March 25, 2021

Dear 4-H Members, Parents and Project Leaders,

Each year youth in the 4-H program that show meat and dairy animals are required to complete the **Youth for the Quality Care of Animals Program (YQCA) Certification.** This program provides quality assurance education on all species. As a reminder, those exhibiting beef cattle, feeder calves, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, meat goats, dairy goats, utility goats, poultry and rabbits must be certified through YQCA.

**Course Options:**

This certification can be completed via web-based training modules or by signing up for one of the three in person events that will be taking place here at the Boone County fairgrounds. **This certification must be complete by July 1, 2021 in order to exhibit at the county fair.** This is also a requirement to exhibit at the Indiana State Fair.

This certification does come with a fee. There are three fee options available:

1. Cost is $12 per child if doing a single year certification online.
2. Cost is $3 per child for the instructor led training.
3. There is an online multi-year certification option for some levels, cost is $12 per year of certification, but it means your child doesn’t have to complete the training until they reach the next age level. This test out option is only available to youth in the first year of intermediate (age 12), senior (age 15) and young adult (age 19). Age is determined by your age on January 1 of the current year. There is no test-out option for juniors (those under 12 years old. Keep reading for specifics on each option.

**Instructor Led Training Dates:**

For those youth that will need the YQCA training Boone County is planning to host three instructor led trainings located on the 4-H Fairgrounds.

April 13, 2021 at 6:00pm in the Witham Exhibit Hall

May 12, 2021 at 6:00pm in the Witham Pavilion Meeting Rooms 1&2

May 19, 2021 at 6:00pm in the Witham Pavilion Meeting Rooms 1&2

In addition to the trainings offered in Boone County, all Purdue Extension Offices are offering the instructor-led trainings. For a list of surrounding counties that are offering instructor-led trainings please go to this link: <https://bit.ly/2Fg2tlP>. When you go to sign up for the training you will select the date and location you want to attend. We will see in your 4HOnline record that you have attended the training no matter how or where you take the training.

The instructor–led training does not have a test, just attending and participation in the training will certify you. You must register for the instructor–led training prior to coming that evening, because you will have to pay the registration fee first. After the training the instructor goes back in to the system and marks you “complete”.

**Registering for a training:**

To register for web-base training you need to go to <https://yqca.learngrow.io/Account/Login>. You will use your 4HOnline account information to login using the 4HOnline portion on the left side of the screen. Once you have logged into the system you will have to register each youth member that needs this certification.

You will then come to a screen that shows different courses based on their age level. Select the course that **matches your age level (as of January 1 of this year).** Once you have selected the course you will see a different screen that shows your options. At the bottom of the “Course List” page are the test-out options for the youth in their first year of intermediate, senior and young adult’s levels. The only way to pay for this training is by credit card online. We cannot accept cash or check for this.

**Taking the online test for 1 year certification:**

If you do not pass the test you will be locked out of the system for 1 hour and then have to retake the test until you pass it. All ages are eligible for this option.

**Multi-year Certification:**

If you are age 12, 15 or 19 by January 1, 2021 and want to take the multi-year test out option the test consists of 50 questions and requires a pass rate of 80% or better for certification. If passed, the certification will last through the end of a user’s age level:

* Intermediate – ages 12, 13 and 14
* Senior – ages 15, 16, 17 and 18
* Young adult – ages 19, 20 and 21.

The intermediate and young adult test-out course will cost $36 ($12 x 3 years of certification) and the senior test-out course will cost $48 ($12 x 4 years of certification.)

Users will receive access to online modules that correspond with the age levels indicated above, found on the user’s “My Library” page. Users will have one chance to take the test-out option. If they fail, they will not be provided another opportunity for that level of certification. If the youth passes, payment for the completed test out course will be required after the completion of the test. No payment is required to attempt the test. Participants attempting and not passing will be prompted to take the in person or web-based training annually.

**After You are Certified:**

Once you have completed the training, you will be able print out a certificate. For those doing it in person, this may take a couple days, as we have to put in the database that you attended. For those doing it on the computer the certificate can be printed immediately after you do the online training. You are ENCOURAGED to PRINT a copy of the certificate and keep it with all your 4-H livestock paperwork. State Fair will require you show that paperwork at registration time.

**YQCA and FairEntry:**

**New in 2021**: When you go to put your animals into FairEntry in June/July we will need to have your YQCA certification number in FairEntry for your animals to be accepted. It will be automatically entered for you as long as you sign up for YQCA using your 4HOnline email and password and that your name is the same in 4HOnline and in YQCA. If you are unsure of what name you used in 4HOnline then log into 4HOnline before signing up for YQCA to check.

If you have any questions, please email Kimberly Moore, 4-H Program Assistant.

Sincerely,

Pandora Woodward Kimberly Moore

Extension Educator 4-H Program Assistant

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