General Exhibit Rules

1. A 4-H’er must be enrolled in 4-H by May 15 of the current year and have completed 4th through 12th grade in order to exhibit projects at the fair.
2. 4-H’ers may enter more than one exhibit in each class. However, there must be a completely different goal statement for each exhibit.
3. Eligible exhibits are an outgrowth of work done as a planned part of the 4-H’ers participation in 4-H projects or programs during the current 4-H year. Exhibits can be done by an individual or group and may represent all or part of the learning in the project or program.
4. Exhibitors in 4-H classes are not eligible to exhibit in a similar department of the FFA divisions or vice-versa. See also “4-H Department General Rules and Regulations”.
5. Exhibits previously entered in an FFA Ag Science Fair or any other FFA event or competition may not be entered in any 4-H exhibit class.
6. Exhibits that do not comply with the class description, size guidelines, copyright restrictions, safety and approved methods will be disqualified and not put on public display.
   - Posters may not exceed 24” x 36” in size.
   - Chart boards, graph boards, project presentation boards, model displays, etc., may not exceed 48” x 48” in size. Maximum size is determined by measuring the flat (unfolded) dimensions.
   - Display boxes may not exceed 28” x 22” in height or width and 12” in depth.
7. Endangered and threatened plants and animals (includes insects), or songbird feathers and nests may NOT be used in any exhibit.
8. Copyrighted materials and designs may not be used in an exhibit that is presented as original work by the exhibitor. Exhibitors must include permission from the copyright holder/owner when using copyrighted materials. **Those without permission cannot be displayed.** Exhibitors must give proper credit to the original source of all materials/designs used in exhibits. (See also special rules for Visual Arts and general copyright information for 4-H’ers.)
9. The goal and applicable exhibit standards will form the basis of the evaluation process. Evaluation criteria will include demonstrated learning, workmanship and techniques, and general appearance and design. Exhibitors will receive written evaluation comments on the exhibits and a blue, red, or white exhibitor’s ribbon. Refer to exhibit class evaluation rubrics for detailed evaluation criteria in each class. Rubrics are located on each 4-H project page at [http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects)
10. A written explanation, audio recording, or video recording is to be included as part of each exhibit. The exhibitor should respond briefly to the following questions about the exhibit:
   - What did you plan to learn or do? (What was your exhibit goal(s)?)
   - What steps did you take to learn or do this?
   - What were the most important things you learned?
***Check for additional requirements in exhibit classes for food and nutrition, photography, and visual art classes.
11. All judges’ decisions are final.
   - Judges have 5 to 7 minutes to evaluate the total exhibit. The information requested needs to be well organized and brief.
12. All exhibits remain on display until released on Sunday afternoon. Clean-up of the display area starts as soon as the majority of exhibits have been removed from the building.

13. A 4-H member will be allowed to exhibit only one article per division at the State Fair in the Static Exhibits (Family & Consumer Sciences and SAM) department, if selected at the county fair. To be eligible to go to State Fair, members must have completed 5th through 12th grade or that equivalent.

14. Those exhibits selected at the Dallas County Fair to go to the Iowa State Fair may be chosen on the condition that the exhibitor agrees to do additional work as suggested by the judge before it goes on to the State Fair.

15. All exhibits are to be the member's work as part of their current year's project. Kits will be accepted, but must be designated as such and are not eligible for State Fair.

16. No premium will be given for exhibits removed prior to checkout time or not picked up.

Class Descriptions
Most exhibit classes have specific guidelines and requirements that will be included in the judging process. Members are highly encouraged go to: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects to find information about judging criteria for exhibits that they create from their 4-H project learning.

**ANIMALS**

10101 Animal Science
An exhibit (other than the animal itself) that shows the learning about a large or small animal including beef, dairy cattle, dairy goats, dogs, horse & pony, meat goats, pets, poultry, rabbits, sheep and swine. Ownership of any animal is not required.

10102 Veterinary Science
An exhibit that shows learning about keeping animals healthy.

**AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES**

10201 Crop Production
An exhibit that shows learning about the growth, use, and value of field crops.

10202 Environment and Sustainability
An exhibit that shows the connections between humans and their environment including energy, stewardship, conservation, entomology, fish and wildlife, or forestry. Includes collections.

10203 Horticulture – Includes Grounds Improvement
An exhibit that shows learning about the growth, use, and value of plants, small fruits, vegetable and flower gardens, and landscape design.

10204 Outdoor Adventures
An exhibit that shows learning about backpacking, biking, camping, canoeing, fishing, hiking or other outdoor activities.
**10205 Safety and Education in Shooting Sports**  
An exhibit that shows learning about safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment or wildlife management. (The exhibit may not include actual firearms; archery equipment allowed if tips are removed from arrows).

**10206 Other Agriculture and Natural Resources**  
An exhibit that shows learning about agriculture or natural resources and does not fit in any of the classes listed above.

