

Tryout candidates must be 13 years of age on December 31, 2025 (riders/drivers)

If you have any questions, contact your County Extension Office

or the ESE Horse Committee Coordinator (contact information listed on page 3).

# ***MAINE 4-H ESE HORSE TEAM APPLICATION***



## **RIDER/DRIVER**

*Revised by the Maine 4-H Equine Animal Science Committee for 2026*

### **Friday and Saturday**

July 31-August 1, 2026, at Skowhegan Fairgrounds

needs to be POSTMARKED by June 1, 2026

Send to:

**University of Maine Cooperative  
Extension**

**Franklin County**

**138 Pleasant Street, #1  
Farmington, Maine 04938**

**Or**

**Tara.marble@maine.edu**

## The Riders Application Packet Contains:

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If you need a reasonable accommodation, please contact Tara Marble at 207-778-4650 at least two weeks before the event. If requests are received after this date, we may not have sufficient time to make necessary arrangements.

<p><b><u>Horse Committee Activities Contacts</u></b></p> <p><b>Laura Bissell</b> 207-576-3580 lauraguestbissell@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Eric Forbes</b> 207-343-2082 Weforbestrucking@icloud.com</p>	<p><b><u>ASC Horse Committee Staff Liaison</u></b></p> <p><b>Tara Marble</b> 138 Pleasant Street, #1 Farmington, ME 04938 (207) 778-4650 <a href="mailto:tara.marble@maine.edu">tara.marble@maine.edu</a></p> <p><b>Karen Giles</b> 992 Waterville Rd, Waldo, ME 04915 (207) 342-5971 <a href="mailto:karen.giles@maine.edu">karen.giles@maine.edu</a></p>
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# Application Packet Checklist

Use this checklist to make sure you have all the paperwork needed for a complete application.  
This application must be postmarked by **June 1st, 2026**

## Send to:

**Franklin County Extension Office  
138 Pleasant Street, Suite 1  
Farmington, Maine 04938**

## Or electronically to:

**tara.marble@maine.edu**

- ❑ **RIDER REGISTRATION FORM**- must include all appropriate signatures
- ❑ **4-H Resume**-  
<https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/volunteers/project-records/portfolio-resume/>
- ❑ **4-H Story & Rubric**- please refer to and use the prompts and rubric located on page 16-18 of this packet
- ❑ **LEASE FORM** If you lease your horse, use the lease form included in this packet, which must be dated on or before May 1, 2026.
- ❑ **PHOTO RELEASE FORM**
- ❑ **4-H PARTICIPATION HEALTH AND PERMISSION FORM**
- ❑ **TEAM T-SHIRT FORM (One complimentary for each team member)** - \*Order Form due 8/16/26
- ❑ **EMBOSSSED 4-H ANIMAL APPROVAL FORM.** Original must be on file at your county 4-H Office; you may submit a copy of an embossed copy of your approval form. Ownership on the approval form must be on or before May 1, 2026. DISQUALIFIED IF NOT IN APPLICATION
- ❑ **COGGINS / RABIES CERTIFICATE/ VACCINATIONS** Rabies, Coggins, Equine Flu and EVH-1 **are requirements and must be in application.** Include current or expired certificates if you will be getting updated vaccinations between the application deadline and tryouts.
- ❑ **3x5 PHOTO OF RIDER**
- ❑ **MEAL PLAN FORM** (If applicable)



March 2026

Dear 4-H Horse Project Member,

Welcome to the 2026 Maine 4-H Eastern States Exposition Equestrian Team Tryouts!

Whether you are attending for the first time or you are a veteran, you will need to read this information **very carefully**. Please read the entire application before you begin to fill it out. If you have any questions, contact your County Extension Office, Tara Marble in the Franklin County Extension Office, or Karen Giles in the Somerset County Extension Office. Contact information is on page 2.

All horses and youth will be judged in Fitting and Showmanship as well as Equitation. Youth must score at least 425 points or higher during tryouts to be eligible for the Maine ESE team. You will find the breakdown of points on page 11 of this packet.

Please note that this is NOT the Teen Leader Application. You will find the Teen Leader Application on the Horse page on the 4-H website at <http://umaine.edu/4h/youth/4-h-projects/animal-science-resources/horse> or from Tara Marble/Karen Giles.

Tryouts will be held at the Skowhegan Fairgrounds, Skowhegan, Maine, on **Friday and Saturday, July 31 -August 1, 2026**. Please arrive no earlier than 10:00 am. The program will begin at 11:00 a.m.

All rules in the application apply. Please review these rules carefully, as changes have been made. You will receive a postcard after the applications have been reviewed. We look forward to seeing you at the Maine ESE Equestrian Team Tryouts.

