Iowa 4-H Awardrobe Clothing Event  
Iowa State Fair Judges’ Orientation

GENERAL OVERVIEW:
- The State 4-H Awardrobe Clothing Event has three categories: Fashion Revue, Clothing Selection, and The $15 Challenge.
- Participants in the State 4-H Awardrobe Clothing Event must be in the 4-H senior designation, grades 9-12.
- The number of participants eligible to represent a county is listed below for each Clothing Event category. 4-H’ers, however, can represent their county at the State Fair 4-H Awardrobe Clothing Event in only one category in a given year. If a 4-H’er is the top entry in more than one category, the county has two ways of handling it:
  1. Make it the judges’ responsibility to select the participant that will represent the county in each category, or
  2. Allow the 4-H’er to select in which category they would like to advance and move the alternate up in the other category(ies). Make sure you have decided which method you will use in advance and build it into your county procedures.
- 4-H’ers may advance to the 4-H Awardrobe Clothing Event more than once in their 4-H career, meeting all criteria, in all categories.
- The 4-Hers’ judging experience should include education, encouragement, and evaluation. Two thirds of the experience is not about evaluation! “Perfect” standards are unrealistic and harmful to both the youth participant and the Iowa 4-H Program.
- Encourage judges to be “appropriate neutral”. If the parents let their 4-H’er out of the house wearing this outfit, we assume the outfit passed their family appropriate test. Judges should, however, evaluate garment fit. Often clothing deemed “inappropriate” is really related to fit (too tight, too loose, too short, etc.).
- Judges are also encouraged to review 4-H Awardrobe Clothing Event Suggested Interview Questions (6-N1).

Below is Participant Eligibility Requirements, with Event Criteria for each Section (6G).

Event Criteria
1. Fashion Revue: (Constructed garment)
   All participants (male or female) to qualify for participation in the state event should:
   - Four participants will be eligible to represent each county with no more than two from any one category (male, female, minority), the fourth going into the “open” category.
   - The purpose of this category is to encourage the sewing of a personal garment or outfit.
   - Garments do not have to be perfect to advance. (There is NO “4-H way” to sew!)
   - Consideration is given to fit, color, style, suitability, attractiveness, quality of construction, stage presentation, and required care.
   - Model a garment or outfit the participant has constructed, hand-knitted, machine-knitted, or crocheted during the current 4-H year.
   - A garment or outfit consisting of one to three pieces such as party clothes, tailored suits, vest, slacks, shirt, skirt, active sportswear and/or coats are acceptable as Fashion Revue entries.
   - Blouses, shirts, and sweaters are usually considered as garments. If they are used to complete an outfit, they may be constructed or selected.
   - All other accessories and undergarments may be constructed or selected.
2. **Clothing Selection: (Selected outfit)**
   - The purpose of this category is to select and/or purchase an outfit that represents the 4-H’er’s goal or intended use for the selected outfit.
   - Three participants will be eligible to represent each county with no more than one from each category (male, female, minority).
   - Judges are to remain neutral on amount spent (if the math is correct, the points are given).
   - There are no “extra points” based on price spent on the outfit, on either the high end or low end as we have no way to know the resources available to individual 4-H’ers.

**Examples of outfits in Clothing Selection might include but are not limited to:**
   - Outfit purchased at a department store, boutique store, or on-line with no price limits.
   - Garments purchased at a garage sale, consignment store, Goodwill, or Salvation Army store for over $15.
   - Garments purchased at sidewalk sales, end of season sales, retail shops, or mall stores with no price restrictions.
   - Garments that were a gift or hand-me-down, if 4-H’er actually selected the item(s).
   - Outfit selected from parents’ or other relative’s closet, usually vintage. Again, the 4-H’er must have selected the item(s).
   - Home-sewn clothing items are not eligible unless the completed garment was purchased from a used clothing source. Clothing items which are custom sewn specifically for the participant are not eligible.

3. **The $15 Challenge: (Selected outfit with restrictions)**
   - This category is designed to expand the 4-H’er’s shopping experience to different shopping venues. Outfits must be purchased at a garage sale, consignment store, Goodwill, Salvation Army, or similar place. (Hand-me-downs or clothing as gifts belong in Clothing Selection if 4-H’er actually selected the item(s)).
   - Three participants will be eligible to represent each county with no more than one from each category (male, female, minority).
   - **$15 is the limit** including tax if the outfit is purchased at a consignment store. Garage sales, Goodwill, and Salvation Army type stores do not typically charge sales tax.
   - A receipt must be included with the report form. A garage sale receipt can be a piece of paper with the name of the location such as “Jane Doe garage sale”, date, amount paid, and signature of person selling at the garage sale. If garments in outfit were purchased at more than one location, more than one receipt should be included. Failure to provide receipt(s) or sales slip(s) will result in a loss of 4 points.
   - An outfit consists of a top and a bottom; The $15 Challenge does not include shoes and accessories.
   - There are no additional points if an outfit is under $15. If the total is $15 or less, the points are given. If the outfit was in the “free” box at a garage sale, “free” can be listed on the report form and on the receipt.
   - Purchase an outfit that represents the 4-H’ers’ goal or intended use for the purchased outfit.