Florida Fair will provide a \$35 per day stipend to exhibitors who are willing to leave their animals in the barn for the entire length of the Fair. This stipend is good starting Monday, November 9<sup>th</sup> thorough Sunday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.**
  - b. Animals must stay on site the entire time in order to receive the stipend, no early releases. If the animals are removed for any reason the exhibitor will forfeit the entire stipend.**
  - c. Exhibitors are expected to care for their animals the entire time they are in the barn; feed, water, clean beds, etc.**
  - d. Space is limited and applications will be accepted first-come first served.**

**END**