Respectfully,

Maine 4-H Animal Science Horse Committee

**Maine 4-H Eastern States Equestrian Team Tryouts  
July 31-August 1, 2026**

**Skowhegan Fairgrounds**

**Eligibility and Rules for Maine 4-H Eastern States Equestrian Team Tryouts**

1. **4-Her Eligibility & Verification Form**

4-Hers must be enrolled or re-enrolled in the 4-H horse project by December 31, 2025. Tryout rider/driver candidates must be 13 years of age as of December 31, 2025. The information you supply must be for the **current** 4-H year. *This was confirmed through your intent to participate form.*

2. **Participation in more than one commodity**

Maine 4-H members may attend Eastern States in up to, but no more than, two (2) commodities for which they qualify, in any given year. However, participation in two (2) commodities must not prevent the participation of another 4-H member who would be attending only one (1) commodity. Further, it is required that the two (2) commodity programs at the Eastern States Exposition do not conflict or overlap during the Exposition.

3. **Animal Approval Form and Lease Form**

Animal Approval Forms for 4-Hers trying out for the Maine 4-H Equestrian Team must be filled out and signed by your leader and County Extension staff by May 1, 2026. Forms must also be embossed at your County office. If you lease your horse, the **Lease Form** must be signed by May 1, 2026, and attached to your Animal Approval Form. Your Lease Form must be signed and dated on or before May 1.

4. **Ownership, Lease date, Approval Form**

Members must provide proof of ownership or lease of their horse by May 1, 2026. Nursing mares are not eligible for Eastern States and, therefore, are not eligible for Tryouts. The horse used for Tryouts and Eastern States must be your 4-H project horse during the current 4-H year, and must be listed on your 4-H Animal Approval form. Your Approval Form must be signed and dated by your Leader and your County 4-H Staff Person by **May 1, 2026**. Your County 4-H Office will photocopy your approval form and give you an embossed copy.

5. **Project Horses on Approval Form**

If your 4-H project involves more than one horse, you are encouraged to list **all** of your 4-H project horses on the Animal Approval Form. Only horses listed on Animal Approval Forms filed in the County 4-H office by May 1 of the current year may be brought to Tryouts or exhibited at Eastern States Exposition. The Animal Approval Form and Verification Form must be embossed.

6. **Packet Application Requirement**

Packet Applications must be postmarked by June 1, 2026, and must include all required forms. For a checklist of required forms, refer to page 4. The Maine State 4-H Horse Committee will review applications. Participants submitting incomplete or late applications will not be eligible for Tryouts. All applicants will be notified about their eligibility once their applications have been reviewed.

7. **Substitute Horse**

The horse brought to Tryouts/ESE must be your current 4-H project horse and be recorded on your Animal Approval Form. With State 4-H Office approval, a substitute horse may be brought to Tryouts/ESE, provided the animal is also listed on your animal approval form on file at your county 4-H Office by May 1 of the current year as required. If something happens to your horse after tryouts, you may be able to take a substitute horse to ESE. That horse must also appear on your approval form

by May 1st. Appropriate ESE forms will need to be filled out, and a Vet note/explanation will be required.

8. **Arrival time and Stalls**

Applicants must attend all days and all aspects of Tryouts . All participants will be expected to arrive between 9:30-10:30 am. The program will begin at 11:00 a.m. with orientation. If an emergency situation arises, contact the committee so the extreme circumstance can be reviewed.

Participants must provide their own stall mats (rentals available) and stall shavings, if desired. Stalls do not currently have shavings in them.

9. **Sleeping Arrangements** Participants are to stay on the property with their horse. There is space in the barn for tents for participants and camper spots for family etc.

10. **Late for Tryouts**

Members who have emergencies that will make them late for Tryouts, must call and request approval of the committee by calling Laura Bissell (207-576-3580) or Eric Forbes (207-343-2082). Attendance at another horse event will not be an acceptable reason for lateness.

11. **Knowledge Test**

Questions on Maine's knowledge test are taken from the following materials: Source: New England 4-H Horse Committee

Horse study guides

- Conformation Study Guide
- Diseases
- General Horse Health Guide
- Facilities, Barn Management & Safety
- Bug management includes info on foot anatomy and foot care
- Skeletal system

Source: UM Cooperative Extension Publications at:

heading.<https://extension.umaine.edu/publications/livestock/equine/>

- [#1004 Guide to First-Time Ownership](#)
- [#1010 Body Condition](#)
- #1011 Guidelines for Horsekeeping in Maine

The study materials for Maine's General Knowledge Test can be found on the Maine 4-H website at <http://umaine.edu/4h/youth/4-h-projects/animal-science-resources/horse/>


Additional resources:

New Hampshire also has some updated resources you can use as well: (NH):

<https://extension.unh.edu/resource/nh-4-h-horse-project-manual-and-resources>

[https://georgia4h.org/wp-content/uploads/GA-4-H-Horse-Judging-Manual\\_4.14.25-1.pdf](https://georgia4h.org/wp-content/uploads/GA-4-H-Horse-Judging-Manual_4.14.25-1.pdf)

<https://4-h-extension.media.uconn.edu/wp-content/uploads/sites/3389/2021/12/CT-4-H-Horse-Judging-Guide.pdf>

 Kentucky 4-H Horse Program Horse Judging 101: Horse Anatomy - from form to function (go to the 10:30 mark)

12. **Hard Hat Requirement**

All riders, all seats, must wear an ASTM/SEI approved hard hat with chin harness properly fastened whenever mounted or driving. The original ASTM/SEI seal must be in the helmet. There are NO EXCEPTIONS to this rule.

