Ohio 4-H Horse Program

www.horse.osu.edu

PAS (PERFORMANCE AGAINST A STANDARD) PROGRAM
2026 STATE FAIR QUALIFICATIONS

The following is a list of State Fair Junior Horse Show classes to be offered in 2026 and the minimum scores or maximum times to qualify for these classes:

	QUALIFYING SCORE (JR/SR)		QUALIFYING SCORE (JR/SR)
SHOWMANSHIP CLASSES		**OVER FENCES CLASSES**	
WESTERN SHOWMANSHIP	68	HUNTER HACK	70
RANCH SHOWMANSHIP		HUNTER OVER FENCES	
HUNTER SHOWMANSHIP		EQUITATION OVER FENCES	
SADDLE TYPE SHOWMANSHIP			
EASY-GAITED SHOWMANSHIP		**PATTERN CLASSES**	
DRAFT SHOWMANSHIP		WESTERN HORSEMANSHIP	68
SMALL EQUINE SHOWMANSHIP		RANCH HORSEMANSHIP	
PLEASURE CLASSES		HUNT SEAT EQUITATION	
WESTERN PLEASURE	68	SADDLE SEAT EQUITATION	
RANCH PLEASURE		EASY-GAITED EQUITATION	
HUNTER UNDER SADDLE		RANCH RIDING	
ENGLISH PLEASURE		WESTERN RIDING	65
EASY-GAITED PLEASURE		REINING	
		TRAIL/TRAIL IN-HAND/RANCH TRAIL	
SMALL EQUINE CLASSES			
SMALL EQUINE HUNTER	70	**DRIVING CLASSES**	
SMALL EQUINE JUMPER	0 FAULTS	DRAFT DRIVING	68
		PLEASURE DRIVING	
GROUND ROPING	70% (84 out of 120 points)	DRIVING REINSMANSHIP	
		DRIVEN TRAIL	

GYMKHANA CLASSES – Time given is maximum time in seconds. **Times are not to be rounded up or down.** (For example, if the qualifying time is 19.000 seconds and the horse/rider's time is 19.050 seconds, their time is greater than 19.000 seconds and is not a qualifying time.) **The judge will not increase the qualifying times listed below due to arena conditions.**

POLE BENDING	QUALIFYING TIME (Seconds)	STAKES RACE	QUALIFYING TIME (Seconds)	KEYHOLE RACE	QUALIFYING TIME (Seconds)
PONY/JUNIOR (9-12 yr)	26.500	PONY/JUNIOR (9-12 yr)	19.500	PONY/JUNIOR (9-12 yr)	11.500
INTERMEDIATE (13-15 yr)	26.000	INTERMEDIATE (13-15 yr)	19.000	INTERMEDIATE (13-15 yr)	11.000
SENIOR (16-18 yr)	25.500	SENIOR (16-18 yr)	18.500	SENIOR (16-18 yr)	10.500

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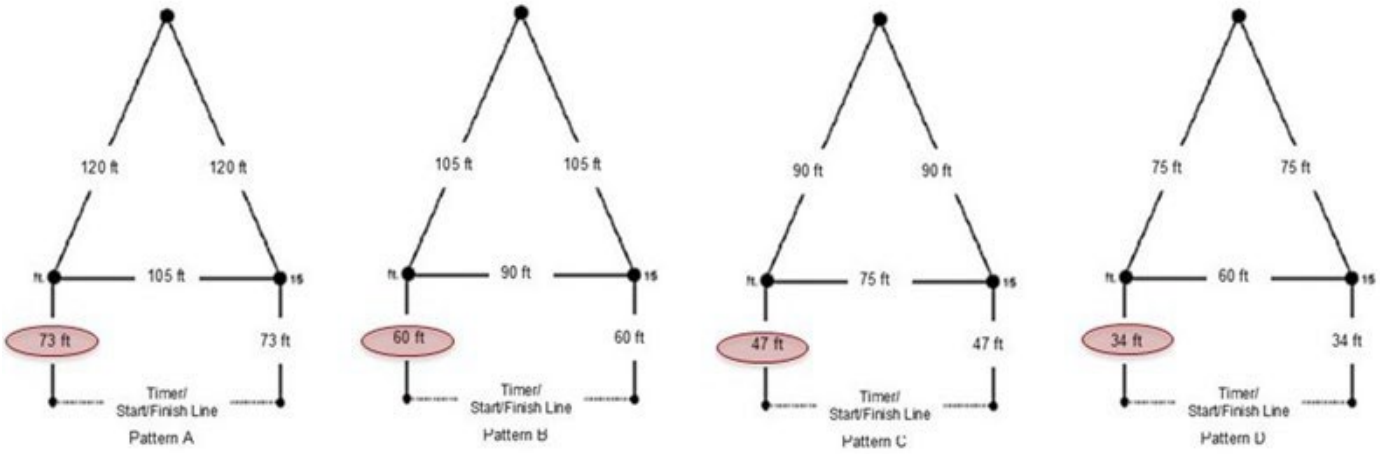
BARREL PATTERN	A	B	C	D
	QUALIFYING TIME (Seconds)	QUALIFYING TIME (Seconds)	QUALIFYING TIME (Seconds)	QUALIFYING TIME (Seconds)
PONY/JUNIOR (9-12 yr)	23.000	21.500	20.500	19.000
INTERMEDIATE (13-15 yr)	22.500	21.000	20.000	18.500
SENIOR (16-18 yr)	22.000	20.500	19.500	18.000



