Q: What will fair look like?

A: The fair will look quite normal. Signs will be posted as a reminder to keep 6’ distance between individuals. 4-H Static exhibits and 4-H Horticulture exhibits will be judged and remain on display in the exhibit buildings for the duration of the fair week. 4-H Static Exhibit Judging will be non-conference and explained in this document. Horticulture exhibits will be judged as normal with 6’ physical distancing taking place during judging and for waiting areas. Livestock will remain normal, but families are being provided with the option to check out immediately following the show(s) they are involved in. Families must verify that they plan to Go After Show using a Qualtrics survey by July 1, 2020. This process will be explained in this document.

Q: Will I (my family) need to wear a face mask?

A: It is recommended that all families wear a face covering (mask or shield).

Q: Will we still be able to show our exhibitors?

A: Yes, there will be opportunities to exhibit, but it does look different and is subject to change to comply with current IDPH, CDC, and Iowa 4-H guidelines and best practices.

- 4-H Static Exhibits – We will be holding non-conference, “State Fair” style judging this year. Exhibits will be dropped off and checked-in at the Exhibit Buildings (Animals, Ag & Natural Resources, & Science, Mechanics, & Engineering exhibits will be in the 4-H Building; Family & Consumer Sciences, Personal Development, & Creative Arts – including Photography will be in the larger Exhibit Hall). Exhibitors will leave after checking exhibits in and the judges will then review the write-ups and exhibits to make a ribbon placement decision. It is very important that exhibit write-ups are very detailed this year! Exhibitors will not have the opportunity to visit face-to-face with a judge, so include every detail possible with the exhibit goal sheet/write-up! Be sure to include photos with captions, steps taken to complete the exhibit, prices/receipts, inspiration, etc. See the attached Goal Sheet/Exhibit Write-up help sheet attached to the back of this FAQ document. This information also applies to Clover Kids. The Exhibit Hall and 4-H Exhibit Building will be closed during exhibit judging. Only exhibit drop off/check-in can take place.
Static Exhibit Check-in/Drop Off Schedule at 4-H Exhibit Building & Exhibit Hall is as follows:

- 8:15-8:45 AM – 4-H Honor Council
- 9:00-9:45 AM – Garfield Boosters, Harrison Hustlers
- 10:00-11:15 AM – Heartland Helpers, Independent 4-H, Jefferson Go-Getters
- 11:30 AM-12:15 PM – Leighton Strivers, Mahaska Masters, Mahaska Livestock Special-Interest
- 12:30-1:15 PM – M&M Peppy Pals, Spring Creek Achievers, West Des Moines Livewires
- 1:30-2:15 PM – Adams Champs, Cedar Livestock, Maker Club
- 2:00-3:00 PM – K-3 Clover Kids & Wonder League

- 4-H Horticulture – Horticulture judging will be held face-to-face as usual, but we will be following physical distancing guidelines. Please limit those in the waiting area to the exhibitor and no more than one additional person, if at all possible, and keep 6’ between families at all times.
- 4-H Communications Event – This will take place as usual, but we will factor in 6’ physical distancing with presentations, judging, and audiences. Working Exhibits cannot include edible items.
- Livestock – The weigh-ins/check-ins and shows will take place as usual. We ask that families keep 6’ physical distance between one another during weigh-ins/check-ins. Class sizes may have to be adjusted to allow for 6’ distancing in the show ring. Audiences are requested to keep 6’ distance between them as they sit in the bleachers. Standing around the entryway of the Pavilion will not be permitted in 2020. Families are permitted to take animals home immediately following the show(s) they are participating in, but must pre-register for Go After Show by July 1, 2020. Pre-register at [https://bit.ly/3ebseD0](https://bit.ly/3ebseD0). Families who register for Go After Show must be off of the grounds by 8:00 AM on the day after the show, but can leave immediately following the end of the show(s) they are participating in, which includes removal of the animal(s), tack, disposing of bedding, and sanitizing of gates/cages/pens. Recommended sanitizer is sanitizing wipes or a bleach solution (4 tsp. fresh bleach per quart of water). Families who did not register for Go After Show by the July 1, 2020 deadline will not be permitted to Go After Show during the fair.

Q: I am a 4-H or FFA member who always exhibits at a different county fair, but this year they are offering a format for fair that I’d rather not do, can I exhibit at the Southern Iowa Fair instead?

A: No. The Southern Iowa Fair is a county fair that is open to Mahaska County 4-H members in good standing and school-aged FFA Chapter members that have been pre-approved by Mahaska County Extension.

Q: What about Herdsmanship?