13. **Code of Conduct**

You will sign a code of conduct on the 4-H Program Participation Permission, Agreements, and Health Form. This will be the expectation for your behavior during Horse Tryouts. You will be held accountable to these behavior expectations and discipline could range from a verbal warning to immediate dismissal from Tryouts at the discretion of the Horse Committee and Cooperative Extension Staff.

14. **Dress Code**

Please be advised that the following dress code will be enforced for all individuals participating in 4-H events and activities. *Individuals not adhering to this dress code will be asked to change into clothing that is 4-H appropriate. **If a second infraction takes place, the participant will be docked 5 points from their overall score.***

- Clothing: All clothing shall be neat, clean, acceptable in repair and appearance, and will be worn within the bounds of decency and good taste as appropriate for 4-H events and activities. 4-H shirts and state logos are encouraged. Clean shorts, pants, or dress jeans are encouraged.
  - Show clothes with all the bling and glamour (fitting to your seat) that Maine brings are strongly encouraged.
  - Refer to the 4-H New England Horse Show Rulebook for show attire requirements.
  - If there are questions or concerns about show clothing, please reach out and/or check the Facebook page.
- Articles of clothing that display profanity, products, or slogans that promote tobacco, alcohol, drugs, sex, or are in any other way distracting are prohibited.
- Excessively baggy or tight clothing is prohibited. No wide leg, loose fit pants.
- Items of clothing which expose bare midriffs (front or side), bare chests, visible cleavage, undergarments (including bra straps), or that are transparent (see-through) are prohibited. Tank tops and straps of shirts must be at least 2" wide. Please be advised that spaghetti strap tank tops, shirts that expose a bare back, halter-tops, and tube tops are prohibited.
- The inseam length of shorts is 4" or longer.
- Any clothing requiring continuous adjustment while wearing to meet the dress code is inappropriate. For example, shirts that fall off the shoulder to expose undergarments, shirts that must be pulled down to cover midriff or pants that need to be pulled up to hide undergarments, etc.
- Cut-off shorts, torn and/or frayed jeans are not permitted.
- Hair should be clean and neatly combed.
- Shoes are to be worn at all times deemed appropriate.

15. **Leaving Fairgrounds**

4-H Members may not leave the fairgrounds at any time during Tryouts.

16. **Quiet Time Hours**

Quiet time for all at Tryouts is 11 p.m. – 6 a.m.

17. **Cell Phone Policy**

- Use of cell phones at Tryouts is intended to mirror the experience at ESE.
- All ringtones on cell phones must be turned off at all times.
- Texting and use of cell phones is allowed during times of non-competition with consideration of others.
- Use of cell phones during the ESE Tryout process is prohibited during all competition classes whether you are waiting for your section, participating in the class, or your section has been completed. Competition classes include; Fitting and Showmanship, riding classes, driving classes, in-hand classes, along with any clinics.
- Cell phone use is also prohibited during all group meetings, the general knowledge test, and horse judging

18. **Safety**

Safety is a concern for all participants and animals. As safety issues are identified, a risk assessment will be done by the Horse Committee Members and Cooperative Extension Staff. Safety concerns that could be assessed are multiple incidents of kicking, throwing, or biting and horses out-of-control in the ring. Also, if youth fail to follow safety protocols set in place, mistreat their animal, or ride in an out-of-control manner in the ring, an assessment may occur. The results of the risk assessment could affect a youth's participation on the team and could also result in an animal not being allowed to be shown.

19. **Barn Hours**

Please note that we try to have the ESE tryout experience similar to the actual event. Barn curfew will be the same as at Eastern States Exposition. No barn entry before 6 am or after 11 p.m. This will include no lunging time, no horse bathing time, no extra riding time, and no one except designated committee members to attend to the horses. Any changes will be at the discretion of the Barn Manager.

20. **Grooming and Saddling**

Due to safety issues, and to closely mirror what happens at the Big E show, all horses will be expected to be groomed and saddled in their stall. You must have the barn manager's approval for any horse movement outside of the stall

21. **Mechanical Devices**

No mechanical devices of any sort may be used during Tryouts. Such devices may include, but are not limited to, tie-downs, draw reins, martingales (except for exercise over fences) and action enhancing boots or shackles. Protective leg boots, bell boots and polo wraps may be used during exercise. Any other equipment in question must be legal in the show ring in order to be used in exercise. See the ESE Chair for questions. Please reference the New England Guidelines and Rulebook available at <http://umaine.edu/4h/youth/4-h-projects/animal-science-resources/horse/>

22. **Inoculations**

All horses brought to Tryouts are required to have been **annually** vaccinated for rabies on or before July 30, 2026, to be current (if the animal has never been vaccinated before, the vaccine must be administered 30 days before the event). All horses must have had a Maine Coggins Test valid between *July 31, 2023, and August 1, 2026*, or an out-of-state Coggins Test valid between July 31, 2025, and August 1, 2026. **If you make the team, you will need a Coggins valid no earlier than one (1) year before we return from ESE.** Proof of Equine Flu and EHV-1 (Rhino) are also required. If there are any issues with scheduling from your vet, contact 4-H staff. If there are any issues with this, PLEASE CONTACT STAFF IMMEDIATELY.

