

Mitchell County Pig Challenge Program Application

Due January 5, 2024

Purpose:

To grow interest in all facets of 4-H/ FFA Livestock projects and educate youth about the origin of their food in a livestock project who may not otherwise be able due to:

- lack of financial resources needed to purchase and care for an animal
- lack of facilities and equipment necessary to provide proper daily care for a large animal.

Overview:

Youth who apply and are selected by the committee will receive a piglet at random during the 2024 April pig weigh-in. Youth can choose from our pre-approved locations (locations selected in Osage and St. Ansgar) or find a location of their choosing to keep their project until fair.

Animals will be donated by local producers. Sponsorship pays for the purchase of the pig at the conclusion of fair and covers the cost of processing. Animals will be donated to local food banks at the conclusion of the project. This is a terminal project.

We hope youth who participate in this program will try another 4-H or FFA project next.

Youth Responsibilities:

Youth will be responsible for attending **two** educational workshops organized by Mitchell County Extension Staff and volunteers, completing a record book, writing to sponsors and extension staff a total of **six** times over the project, and completing an interview about their project at the 2024 fair.

All feed, vet care, bedding, and all other expenses related to owning livestock is the responsibility of the youth.

Fair:

Animals will compete in their own class at fair, as well as their coordinating swine class, and are ribbon auction eligible. Ribbon auction rules apply; each exhibitor may only sell one ribbon.

Eligibility Criteria:

Filling out an application **does not** guarantee youth will receive an animal. Youth will be selected to participate based on the following criteria:

- Demonstrated barriers to ownership; lack of finances, facilities/equipment needed for raising a livestock project, etc.
- First time livestock or pig exhibitors will be given preference
- Overall strength of application demonstrating an interest in the project area
- Support from a caring adult, this does not need to be a parent but someone willing to support youth's interest and learning.
- Decisions about participation will be made by a committee comprised of volunteers and extension staff.
- Return the attached application to the Mitchell County Extension Office, located at 315 Main St., Osage by **January 5, 2024**.

(over)



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Name: _____ Club/Chapter: _____

Grade: _____ Email: _____

Phone Number: _____ Parent: _____

Supporting Partner: _____ Phone number: _____

Have you shown livestock before? Y N

Have you shown pigs before? Y N

What prevents you from owning/showing livestock (For example the expense, lack of facilities, or lack of experience/knowledge)?

What are you hoping to learn by participating in this program? If you are selected, what are you most looking forward to?

Who will be supporting you and your project? This could be a parent, FFA Advisor, 4-H Leader, other adult, or older 4-H member. If you are not sure, contact the Extension Office (641)-732-5574.

I, _____ (print name) understand that applying does not guarantee participation in the Pig Challenge Program. If selected, more details about the project will be provided.

Member Signature: _____

Parent Signature: _____

4-H Leader/FFA Advisor Signature: _____

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