

Year 2026

**Tryout candidates must be 12 years of age on December 31, 2025**

If you have any questions, contact your County Extension Office  
or the ESE Horse Committee Coordinator (contact information listed on page 2).

# *MAINE 4-H ESE HORSE TEAM APPLICATION*



## TEEN LEADERS

*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 Teen Leader 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.

### ESE Committee Contacts

**Laura Bissell**  
207-576-3580  
[lauraguestbissell@gmail.com](mailto:lauraguestbissell@gmail.com)

**Eric Forbes**  
207-343-2082  
[Weforbestrucking@icloud.com](mailto:Weforbestrucking@icloud.com)

**Tara Marble**  
138 Pleasant Street, #1  
Farmington, ME 04938  
(207) 778-4650  
[tara.marble@maine.edu](mailto:tara.marble@maine.edu)

**Karen Giles**  
992 Waterville Rd, Waldo, ME 04915  
(207) 342-5971  
[karen.giles@maine.edu](mailto:karen.giles@maine.edu)

### Horse Committee Staff Liaison

## **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 1, 2026**

### **Send to:**

**Franklin County Extension Office  
138 Pleasant Street, #1  
Farmington, Maine 04938  
Or electronically to:  
tara.marble@maine.edu**

- ❑ **TEEN LEADER REGISTRATION FORM-** must include all appropriate signatures
- ❑ **4-H Resume-**  
<https://extension.umaine.edu/4h/wp-content/uploads/sites/38/2018/09/4H-Resume.pdf>
- ❑ **4-H Story & Rubric-** please see the prompt and rubrics on pages 15-17 of this packet
- ❑ **PHOTO RELEASE FORM**
- ❑ **4-H PARTICIPATION HEALTH AND PERMISSION FORM**
- ❑ **3 X 5 CLOSEUP PHOTO OF PARTICIPANT**
- ❑ **MEAL PLAN FORM**

**Participants submitting incomplete or late application packets will not be eligible to participate in horse tryouts.**



March 2026

Dear 4-H Horse Project Member,

Welcome to the 2026 Maine 4-H Eastern States Exposition Equestrian Team Tryouts! We are glad you are trying out! You are welcome to try out for this position, whether you have a horse or not. Teen Leaders will have the opportunity to earn awards at the Eastern States Exposition in Showmanship, Quiz Bowl, Horse Judging, and the General Knowledge test. Maine will select four participants to serve as our Teen Leaders at Eastern States.

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, or the ESE Committee Chair, Laura Bissell, Eric Forbes, or Tara Marble in the Franklin County Office. Contact information is on page 2.

The Teen Leader's responsibilities are also listed in this packet. This is not a glorified position, but a very important one. The ESE riders really depend on Teen Leaders when the 'heat is on' at the Big E in W. Springfield, Massachusetts.

Tryouts will be held at the Skowhegan Fairgrounds in Skowhegan, Maine, **on Friday and Saturday, July 31-August 1, 2026**. Please arrive no earlier than 9:30 am. The program is scheduled to 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/communication after the applications have been reviewed in July. We look forward to seeing you at the Maine ESE Equestrian Team Tryouts.

Sincerely,

Maine 4-H Horse Committee

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

**Pittston 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 candidates must be 12 years of age as of December 31, 2025. The information you supply must be for the **current** 4-H year (October 2025 through May 2026). *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 commodities for which they qualify, in any given year. However, participation in two commodities must not prevent the participation of another 4-H member who would be attending only one commodity. Further, it is required that the two commodity programs at the Eastern States Exposition do not conflict or overlap during the Exposition.

**3. Packet Application requirement**

Packet Applications must be postmarked by June 1, 2026, and must include all required forms. 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 applications have been reviewed.

**4. Arrival time**

Applicants must attend all aspects of all days of tryouts. Extreme circumstances are to be brought to the committee, and the committee will consider options. All participants will be expected to arrive no earlier than 10:00 am on Friday, July 31st. The program will begin at 11:00 p.m. with orientation.

**5. Sleeping Arrangements** Participants are to stay on the property. There is space available near the barn for tents, campers, etc.

