

EASTERN STATES 4-H HORSE DELEGATE

April 2024

Dear 4-H Horse Leaders & Members,

The Eastern States Exposition selection process is a three-tiered process, which is explained below. Please look over this letter and the applications carefully. The dates for the Eastern States Exposition 4-H Horse Show are September 19-22, 2024.

YOU MAY ATTEND ESE FOR AS MANY YEARS AS YOU ARE ELIGIBLE.

The First Tier of the selection will consist of an application and review of the applicant's record book at the county level. At the first tier, the home county of the applicant will evaluate their record book on a pass/fail basis. The application will also be looked over for completeness and correctness. If the applicant passes the county review (or the first tier), their record book will be returned to them, and their application will be sent onto the second tier.

The Second Tier is a state level selection, based on the applications. Multiple people will score the applications, and the scores will be averaged. The same criteria will apply as has been used in the past, with first year applicants needing to score 75%, second year applicants needing to score 80% and ALL OTHER applicants needing to score 85% to be deemed as qualified. Priority will be given to first and second year applicants, if there are an overwhelming number of applications. Those who pass the second tier, as determined by their scores on their applications, will be asked to attend the third tier selection meeting. This is the final tier of the selection process. The committee reserves the right to make final selections using a personal interview and/or a written test, if needed, at this final selection meeting. **Please prepare yourself for both.**

The Third Tier final selection meeting for Horse Delegates to the Eastern States Exposition will be held on Saturday, June 9, 2024, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Middlesex County Extension Center in Haddam. We have given you the date of the final selection so you can hold it, but you will be notified if you need to attend. Your application and record book will have to pass the first two tiers to be asked to join us at the final selection meeting. **Attendance at this meeting is mandatory, if you are invited to attend. There will be no exceptions for first year delegates!!** For those selected, there will be a one-day orientation in August in Haddam. Date to be determined.

Delegate applicants must be a 4-H member for a minimum of 2 years and 13-19 years of age as of January 1, 2024. Applicants must have owned or leased their horses before May 1, 2024, and they must have a Horse Project Verification form on file at their local Extension Center. If you have more than one horse project, it is recommended you verify all of them. It is **strongly recommended that an applicant's maturity be considered.** If the applicant does not have good time management skills (i.e., being able to independently juggle horses' needs, meals, show schedules, and personal needs, without parental guidance), then they should not apply. The program at the Big E will keep the Delegates very busy. They will participate in Horse Judging, Quiz Bowl, General Knowledge Test, and Stable Management. The Horse Show will consist of Fitting & Showing, Equitation, In Hand Suitability for Small Equines, and Reinsmanship for Drivers. You must do one of the following but may pick up to 4 classes: Western Trail, Western Handiness, Western All Around (*includes an equitation component, pleasure component and halter component*), Western Pleasure, Ranch Pleasure, Hunter Under Saddle, Bridle Path Hack, Hunter Over Fences, English Trail, English Pleasure, In Hand Obstacles (*Small Equine Only*), In Hand Hunter (*Small Equine Only*), In Hand Discipline (*Small Equine Only*), Obstacle Driving, Pleasure Driving, Driving Discipline, Costume, Egg and Spoon, Egg and Spoon In Hand, Water Race, Water Race In Hand, Arena Race, Arena Race In Hand, Barrel Racing, and Barrel Racing In Hand.

VERY IMPORTANT: The use of ASTM/SEI approved hard hats will be **required for all** riding and driving classes at ESE. If you do not have the proper helmet, you will not be allowed to participate.

Any 4-Her who has a parent or guardian as a leader **must** have another leader or their local 4-H Educator fill out their recommendation. The successful applicant should be a well-prepared 4-Her who works well in a group. Our goal is for the Delegation to have a fun, positive learning experience, and selection is the first step to insuring this.

If you have any questions regarding the application or selection process, please contact Carol at 860-836-7746 or rbirdsey01@snet.net, or Emily at emily.alger@uconn.edu. Leave a message, and we will get back to you. We look forward to meeting you at the 2023 ESE Delegate Final Selection.

Dates to remember:

Verification forms due	May 1, 2024
Tier 1 Applications Due	June 1, 2024 (postmarked by May 27, 2024)
Tier 3 Final Selection	June 9, 2024, 2 p.m.
August Orientation	TBD
ESE	Sept 19–22, 2024

Sincerely,

Emily

Emily McCabe Alger
4-H Program Coordinator

Carol

Carol Birdsey
ESE State Coordinator

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**CONNECTICUT 4-H
EASTERN STATES SELECTION PROCESS
HORSE DELEGATE COVER SHEET**

To be filled out by Applicant and must accompany application.

Name of Applicant _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____ Zip _____

I wish to apply to be a Connecticut Delegate to Eastern States as a Horse Delegate.

_____ Delegate _____ Junior Leader

Office use only

TIER 1
Due **June 1** at your County Office

<i>Date Arrived</i>	Office use only – please circle	
Record Book	Pass	Fail
Verification Form DUE May 1	Complete	
Application	Signed	Complete

I recommend that this application be forwarded to Tier 2.