The rules for the 2026 PAS Program will be as follows:

1. A youth may only use one horse to try out in PAS shows and cannot replace a horse for any reason after they have shown in their first PAS class. The project horse shown at the state fair must be the one the 4-H member qualified with in his or her county.
2. Exhibitors may enter a maximum of four (4) PAS horse classes at the State Fair Junior Horse Show, **plus** Ground Roping. (Ground Roping does not count towards the maximum of four (4) PAS horse classes).
3. Youth wanting to show their horse at the State Fair Junior Horse Show in a showmanship, riding, or driving class must qualify in any two (2) PAS classes in order to compete at the State Fair Junior Horse Show.
4. Youth wanting to show in Ground Roping ONLY at the State Fair Junior Horse Show are required to qualify in Ground Roping at a PAS qualifying show but are not required to qualify in any other PAS horse class. Exhibitors showing in Ground Roping ONLY will not be charged a stall fee.
5. **All Ground Roping entries MUST be submitted at www.go.osu.edu/groundroping26 by 1:00pm on July 1, 2026.**
6. All exhibitors wanting to show in Ground Roping at the State Fair Junior Horse Show are required to be enrolled in the Roping project book and must submit their completed project book(Chapters 1-5 & 2026 Activity) to the show office the morning of the Ground Roping class for scoring which will count towards their overall class placing.
7. Reminder: Counties may allow youth to qualify in more than two classes!
8. Ranch Trail is now offered at the Junior Horse Show. Exhibitors must qualify in Ranch Trail to be eligible to show in Ranch Trail at the Junior Horse Show. Exhibitors showing in any Ranch class at the Junior Horse Show will not be allowed to show in Trail at the Junior Horse Show. At the State Fair Junior Horse Show, youth will only be allowed to show in classes for which they qualified.
9. A county may have requirements (i.e. written tests, interview judging, club meeting attendance, etc.) for youth to complete before they may enter State Fair qualifying shows.

