

Iowa 4-H Food Safety and Quality Assurance Program

Why FSQA?

- Iowa 4-H'ers produce over 13 million pounds of meat each year, which all goes into the American food supply.
- Consumers expect a safe, high quality food product.
- 4-H'ers need to know the food production rules and follow them exactly.

What is FSQA?

- The Iowa 4-H Food Safety and Quality Assurance (FSQA) program focuses on seven Good Production Practices that help ensure the safety of the food you produce.
- 4-H'ers in the Swine project have been doing this for years – It was called PQA III (Pork Quality Assurance).
- When 4-H'ers meet the 4-H FSQA certification, they also meet the Beef Quality Assurance and Pork Quality Assurance certification.

Who Needs FSQA?

- All youth exhibiting **swine** at the Cass County.
- All youth exhibiting **beef, sheep, swine, dairy, poultry, rabbit or goat** at the Iowa State Fair.

How do I Certify for FSQA –

- 4-H'ers ages 9-11 (on January 1) must attend a certification program every year to be FSQA certified.
- 4-H'ers ages 12-14 (on January 1) can either attend a workshop every year, OR take a test which is good until they turn 15.
- 4-H'ers ages 15-18 (on January 1) can either attend a workshop every year, OR take a test which is good until they turn 19.
- 4-H'ers age 19 on January 1 will need to certify through the adult program.

When and Where do I Certify for FSQA?

Two trainings have been scheduled for Cass County:

- **Tuesday, March 18** – Cass County Community Center in Atlantic
- OR-
- **Thursday, March 27** – Wallace Learning Center Near Lewis –

Classes at both sites will begin at **7:00 PM.**

What if I want to Test out?

- Youth choosing to **test out** may do so before one of the regular training sessions on March 8 or 15. We will begin testing at **6:00 PM.**
- You may set up your own time to test at the Extension Office by calling Julie at 243-1132
- To study for the test you may pick up a FSQA manual at the Extension Office.