**Dallas County Soil and Water Conservation Award** – will be awarded to a conservation project(s) relating to soil conservation, wetland restoration, and windbreak and water resources. The District Commissioners will determine the award winners.

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**CREATIVE ARTS**

**10301 Music**  
An exhibit that shows learning about musical performance, composition and arrangements, instruments, musical styles or history.

**10302 Photography - Limit 5**  
An exhibit, either photo(s) or an educational display, that shows learning about photography from choosing a camera to modifying your photo. Still photos only, not video.

**10304 – Digital Photography Exhibit – Limit of 5**  
A photo or series of photos submitted electronically, not printed. Photos in this class will be submitted, viewed, evaluated, and displayed electronically.

**Photography Special Rules:**

- Photographs may be either black and white or color. They may be processed from negatives, slides, or digital cameras and computer manipulation programs. Photographs must have been taken since county fair of the previous year.
- Photographs should be a minimum of 4” x 6”. Finished size (including mounting/matting) should not exceed 16” in height or width.
- All photographs must be printed on photographic paper. Photos printed on canvas, fabric, ceramic, etc. will only be accepted as part of an educational display that shows learning about photography printing techniques.
- Mounted photos can be (a) flush-mounted [no board showing] on mounting board, or (b) with mount borders [window mat or flat mount directly on board]. Exhibitors may cut their own mounting boards, use ready-cut window mats or have matting done professionally.
- 4-H’ers are responsible for design decisions such as border, color and size. **Framed photographs (including floating frames) will not** be judged.
- Non-mounted photos may be exhibited in a clear plastic covering.
- A series is a group of photographs or slides [3 to 5] that are related or tell a step-by-step story. Photographs must be mounted together in story order or sequence. Slides should be numbered.
- Digitally altered photos should include a copy of the photo before changes.
- Subject matter of photographs must be in good taste and be appropriate for public display in a 4-H setting.
- Photographs depicting unsafe practices or illegal activities will not be displayed.
- Photography exhibitors must use the Photo Exhibit Label to provide required information for photo exhibits.

**Digital Photography Exhibit Special Rules:**
- Photographs may be either black and white or color.
- Photographs will not be printed.
- Entries may be a single photo or a series of photos. A series is a group of photographs (3 to 5) that are related or tell a step-by-step story. Series photo entries must have all photos in the series viewable at the same time.
- Photos entered should be submitted in the highest resolution possible. A finished file size of 1 MB – 3 MB is recommended.
- Photos should be submitted in an acceptable and commonly used format for ease of viewing.
- Subject matter of photographs must be in good taste and be appropriate for public display in a 4-H setting.
- Photographs depicting unsafe practices or illegal activities will not be displayed.
- Exhibitors must use the Photo Exhibit Label to provide required information for photo exhibits. The Photo Exhibit Label may be submitted electronically with the photo entry.
- Photos entered in this class will be evaluated on the same evaluation criteria used for printed photographs.

**Photography - County Only – Limit 5**

**Club Group Photography** – county fair only – Arrange a display of up to 5 photographs (black/white or color), which tells a story about a particular event your club has participated in. Mount photographs on mat or cardboard. Captions are optional, be brief. (Premiers will be awarded to the club.)

**Photo Album** – county fair only – A photo album with a minimum of 25 photos (of any size) all taken by the exhibiting 4-H’er. Project will be judged on the selection of photos, clarity and storytelling quality of photos and their arrangement. Captions are optional.

**10303 Visual Arts**
An exhibit that shows learning through original art, exploration of an art technique, or study of any other visual arts topic.

**Visual Arts Special Rules:**
1. Exhibits made from kits or preformed molds will not be accepted. Exception: Preformed molds (greenware, whiteware) may be used to provide the appropriate surface for a process technique or application of original design.
2. If the exhibit is a finished art object, the source or inspiration of the design, design sketches, or other process for creating the object and design must be included.
3. Original works of art must be a creative expression of a design unique to the artist, or represent a
significant modification to an existing design to make a new and original statement by the artist. Exhibition of derivative works created by a 4-H’er is prohibited without the written permission of the original copyright holder/owner. Use of copyrighted or trademarked designs, images, logos, or materials in 4-H visual arts exhibits is prohibited unless written permission has been obtained from the copyright or trademark holder/owner. For additional information, see 4-H Exhibit Copyright Information at http://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects/visualart.htm

**FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES**

**10401 Child Development**
An exhibit that shows learning about children. Examples: child care, growth and development, safety and health, children with special needs, and careers in child development.

**10402 Clothing and Fashion**
An exhibit that shows learning about style, fashion, design, thrifty spending, wardrobe planning, types of fabrics, and clothing care. Exhibits may include constructed or purchased clothing and accessories.

**10403 Consumer Management** An exhibit that shows learning through savvy budgeting, comparison shopping, money management, and consumer rights and responsibilities.