A: We will not be holding official Herdsmanship Judging in 2020. Each exhibitor is expected to follow the updated Herdsmanship guidelines outlined in the 4-H & FFA Fair Rule Booklet on pages 36-37. All animals must have food & water and clean bedding throughout the fair. Sanitizing guidelines will be posted in the barns during the fair to comply with the current recommendations.
Q: How will 4-H fair awards (trophies, banners, plaques, etc.) be handled this year?

A: Due to the delayed timing in the decision about 4-H exhibition at the Southern Iowa Fair, we will not be able to order awards and receive them in time. We will have stock fair trophies available for photos that will be returned to the 4-H Office and sanitized. We will announce details for a fair award distribution at a later date.

Q: What about the livestock auction?

A: The Southern Iowa Fair Board oversees the Southern Iowa Fair Livestock Auction. They have decided to hold a Ribbon Auction for ALL species due to the current market and pandemic. Exhibitors will be responsible for marketing their own animals. Anyone planning to take part in the Livestock (Ribbon) Auction in 2020 must keep all animals on the fairgrounds for the duration of the fair to remain eligible for the auction, per Fair Board requirements. Ex: Exhibitor has a steer and a rabbit and would like sell the steer but has registered to take the rabbit home and takes the rabbit home after it shows. That exhibitor’s steer would then be ineligible for the auction, since the rabbit has left the grounds. All exhibitors’ animals must stay Full details regarding the Ribbon Auction will be posted to the Southern Iowa Fair website at www.southerniowafair.com prior to the fair and will be posted in the barns during the fair. If you have questions regarding the livestock auction in general, please call 641-673-7004.

Q: How will you communicate any potential changes?

A: The Mahaska County Extension staff will communicate first through your 4hOnline email and FFA Advisors, then through the 4-H & FFA Southern Iowa Fair Forms website at https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mahaska/page/4-h-fair-award-forms, the Mahaska County 4-H Facebook page at www.facebook.com/mahaska4H, and the free Mahaska County 4-H app. Expect a lengthy July 4-H Fair Newsletter that will include all of the finalized plans and latest recommendations & best practices.

Q: Where can I find the 2020 4-H & FFA Fair Rule Booklet?

A: We have it posted in 4hOnline, on our website https://www.extension.iastate.edu/mahaska/page/4-h-fair-award-forms, and in the free Mahaska County 4-H app.

Q: What should I do now?

A: Keep working on your static exhibits, communications presentations, in your gardens, and with your animals. FairEntry deadlines are quickly approaching, be sure to check the weekly 4-H updates to ensure you do not miss any deadlines. If you have not already done so, please complete your YQCA (Youth for the Quality
Care of Animals) training, which is required for Rabbits, Poultry, Sheep, Beef, Dairy, Swine, Meat Goats, & Myotonic Goats. Visit yqca.org by July 1, 2020 to complete your certification.

Q: I have more questions, who do I contact?

A: For 4-H/FFA fair exhibitor questions and exhibitor event details, contact Mahaska County Extension 4-H Staff. Static, Communications, Horticulture, Clothing Event, General 4-H, General 4-H Exhibition, etc. – Amy Brainard (vermeerA@iastate.edu); Livestock, YQCA, & Clover Kids – Ashtin Harris (acharris@iastate.edu); Iowa 4-H Best Practices – Kim Kuester (kuester@iastate.edu). FFA members are always encouraged to contact their Advisors for additional details related to their specific chapters and for FFA static exhibiting. For public events normally held at the fair, contact the Southern Iowa Fair Office at 641-673-7004 or sifair@mahaska.org.
What goes in a 4-H exhibit write-up?

1. Top of the page:
   a. Your name
   b. Grade in school (what grade did you just finish?)
   c. 4-H club name
   d. Project area and class number

2. Project Goal questions:
   a. What did you want to learn or learn to do?
   b. What steps did you take to learn or do this?
   c. What were the most important things you learned?

3. Tell your project story. Why did you choose this project area?

4. What did you like most about this project?

5. What was the hardest part about this project?

6. Examples of project-specific items to include in your write up:
   a. Food & Nutrition include:
      i. Recipe & where did your recipe come from?
      ii. Pictures of making your food exhibit
      iii. Picture of the final product
   b. Visual Art:
      i. Where did your idea or inspiration come from?
      ii. List elements of design and/or art principles
      iii. Sketch or drawing of your idea
      iv. Original photo if you are painting from a photo
      v. Copyright permission, if needed.
      vi. Pictures of you making your exhibit.
      vii. Material used in your creation.
   c. Photography:
      i. Make sure to attach the photography label.

7. Pictures of the process of you making your exhibit and the end product picture

8. Would it be helpful to explain your building or assembly process by including a budget?
   a. What did it cost to make your exhibit?

9. Please check your fair book for more details that could be included in your exhibit.

Remember, you need the judge to understand all of the work that you put into making your fair exhibit. It is important to give the whole story.