The following is a list of required or recommended shots that are required or highly recommended:

SHOT/TEST	REQUIRED	RECOMMENDED
Coggins	X	
Rabies	X	
Tetanus		X
Equine Flu	X	
Rhino (EHV-1)	X	
Potomac		X
Strangles		X
EEE		X
WEE		X
West Nile		X
Lyme		X

**2026 Maine 4-H Vaccination Statement**

4-Hers attending 4-H Horse events with their horses must provide proof of current, annual vaccination for rabies, as well as a current negative Coggins test done by a veterinarian. Current EHV-1 and Equine Influenza are also required. Horse owners may administer their own EVH-1 and Equine Influenza inoculations, and a sales receipt will be sufficient evidence for proof of vaccination. EVH-1 and Equine Influenza vaccines are considered effective for six months.

Plan the timing of your inoculations by consulting with your local veterinarian to maintain optimal equine health during the fair season.

Consult with your local veterinarian about getting your horse vaccinated for these strongly suggested (but not required) diseases: EEE, tetanus, Potomac Horse Fever, WNV, and Lyme.

23. **Selection of Team**

The Maine 4-H Eastern States Exposition Equestrian Team will consist of up to twenty (20) Riders and/or In-Hand/Drivers, four (4) Teen Leader positions, and three (3) Alternate Rider positions. Participants will be selected according to the criteria defined on the scorecard in this packet. Up to 20 youth with the highest combined score will be selected. **Youth must earn a minimum of 425 points to be selected for the team.** A tie for the last member on the Team will be broken by the knowledge test. The horse judging score will be the second tie-breaker.

24. **Meals**

The Committee is planning to have meals available for purchase during tryouts. All information is included on the meal information page at the end of the application.

25. **ESE Orientation**

There will be a **mandatory** parent and team orientation for all participants who make the team on Saturday, after the team has been announced.

26. **Team T-Shirts**

The committee will provide a team T-shirt for all team members. This shirt will have the state logo and all team members' names listed on the back. It will be worn at ESE by team members at times that will be scheduled by the committee. All other items, like jackets and sweatshirts are optional and available for purchase.

27. **Rules Governing Tryouts and Grievance Procedure**

The New England 4-H Horse Show Rules and Guidelines book will be used. The USEF rulebook will govern areas not covered in that book, and must be the current edition. These rule books can be found on the Maine 4-H Horse page at <http://umaine.edu/4h/youth/4-h-projects/animal-science-resources/horse/> Judge's and Horse Committee's decisions with regards to scoring at tryouts are final. Written concerns may be mailed, e-mailed, or faxed to: the state 4-H program leader, Lisa Phelps no later than five days after the Tryouts at Maine State 4-H Office, 491 College Ave, Orono, Maine 04473-4217 [Lisa.Phelps@maine.edu](mailto:Lisa.Phelps@maine.edu) Fax:(207) 581-1387 No complaints will be examined after five days from Tryouts.

28. **Transportation**

In the past, horses were transported both by an equine trucking firm and on other occasions by parents' individual trailer hauling. When parents hauled, trailer spaces were shared with those needing a spot. Once the team is picked, the mode of transportation will be discussed.

29. **Refund Policy**

Maine 4-H Horse Committee will refund fees with a medical note or a veterinarian's note only.

**2026 MAINE 4-H EASTERN STATES EXPOSITION  
EQUESTRIAN TEAM TRYOUTS  
SCORECARD**

1.	<b>RIDER APPLICATION MUST BE COMPLETE</b>	<b>No Points</b>
2.	<b>4-H STORY</b>	<b>100 Points</b>
3.	<b>4-H RESUME</b>	<b>50 Points</b>
4.	<b>KNOWLEDGE TEST/ACTIVITY</b>	<b>50 Points</b>
5.	<b>FITTING AND SHOWMANSHIP</b> <i>(Showmanship will be used as a tie breaker for team placement)</i>	<b>100 Points</b>
	Appearance of Animal:	
	Condition	15 points
	Grooming	20 points
	Trimming/Braiding/Banding/Tack <i>(if appropriate for seat/breed)</i>	10 points
	Appearance of Exhibitor:	5 points
	Showing Animal in the Ring:	
	Leading/Pattern gait	10 points
	Posing/Pattern set up	10 points
	Pattern Correctness	10 points
	Use of Quarter System	10 points
	Overall Impression	10 points
6.	<b>EQUITATION CLASS A: English</b> (Riders / Handlers) <b>Rail and Pattern Work</b>	<b>100 Points</b>
		<b>OR</b>
6.	<b>EQUITATION CLASS B: Western</b> (Riders / Handlers) <b>Rail and Pattern Work</b>	<b>100 Points</b>
7.	<b>STABLE MANAGEMENT</b>	<b>100 Points</b>
	Stall Management	30 points
	Practical Horse Care	30 points
	Tack Room Area & Tack	20 points
	Participant Attitude during Tryouts	20 points
8.	<b>HORSE JUDGING (two (2) classes, 50 points/class)</b>	<b>100 Points</b>
	<b>Total Possible Points</b>	<b>600 Points</b>