**10404 Food & Nutrition**
An exhibit that shows learning through cooking, baking, eating and choosing healthy foods, including safety practices. Exhibits may include prepared products or educational displays. See also 4-H 3023 “Inappropriate Food Exhibits for Iowa 4-H Fairs” for additional information regarding prepared and preserved food products.

**Food & Nutrition Special Rules**
· Any exhibit considered to be a food safety risk or portray a food safety risk will not be accepted, judged or displayed.
· All food products/exhibits should be appropriate for human consumption.
· Food product exhibits must be prepared, baked or cooked using only food grade utensils and containers.
· Products that require refrigeration will not be accepted, judged or displayed.
· Meat jerky products are prohibited.
· The recipe must be included for any prepared food exhibit; credit the source of the recipe.
· Preserved foods must include the Food Preservation Exhibit Label. *Only food processed after August 1, previous year is acceptable.* Current USDA and/or Iowa State University guidelines for home food preservation must be used.
· Preserved food exhibits must include two product samples. One will be opened for evaluation and discarded; the second will be placed on display and returned to the exhibitor. All perishable food products will be discarded when removed from display.
· Prepared foods should be placed on a firm disposable plate or flat cardboard. Place food product exhibit in a re-closable plastic bag with entry tag fastened outside the bag.
· Exhibit should include 5-6 cookies/bars on a plate so the judge may compare and taste.
· The use of alcoholic beverages in the preparation or production of 4-H food exhibits is NOT permitted.

**10405 Health**
An exhibit that shows learning through food choices, safe activities and skills such as first aid and CPR, careers,
and healthy lifestyle choices.

**10406 Home Improvement**
An exhibit that shows learning in planning, improving and caring for your home living space. Exhibits may include new or refinished/reclaimed/restored items.

**10407 Sewing and Needle Arts**
An exhibit that shows learning and skill in sewing, knitting, crocheting, or other needle arts, the use and care of fabrics and fibers, or the construction of clothing and other items.

**10408 Other Family and Consumer Science**
An exhibit that demonstrates learning about a family and consumer science topic that does not fit any previous Family & Consumer Science class listed.

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**PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**10501 Citizenship**
An exhibit that shows learning about or contributing to your community, your country or your world.

**10502 Communication**
An exhibit that shows learning about written, oral, and visual communication skills in their many forms.

**10503 4-H Poster Communication Exhibit**
Special poster exhibit to visually tell a story or idea about 4-H to the general public. Exhibitors must use one of the following themes:
* 4-H is . . (open to 4-H’er’s interpretation)
* Join 4-H
* Start Your Future Here (2017 Iowa 4-H Youth Conference theme)
* Nothing Compares (Iowa State Fair theme)

**Poster Communication Special Rules:**
- Only one poster per 4-H’er may be entered.
- All posters must be designed on, or affixed to, standard poster board or foam core board—size minimum of 14” x 20” or maximum of 15” x 22”.
- Posters may be vertical or horizontal. Posters may be any medium: watercolor, ink, crayon, acrylic, charcoal, oils, collage.
- Posters cannot be 3-dimensional. Materials used to make the poster may not extend more than 1/8 inch above the poster or foam core board.
- Each poster must have the completed Poster Exhibit Entry Form attached to the back.
- Posters cannot use copyrighted material or exact copies of other promotional designs, such as the Iowa 4-H Youth Conference theme logo.
- 4-H’ers may include the 4-H clover in the poster.

**10504 Digital Storytelling**
Any exhibit that demonstrates the application of technology to produce a creative movie/film/video. Exhibits may include a finished movie or video, creation of a detailed storyboard, editing techniques using digital video software, production techniques, or other display to share what was learned. Copyright permission
must be obtained for any non-original material included as part of a film/movie/video.

10505 Leadership
An exhibit that shows learning about leadership skills and influencing others in a positive way.

10506 Self-Determined
An exhibit that shows learning as part of your 4-H adventure and does not fit any other class.

SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

10601 Mechanics
Any exhibit that shows skills or learning in automotive, electrical, small and large engines, tractors, welding, and restoration.

10602 Woodworking
Any exhibit that shows learning about wood, woodworking techniques, and safe uses of woodworking tools and machines. Exhibits may include newly constructed or refinished/reclaimed/restored wood items.

10603 Science, Engineering & Technology
Any exhibit that shows learning about or helps explain how science and technology help us interact with the world. Topics include aerospace, biological and chemical sciences, computers & networking, earth & climate, geospatial mapping (GPS/GIS), robotics, or any other application of Science, Engineering, or Technology.

Club Books – County only
Books should be entered between 1:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday. Clubs may enter books for the previous and/or current 4-H year. Premiums for this class will be paid to the club.

Class
Secretary Club Book
Treasurer Club Book
Historian Club Book