_____ Educator

_____ Date

TIER 2 APPLICATION SCORE _____

TIER 3 GENERAL KNOWLEDGE TEST (if needed) SCORE _____

INTERVIEW (if needed) SCORE _____

TOTAL SCORE _____

ACCEPTED Yes No

If no, strengths of application _____

Ways to strengthen application for next time _____

Office use only: Letter sent _____ Date _____ Signature _____

NEW ENGLAND 4-H HORSE ACTIVITY EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION HORSE DELEGATE APPLICATION

Check one: ___ 1st yr. Delegate ___ 2nd yr. Delegate ___ 3rd yr. Delegate
 ___ 4th yr. Delegate ___ 5th yr. Delegate ___ 6th yr. Delegate

Date(s) as previous Delegate _____

YOU MUST ATTEND THE ESE final selection/orientation meeting, which will be at the Middlesex County Extension Office on June 9, 2024. As this is part of the selection process, your attendance is **required** for selection. SEND or DROP OFF THIS APPLICATION & YOUR RECORD BOOK TO: ***YOUR HOME COUNTY 4-H OFFICE*** (MUST BE RECEIVED BY June 1, 2024 or postmarked by May 27, 2024). APPLICANT MUST BE AT LEAST 13 YEARS OF AGE AS OF JANUARY 1, 2024 AND A **4-H MEMBER FOR A MINIMUM OF 2 YEARS.**

LEADERS: PLEASE COMPLETE THE EVALUATION SECTION and SEND TO: ***YOUR HOME COUNTY 4-H OFFICE*** (MUST BE RECEIVED BY June 1, 2024 or postmarked by May 27, 2024).

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Name _____

Home Mailing Address _____

Town _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Age _____ (1/1/2024) Birth Date _____ Grade _____ Gender _____

Home Phone Number _____ Cell Number _____

Parent/Guardian 1 Name _____ Cell Number _____

Parent/Guardian 2 Name _____ Cell Number _____

Email _____ Parent(s) Email _____

Emergency Contact Number at ESE _____ Name _____

Years as a 4-H Club Member _____ County _____

Circle one style of riding: Hunt Seat Open English Western Driving Small Equine
(both hunt s saddle seat)

Horse's Name _____ Sex _____ Age _____ Date of Birth _____

Breed _____ Color _____ Height (Hands) _____

Date acquired _____ Owned _____ Leased _____ Date of Lease _____

NOTE: YOU MAY APPLY FOR EITHER AN ESE DELEGATE'S POSITION OR AN ESE JUNIOR LEADER'S POSITION (HORSELESS). YOU MAY NOT APPLY FOR BOTH POSITIONS IN THE SAME YEAR. ANY 3rd, 4th, 5th, or 6th YEAR DELEGATE, WHO QUALIFIED AND IS NOT SELECTED, MAY BE CONSIDERED FOR JUNIOR LEADER, **IF THERE IS AN OPENING.** PLEASE ADD ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NEEDED IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS POSITION.

ON THIS PAGE, PLEASE TAPE, PASTE OR SCAN A CLEAR 5" x 7" HEAD SHOT PHOTO OF YOU AND YOUR HORSE TOGETHER. THIS PHOTO WILL NOT BE RETURNED TO YOU. PLEASE DO NOT STAPLE.

HORSE PROJECT

1. List the years and activities you have participated in the 4-H Horse Project on the county, state or regional level.

Year	Level	Activity Description

2. List any awards you have won in a 4-H county or state horse contest.

Year	Activity	Award

3. List the years in which you have participated in county or state speaking or demonstration contests and any awards received.

4. List any demonstrations, public speeches, or exhibits you have done in relation to your 4-H Horse Project. Please list each with date presented.

5. What have you learned from your 4-H Horse Project?

6. In what horse events or shows have you participated in the last 2 years with your project horse that you are applying with now?

7. List any awards outside of 4-H you received in relation to the project horse you are applying with now.

8. List your leadership participation in your 4-H Horse Project. Be specific - what programs did you organize? How did you help new members?

9. What did you do to help your 4-H club or community in this project?

OTHER PROJECTS

1. List all other 4-H projects in which you are actively involved.

2. List any awards you have received in these project areas.

3. List all other 4-H county or state activities/events you have attended in the last two years. Please note your participation level (i.e., planning committee, participant, etc.) and the dates of the event.

Activity Name	Activity Date	Participation Level	Virtual or Live

Use additional paper as needed.

GENERAL

How does your 4-H involvement affect your life? Write a few paragraphs to describe your 4-H experience.
PLEASE ADD ADDITIONAL PAGES AS NEEDED.

NOTE: ANIMAL HEALTH REGULATIONS FOR EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION

All horses entered from Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Rhode Island and Connecticut must be accompanied by a report of an official negative test for Equine Infectious Anemia (Coggins Test) conducted within 12 months prior to the event. Horses from Massachusetts must be accompanied by a negative Coggins Report within 12 months of the event. Horses showing evidence of distemper, EIA, mange, ringworm or any other infectious, contagious or communicable diseases will be refused admission to the grounds.

I understand that the June 9th meeting is part of the selection process, and my attendance is needed to complete that process. ONE OR MORE PARENTS OR LEGAL GUARDIANS MUST ALSO ATTEND THIS MEETING.

Applicant's Signature

Date

Parent or Legal Guardian's Signature

Date

GIVE THIS FORM TO YOUR 4-H LEADER FOR COMPLETION OF THIS SECTION.

LEADER EVALUATION

Please evaluate this delegate candidate on leadership ability, cooperation, independence, **maturity**, horsemanship, and ability to successfully complete requirements of the ESE activities* (general knowledge test, quiz bowl, judging contest, etc.).

***Thoroughly discuss the strengths and weaknesses of this applicant.** If the applicant does not have good time management skills (i.e., being able to independently juggle horses' needs, meals, show schedules, and personal needs, without parental guidance), then they should not apply.

Applicants do not see this evaluation. Please use additional paper as needed.

AFTER COMPLETING THIS PAGE, SEND TO: *the Applicant's HOME COUNTY 4-H OFFICE.*
MUST BE RECEIVED BY June 1, 2024 or postmarked by May 27, 2024.

APPLICANT'S NAME _____

Leader's Signature

Date

Printed Signature

Date

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