**\* Youth must score 425 points or higher to be eligible for the Maine 4-H Equestrian Team**

**Please send your completed Application Packet by June 1, 2026 to:  
Tara Marble  
Franklin County Extension Office  
138 Pleasant Street, #1  
Farmington, Maine 04938  
or emailed to:  
tara.marble@maine.edu**

## 2026 EASTERN STATES TRYOUT SCHEDULE

\*\*THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS NEEDED AT THE DISCRETION OF THE ANIMAL SCIENCE COMMITTEE\*\*

<u>DATE AND TIME</u>	<u>EVENTS/ACTIVITIES</u>
<b>Friday, July 31, 2026</b>	
9:00 am	Arrival of ESE Planning Committee Members
10:00 am	Arrival and check in
10:00 am -11:00 am	Barn/Stall Setup & Prep
11:00 am -11:30 am	Town Meeting/Introduction
11:30 am -12:00 pm	Lunch
12:00 pm -12:30 pm	Prep/Warm-up Fitting + Showmanship
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Fitting + Showmanship & Photos
Order of Classes:	A (Rider) B (Teen Leader)
2:00 pm - 2:15 pm	Dress-down/Prep
2:15 pm - 3:30 pm	Clinic: Fitting + Showmanship
3:30 pm - 5:30 pm	Horse Judging (Part 1): In-Hand
5:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Put horses away and feed
6:00 pm - 7:00 pm	Dinner
7:00 pm - 8:00 pm	General knowledge quiz
8:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Teen Leader Interviews
	Ride time (during interviews)
Team: 9:00 pm - 10:00 pm Free Time: 10:00 pm - 11:00 pm	Team building & Free-time
11:00 pm	Lights out- quiet time
<b>Saturday, August 1, 2026</b>	
6:30 am	Barn Opens
7:00 am - 8:00 am	Breakfast – (Morning Announcements)
8:00 am - 9:00 am	Prep for Equitation Classes with warmup
9:00 am - 11:00 am (Rail and Pattern)	Equitation Class 1 - Hunt
	Equitation Class 1 - Western
11:00 am - 12:00 pm	Lunch
12:00 pm - 1:30 pm	Horse Judging (Part 2): Under Saddle
1:30 pm - 3:30 pm	Equitation/Pleasure/HUS Class 2 - Hunt
	Equitation/Pleasure/Ranch Class 2 - Western
3:30 pm - 4:30 pm	Schooling class with judge Western, Hunt, and Teen Leader (Audit)
4:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Take Care of Horses
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Announce Team/ Team Meeting
6:00 pm	Pack up/Clean up/Check out
**Participants are welcome to stay the night if needed	

## RECOMMENDED LIST OF ITEMS TO BRING

This list is the same for riders and teen leaders

- ❑ The “Dorm” stall has a concrete floor and is close to the horses. The Committee recommends that you bring a cot, air mattress, or sleeping bag, blankets, a pillow, and a tarp/tent
- ❑ A chair
- ❑ Toiletries, refillable water bottle, flashlight, rain gear (includes teen leaders)
- ❑ Work clothes and boots (includes teen leaders)
- ❑ Show riding outfits, boots with heels, and helmets with harness and ASTM/SEI approval label intact (includes teen leaders as they are borrowing a horse for showmanship class)
- ❑ Halters, lead shanks, and tie rope
- ❑ **Two large water buckets**, a grain bucket, salt (bucket recommended, and a hay bag (eye screws needed)
- ❑ Tack box with lock
- ❑ Hay and grain sufficient for the length of stay – labeled in closed containers or packages
- ❑ Fork and muck bucket/wheelbarrow for cleaning
- ❑ Grooming equipment
- ❑ Tack (saddle, saddle pad/blanket, girth, saddle rack, bridle, etc.)
- ❑ Rubber mats (can be rented at Skowhegan)
- ❑ Shavings sufficient for the length of stay
- ❑ Fire extinguisher
- ❑ Medications (Any participant on medication will notify the committee at the time of registration)
- ❑ Appropriate riding attire for off-riding time- shoulder straps must be greater than 2 inches wide. Youth will be asked to change if clothing requirements are not met.
- ❑ Parents might consider bringing extra chairs for the barn and extra blankets for the evening.

# **ATTENTION PARENTS:**

Here is some information for you as your child contemplates trying out for the Maine Eastern States Exposition (ESE) Equestrian Team.

1. Tryouts are July 31-August 1st, 2026, at the Skowhegan Fairgrounds.
2. Parents are more than welcome to watch their child try out, but CANNOT help their child in any fashion for the entire duration of the event.
3. Official apparel will also be available for order. If you want to order extra t-shirts, sweatshirts, and/or jackets, a check will be due August 16, payable to Maine ASC Horse, % Laura Bissell, 97 Marsh Corner Rd, Palmyra, ME 04965. Electronic Payments can also be accepted.