**6. Late for Tryouts**

Members who have emergencies that will make them late for tryouts must call and give reason(s) to Laura or Eric, as the ESE Committee Coordinators on page 2. Committee members will make a decision based on the circumstances. Attendance at another horse event will not be an acceptable reason for lateness.

**7. Knowledge Test**

Questions on Maine's knowledge test are taken from the following materials:

Source: New England 4-H Horse Committee

(<https://maine.box.com/s/smgyjaoxn1byfehm5y6jcfwz6jit8d4z>)

- 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:

<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)

## 8. **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.

## 9. **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 shall 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.

- 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 that expose bare midriffs (front or side), bare chests, visible cleavage, undergarments (including bra straps), or that are transparent (see-through) are prohibited. Straps must be at least 2" wide. Please be advised that spaghetti straps, 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 that must be continually adjusted 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 the midriff, or pants that need to be pulled up to hide undergarments, etc.
- No cut-off shorts, torn or frayed jeans will be permitted.
- Hair should be clean and neatly combed.
- Shoes must be worn at all times that are deemed appropriate.

10. **Leaving Fairgrounds**

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

11. **Quiet Time Hours**

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

12. **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 the use of cell phones are 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, and in-hand classes
- Cell phone use is also prohibited during all group meetings, the general knowledge test, and horse judging

13. **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.

14. **Selection of Team**

The Maine 4-H Eastern States Exposition Equestrian Team will consist of up to 20 Riders and/or In-Hand/Drivers, 4 Teen Leader positions, and 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 teen leader will be broken by the knowledge test. The horse judging score will be the second tie-breaker.

15. **Meals**

The Committee is planning to have meals available for purchase during Tryouts. All information is included on the Meal Plan Form at the end of the application.

16. **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.

17. **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 listed on the back. It will be worn by team members at times that will be scheduled by the committee. All other items, like jackets and sweatshirts, are optional.

18. **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/>. Judges' and Horse Committee's decisions concerning scoring at tryouts are final. Written concerns may be mailed, e-mailed, or faxed to: Lisa Phelps, no later than five days after the Tryouts at Maine State 4-H Office, 5741 Libby Hall, Orono, Maine 04469-5741; [Lisa.Phelps@maine.edu](mailto:Lisa.Phelps@maine.edu) Fax:(207) 581-1387. No complaints will be examined after five days from Tryouts.

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

1.	<b>TEEN LEADER APPLICATION</b>	<b>MUST BE COMPLETED</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</b>		<b>50 points</b>
5.	<b>Showmanship (borrowed horse)</b>		<b>55 points</b>
	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>HORSE JUDGING (two classes)</b>		<b>100 points</b>
7.	<b>PERSONAL INTERVIEW</b>		<b>150 points</b>
	Conducted by and with members of the Horse Committee		
8..	<b>DEMONSTRATED LEADERSHIP SKILLS</b>		<b>250 points</b>
	50 Points – Positive Attitude		
	50 Points – Follows Directions		
	50 Points - Able to Work with Others		
	50 Points - Helpfulness to Participants		
	50 points - Works Well with Committee Members		
		<b>Total Points</b>	<b>765 points*</b>

The top four scoring Teen Leaders will be selected for the team according to their score on these criteria. In case of a tie, the general knowledge test score will be used to determine team selection.

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

**Please send your Application Packet by June 1, 2026, to:  
University of Maine Cooperative Extension % Tara Marble  
Franklin County Extension Office  
138 Pleasant Street, #1, Farmington, Maine 04938**

## 2026 EASTERN STATES TRYOUT SCHEDULE

\*\*THIS SCHEDULE IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE AS NEEDED AT THE WILL 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	Fitting + Showmanship Prep/Warm up
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm	Fitting + Showmanship & Photos
Order of Classes:	A (Rider) B (Teen Leader)
Change: 2:00 pm - 2:15 pm Clinic: 2:15 pm - 3:30 pm	Dress-down/Prep Clinic: Fitting + Showmanship
3:30 pm - 5:30 pm	Horse Judging (Part 1): In-Hand
5:30 pm - 6:00 pm	Put the 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	Teambuilding & Free-time
11:00 pm	Lights out- quiet time
<b>Saturday, August 1, 2025</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 a 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	