Parents are welcome to assist the Team at ESE by becoming a chaperone. Please let Tara Marble or Karen Giles, who are staff liaisons of the Animal Science Committee, know if this is something you would be interested in. **You must be a Maine 4-H volunteer to chaperone.**

## **Please Insert your 4-H Resume Here**

\*\*\*\* Please follow the included template and refer to the rubric for both your resume and story. Scoring is based on the story questions and the rubric below. \*\*\*\*

(Can also be sent as an attachment if being sent electronically)

Please use this template:

<https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/wp-content/uploads/sites/38/2018/09/4H-Resume.pdf>

Any questions, concerns, or advice can be found on the 2026 Maine 4H ESE Horse Team Facebook page. If you are not already a member of the page, please invite yourself so you can see all the updates and pictures!

## **4-H Story & Rubric**

In developing a theme, use the following questions to help think about what to say. You can present your story in a format that meets your needs (written, video, blog, photo journal etc) \*You will be scored according to these prompts. Any questions can be posted on the Facebook page or sent privately to committee members!

### **Part 1 -About You (Health)**

What might be one of your Sparks: interests or passions?

What are your plans for the future?

### **Part 2 -4-H Projects and Activities (Head)**

What goals did you set in your projects, and which ones did you reach? What would you do differently if you were to try it again?

What skills have you learned in 4-H?

How have you handled financing your projects, if needed? Who was especially helpful to you? How?

### **Part 3 -Leadership and Citizenship (Hands)**

How has 4-H helped you become a better leader and citizen?

What types of citizenship projects or leadership roles have you been involved in?

How did you work with others to contribute to your community or your school?

What have you learned from working with other 4-H'ers through your leadership positions?

### **Part 4 -4-H's Impact on You (Heart)**

What kinds of relationships have you had with your 4-H leaders?

How has your 4-H participation changed how you feel about yourself? How has your participation influenced your school and career goals? What has being a 4-H member meant to you?

How has 4-H helped you identify your Spark?

Indicators	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Distinguished
<b>About You (Health)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member identifies spark or passion without any further information.</li> </ul>	<p>Member completes one of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member identifies a spark or passion.</li> <li>Member describes plans for the future.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member identifies a spark or passion in detail.</li> <li>Member describes plans for the future.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member identifies spark or passion and connects it to their 4-H experiences.</li> <li>Member describes in detail plan for the future.</li> </ul>
<b>4-H Projects and Activities (Head)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member answers at least one of the prompts.</li> <li>Answers are incomplete.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member answers three of the prompt questions.</li> <li>Member provides little detail in the answers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member answers all the prompt questions.</li> <li>Member provides complete answers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member answers all the prompts thoroughly and with great detail.</li> <li>Member connects prompts to their 4-H experience.</li> </ul>
<b>Leadership and Citizenship (Hands)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member answers at least one of the prompts.</li> <li>Answers are incomplete.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member answers two of the prompt questions.</li> <li>Member provides little detail in the answers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member answers all the prompt questions.</li> <li>Member provides complete answers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member answers all the prompts thoroughly and with great detail.</li> <li>Member connects prompts to their 4-H experience.</li> </ul>
<b>4-H's Impact on You (Heart)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member answers at least one of the prompts.</li> <li>Answers are incomplete.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member answers three of the prompt questions.</li> <li>Member provides little detail in the answers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member answers all the prompt questions.</li> <li>Member provides complete answers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member answers all the prompts thoroughly and with great detail.</li> <li>Member connects prompts to their 4-H experience.</li> </ul>

# RIDER REGISTRATION FORM

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE \_\_\_\_\_  
CONTACT PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ Age on 12/31/25 \_\_\_\_\_ BIRTH DATE \_\_\_\_\_  
EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
1-A CLUB NAME \_\_\_\_\_ 4-H LEADER'S NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
EMERGENCY CONTACT \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

## Chaperone Agreement

Person responsible for 4-Her during stay at Maine 4-H ESE Horse Tryouts

\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Printed Name of Chaperone)* *( Relationship to 4-Her)*  
As a chaperone for this 4-Her, I understand that I will be responsible for this 4-H member during the entire time of tryouts.  
\_\_\_\_\_  
*(Signature of Chaperone- Must be 21 or older)* *(Chaperone phone number while at tryouts)*

Parental Consent for Chaperone

As this 4-Her's parent / legal guardian I, \_\_\_\_\_ give my permissions for  
*Parent / Legal Guardian's Name*  
\_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the Maine ESE 4-H Equestrian Tryout program. Since I am unable to be at ESE Tryouts,  
*Youth's name*

I designate \_\_\_\_\_ to chaperone my child.  
*Chaperone's Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Parent / Legal Guardian Date

Person who will transport 4-Her home \_\_\_\_\_  
Print name

.....

## Horse Information

Registered Name of Horse \_\_\_\_\_ Barn Name \_\_\_\_\_

Rider's name \_\_\_\_\_ Contact number while at tryouts \_\_\_\_\_

Breed \_\_\_\_\_ Seat: (choose one) \_\_Stock\_\_ Saddle\_\_ Hunt\_\_

Medical History of Horse:  
\_\_\_\_\_

## UNIVERSITY OF MAINE SYSTEM AND 4-H PHOTO RELEASE AGREEMENT

I, \_\_\_\_\_, hereby grant and authorize the University of Maine System, acting through the University of Maine, (hereinafter UMS) and the 4-H Program (defined as 4-H Afterschool, National 4- H Council, 4-H Cooperative Extension System, USDA/CSREES, Maine 4-H Program, 4-H clubs and programs, etc.) its employees and agents to make use of, license or assign the use of, my image, appearance, likeness, voice and/or photograph, and other reproductions of any of these, in still photographs, videotapes, publications, audio, sound recordings, web sites, electronic and other media and/or motion pictures, (hereinafter all of which are included in the term "Material") obtained during the current 4-H year (October-September) at 4-H-sponsored events, and to do so with or without mention of my name.

I understand and agree that I am to receive no compensation of any kind, monetary or otherwise, on account of or arising from the production, publication, recording, rebroadcasting, or other use of such Material.

UMS shall have complete ownership of the Material produced or published and shall have the exclusive right and license to make such use of that Material as it wishes, including, but not limited to the right of performance, display, reproduction and distribution in all media, and the right to create, perform, display and distribute derivative works of the Material.

I agree to indemnify and hold UMS, the University, its employees and agents, harmless from and against any and all claims, damages, lawsuits, judgments, and expenses, including reasonable attorneys' fees that UMS may become liable to pay or defend arising out of or caused by any matter or material furnished or spoken by me in connection with my appearance.

I hereby release UMS, its employees and agents from all expenses, claims and liabilities incurred by me arising out of or in connection with my appearance and/or the use of the Material, except to the extent that those expenses, claims or liabilities are the direct result of the negligent acts or omissions of UMS, the University, its employees or agents.

This agreement shall be governed and construed according to the laws of the State of

Maine. If under 18, must be signed by parent or guardian

*DATE*

*SIGNATURE*

*PLEASE PRINT NAME*

---

*ADDRESS*

*PHONE NUMBER*

---

*IF APPLICABLE, SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN*



**4-H Program Participation Permission, Agreements, and Health Form**

**Participant:** Please read this form carefully, provide all requested information, and sign and date the bottom of this page.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Last, First, Middle Initial

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone : (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ County \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date: (M/D/Y) \_\_\_\_\_ Circle one: Male Female

Roommate preference (if applicable to this event) \_\_\_\_\_

*As a participant in this program, I understand that I represent myself; my family; my county; Maine; and all Maine 4-H participants, volunteers and staff. By my actions, will 4-H be judged. Therefore, by my signature below, I agree to:*

1. Participate fully in this program.
2. Follow all schedule times including curfew and wake-up hours; to be where assigned, when assigned.
3. Follow the Dress code established for this program/event.
4. Follow the Cell Phone Policy outlined in the packet
5. Uphold the highest standards of behavior, manners and language.
6. Refrain from using alcoholic beverages, non-prescribed or illegal drugs, tobacco products, or fireworks.
7. Respect the rights of others at all times and make every attempt to include all participants in all activities.
8. Leave the facilities in the same condition or better than I found them when I arrived.
9. Support and follow all leadership and direction received from coordinators, chaperones and any other adult authority.
10. Respect the personal space and property of others in all settings including during overnight programs.
11. Seek assistance and support from adult chaperones on behalf of myself or others should a situation arise that warrants adult intervention or makes me feel uncomfortable.
12. I agree to not leave the Fairgrounds during Tryouts.

I understand that if I break this agreement, I must accept the consequences of my actions, which might include a verbal warning and/or immediate dismissal from Tryouts at the discretion of the horse committee and Cooperative Extension Staff.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
4-H Member

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Parent / Legal Guardian

**Parent/Legal Guardian:** Please read both pages of this form carefully, provide all requested information, and sign and date where requested

**Name of 4-H Member** \_\_\_\_\_

Parental Statement

My son/daughter/ward has my permission to attend this program. Should my son/daughter/ward require medical attention while attending this program, I hereby give my consent for physicians to provide necessary medical treatment and will pay for the same. I consider my son/daughter/ward's health to be POOR\_ FAIR\_ GOOD\_ EXCELLENT\_ I am not aware of any physical, mental or communicable conditions that will interfere with participation in this program which have not already been discussed with the event Coordinator.

I agree to indemnify, hold harmless and release the University, its Trustees, faculty, employees, volunteers and agents, from and against any and all claims, demands, actions or causes of action, on account of damage or loss to my personal property, my personal injury or death, or the bodily injury, death or damage to personal property of others caused by me, which may occur or result directly or indirectly from my participation in the Program and not as a direct result of any negligent act of the University, its Trustees, faculty, employees, volunteers or agents.