## **Teen Leader Responsibilities at Eastern States**

- Hold horses, if needed.
- Give legs up, if needed.
- Be office contact (if applicable).
- Hold towels, brushes, etc., while the delegate does the work.
- Sweep aisle (in turn) with other delegates.
- Participate in General Knowledge, Judging, and Quiz Bowl.
- Be available to delegates/leaders for our state and possibly other states.
- Organize the state's participation in the Flag Ceremony
- Help with moving in/clearing out.
- "Off-duty" hours will be posted.
- Check on horses with barn managers.
- Help carry muck buckets and water buckets.
- Participate in showmanship with a team member's horse
- Help in any other way to support the team.

### **Teen Leaders should NOT!**

Braid, band horses, or groom horses

Shovel manure for any delegate's horse

### **Teen Leaders SHOULD!**

Bring showmanship attire! Be prepared to show a horse!

Bring a picture to hang with other delegate pictures.

Be available to all delegates in Maine and other New England states.

Have team spirit and be willing to lead team chants.

Be available and willing to help committee members at their request.

Enjoy this wonderful experience!

## RECOMMENDED LIST OF ITEMS TO BRING

- ❑ The “Dorm” is a concrete stall near the horses. The Committee recommends that you bring a cot, air mattress, and/ or sleeping bag. Blankets, a pillow, and maybe a tarp/tent too.
- ❑ A chair
- ❑ Toiletries, Refillable Water bottle, Flashlight, Rain gear
- ❑ Work clothes and boots
- ❑ Show riding outfits, boots with heels, and helmets with harness and ASTM/SEI approval label intact (includes teen leaders if they are borrowing a horse for showmanship class)
- ❑ A fork and a muck bucket or wheelbarrow for cleaning
- ❑ Medication (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
- ❑ 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 1, 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 (unless there is an emergency).
3. Official apparel will also be available for order. If youth want to order additional t-shirts, sweatshirts, or jackets, a check will be due August 16. Checks are payable to Maine ASC Horse, % Laura Bissell, 97 Marsh Corner Rd, Palmyra, ME 04965. Venmo and PayPal will 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 certified volunteer to chaperone.**

**TEEN LEADER REGISTRATION FORM**

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

TOWN \_\_\_\_\_ ZIPCODE \_\_\_\_\_

CONTACT PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ Age on 12/31/2025 \_\_\_\_ BIRTHDATE \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_

4-H 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

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name of Chaperone)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Relationship to 4-Her)

As a chaperone for this 4-H'er, 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)

\_\_\_\_\_  
phone number of chaperone while at Tryouts

**Parental Consent for Chaperone**

As this 4-Her's parent / legal guardian I, \_\_\_\_\_ give my permission

for \_\_\_\_\_ to participate in the Maine ESE 4-H Horse Tryout program. Since I am unable to be at ESE  
ESE  
*name of child*

Tryouts, I designate \_\_\_\_\_ to chaperone my child.

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Person who will transport 4-H'er home \_\_\_\_\_  
Print name



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

**Please use the included templates and rubric**

**\*\* Scoring will be done according to the questions and rubric listed below.\*\***

Please use this template:

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

\*\*Use the template below, along with the rubric, to complete your story. You will be scored according to these guidelines.

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

Pick a theme and build the story around that theme so the story flows naturally. If you are having trouble developing a theme, you may 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)

### **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>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member completes one of the following:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Member identifies a spark or passion.</li> <li>Member describes plans for the future.</li> </ul> </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>

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 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 a parent or guardian

---

*DATE*

*SIGNATURE*

*PLEASE PRINT NAME*

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*ADDRESS*

*PHONE NUMBER*

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*IF APPLICABLE, SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN*

**Name of 4-H Activity:** 4-H Horse Eastern States Tryouts Dates: July 31 - August 1, 2026



### ***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

*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

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

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

**Name of 4-H Activity:** 4-H Horse Eastern States Tryouts **Dates:** July 31- August 1, 2026

## 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 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, Gall Bladder, 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? \_\_\_\_\_ Y/N  
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

# 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

<u>Teen Lead'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 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!**