Furthermore, I have read and understand the statements my son/daughter/ward has agreed to above and support this agreement. I realize that I am personally responsible for my son/daughter/ward while he/she is attending this program. I understand and expect that should my son/daughter/ward break this agreement and the adult coordinators find it necessary to dismiss him/her from this program, that I am responsible for his/her transportation home.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship to participant: circle one Parent Guardian Other \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: day (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ evening (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate where parent/guardian can be reached during this function/if applicable and provide contact information: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing address if different from participant's: \_\_\_\_\_

Participant Health Information

Family Physician \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Date of last Tetanus shot \_\_\_\_\_ Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_

Policy Number \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:** (explain all "yes" answers)

Respiratory Problems (Asthma, blood spitting, persistent cough, abnormal chest X-ray, T.B., etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Heart Disease (High or low blood pressure, shortness of breath, murmurs, chest pain, Rheumatic Fever \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Stomach or intestinal problems (Ulcers, jaundice, hernia, colitis, indigestion, etc) \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Kidney, Gallbladder, or Liver Disease \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Diabetes or Hypoglycemia (low Blood Sugar) \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Muscular/Skeletal Problems (Arthritis, hernia, recent fractures, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Eye, ear, nose, or throat problems (hay fever, ear infection, impaired sight or hearing) \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Skin diseases \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Dizziness, etc. \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Emotional or mental disorders (Frequent anxiety, excessive fears, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Surgical Operations, accident or injuries, which required hospitalization in the past 2 years. \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Recent exposure to a Contagious Disease \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Allergies \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N Are you currently under a doctor's care? \_\_\_\_\_

Parental Statement page 2

Are you currently taking medication? \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N

Do you have any special dietary needs? \_\_\_\_\_

Y/N

Do you have any limiting physical conditions?

Y/N

Explanation if necessary on back:

\_\_\_\_\_

**Name of 4-H Member** \_\_\_\_\_

Please complete this form. It will go on the front of your horse's stall at tryouts.

<b>Horse Name:</b>					Maine 4H ESE	
<b>Owner's Name:</b>					Horse Team	
<b>Phone:</b>					<b>Backup Phone:</b>	
<b>Circle One: Mare OR Gelding</b>						
<b>Farrier:</b>			<b>Veterinarian:</b>		<b>Trainer:</b>	
<b>Phone:</b>			<b>Phone:</b>		<b>Phone:</b>	
	Grain	Hay	Supplements	Treats	Turnout	
Morning						
Noon						
Evening						
Night						

# Meal Plan 2026 Information

Please return this form with the packet.

Nancy Weeks will be offering a meal plan this year for Tryouts. She has provided food for us in the past and has done an outstanding job!

Friday: Lunch, Dinner

Saturday: Breakfast, Lunch

The cost for this meal package is:

- 4-H meal plan is \$25 per person (participant, groom, teen leader)
- Other meal plan is \$25 per person (parents, family members, guests)
- Under 5 – Free

Vegetarian options are available by request.

Please fill out this form and return it with your packet so Nancy can plan and buy enough food.

Don't forget your siblings and parents!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Tel. #:

I WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE:

4-H meal plan @ \$25.00/per person yes/no

Additional meals @ \$25.00/per person \_\_\_\_\_

Total due: \_\_\_\_\_

## Maine 4H Horse T-Shirt Form

One t-shirt is provided to all team members courtesy of the Maine 4-H Horse Committee

Please PRINT neatly

<u>Rider's Full Name</u>	
<u>Horse's Full Name</u>	

Mark one for each size you would like, including the free one.

(One participant's T-shirt will be provided by the committee; any additional shirts will be at an additional cost.)

<u>T-shirt Size</u>	<u>X-Small</u> \$15.00	<u>Small</u> \$15.00	<u>Medium</u> \$15.00	<u>Large</u> \$15.00	<u>X-Large</u> \$15.00	<u>2X Large</u> \$17.00	<u>3X Large</u> \$18.00
<u>Hoodie</u> <u>Sweatshirt</u>	<u>X-Small</u> \$25.00	<u>Small</u> \$25.00	<u>Medium</u> \$25.00	<u>Large</u> \$25.00	<u>X-Large</u> \$25.00	<u>2X Large</u> \$29.00	<u>3X Large</u> \$30.00
<u>Jacket</u>	<u>X-Small</u>	<u>Small</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Large</u>	<u>X-Large</u>	<u>2X Large</u>	<u>3X Large</u>
(Port Authority Women's C-free Core Soft Shell)	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00	\$70.00

To add your name, horse, and/or date to the sleeve, add \$5.00	
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Total Due: \_\_\_\_\_

## **Final Thoughts from the Staff and Committee**

**During tryouts, we're not just looking for individual talent and skill; we're looking for teammates!**

**Sportsmanship, teamwork, and a positive attitude are just as important as skill. Everyone should feel welcome and included, so we encourage youth to branch out beyond their usual friend groups. Being open, supportive, and respectful to all members helps create a stronger, more united team. Let's work together to build a culture where everyone can succeed.**

**We're Team Maine!**

**We're Wicked Good!**