10. The show committee should develop a qualifying show for all classes in which youth want to try out. Classes need to be divided as they are for State Fair with the exception that showmanship, horsemanship, or equitation classes do not need to be divided into as many age classes as is offered at State Fair. Riding/driving classes should be divided so that a judge does not evaluate more than approximately ten (10) youth at a time.
11. A county (or group of counties) may offer up to two (2) single-judged qualifying shows or one (1) double-judged qualifying show. In a show with two judges, the scores should not be averaged.
12. A youth cannot compete in more than two (2) single-judged PAS shows or one (1) double-judged PAS show.
13. Gymkhana classes: Riders get one run (attempt) per class in a show to qualify unless county or counties are using one show with two judges to qualify youth. Then the youth may have two attempts (runs) as long as they are not disqualified in the first run. If the youth receives a 'No Time' in their first run, they are still eligible for their second run. If the youth is disqualified in their first run, they are not eligible for a second run.
14. Counties must hire judges that are designated as PAS judges on the current year's Ohio 4-H Horse Show Judges List. This list can be found online at http://horse.osu.edu.
15. The show committee must have the current PAS score sheets printed for the judge when arrive at the show. These sheets are available online at http://horse.osu.edu. The judge will score the youth in the classes. As the sheets are turned in, a show committee member should total the scores. These scores can then be compared to the qualifying scores to determine if the youth qualified in that class for State Fair. Post the scores as soon as possible after the class is completed so youth know what they have to do in future classes to qualify. If the judge gets to a point in the scoring that they know a youth will definitely not qualify for State Fair, they may place a NQ (not qualified) in the total score box on the evaluation sheet and stop keeping score on that youth.
16. Show management should not expect judges to give comments to youth in PAS classes since the youth can see their evaluation on the posted score sheets.
17. Entry fees may be charged for PAS State Fair qualifying shows/classes to help cover the expense of these classes.
18. Due to the expense of conducting horse shows, some counties may find it desirable to have a show that includes classes that are not judged by PAS standards. This is acceptable; however, PAS classes may not be combined with other classes.
19. PAS classes should not be placed. If you wish to give awards, give awards based on score received (i.e. if a youth scores a 90 in showmanship, they get an award indicating excellence in that class).
20. Exhibitors with animals that are of the incorrect size for the class entered will be moved to the correct class.
21. Counties can send their youth to another county to qualify for any reason, but they must follow the current guidelines in the Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows. An Out-of-County PAS form is available online at http://horse.osu.edu.
22. **If an exhibitor participates in an Out-of-County PAS Show, the exhibitor must upload a copy of their completed out-of-county PAS Show form to their 4-H Online account by 1:00pm on July 1, 2026.**
23. **Each PAS show must record the PAS scores (qualifying or not) of all exhibitors participating in that show on the PAS verification form. This form must be submitted to the Ohio 4-H Horse Program office at cole.436@osu.edu by 1:00 pm on July 1, 2026.**
24. **Exhibitors intending to show at the Ohio State Fair Junior Horse Show must upload a copy of their equine's current negative Coggins test (dated on or after January 1, 2026) to their 4-H Online account by 1:00pm on July 1, 2026.**
25. **It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to submit their entry and pay their $50 stall fee online at www.ohiostatefair.com by 1:00 pm by July 1, 2026.**

In summary, the following information must be submitted in order for an exhibitor to be able to compete at the Ohio State Fair Junior Horse Show:

- ***Out-of-County PAS form (if applicable); uploaded to the exhibitor's 4-H Online account.***
- ***Junior Horse Show entry and $50 stall fee; online at www.ohiostatefair.com.***
- ***Current negative Coggins test; uploaded to the exhibitor's 4-H Online account.***
- ***PAS Verification Form; submitted to cole.436@osu.edu by the PAS Show Manager or County 4-H Educator.***

26. Refer to the current rulebook (Uniform Rules for 4-H Horse Shows) for requirements for all classes.
27. Youth should review the 2026 State Fair Junior Horse Show schedule carefully for potential class conflicts when selecting their classes. At State Fair, classes will not be held for class conflict.
28. Easy Gaited horses may not show in riding classes that require a trot. Correct tack and attire for Easy Gaited Equitation and Easy Gaited Pleasure is Saddle Seat or Western tack and attire, respectively. **Easy Gaited classes for State Fair will be two-gaited classes (no canter).** Gaits will be a Show Walk and a Show Gait. County qualifying classes will also be two gaited. In Easy Gaited Pleasure, the Show Gait will be worth 70 points since they do not canter. Easy Gaited horses may show in Gymkhana as the class does not require a trot.
29. A youth may show in draft horse/pony or light horse/pony) driving, but not both. A heavy harness is expected in draft classes while a light harness is expected in light horse/pony driving classes.
30. At State Fair, a horse cannot be shown in both of the following combinations of classes:
    a. Trail and Trail in-hand
    b. Ranch Trail and Trail or Trail in-hand
    c. Intermediate Equitation Over Fences and Advanced Equitation Over Fences
    d. Green Hunter Over Fences and Low Hunter Over Fences
    e. 4-H Horse Show Exhibitors must choose one discipline within each riding style at a horse show. Exhibitors can still show English and Western. However, within English they must choose between Saddle Seat or Hunt Seat. Within Western, they must choose between Western or Ranch. This selection includes showmanship classes. (Please note that this does not affect Reining or Western Riding as there is no Ranch option for these classes.)

Patterns for the 2026 **PAS qualifying classes will be posted online at http://horse.osu.edu. These patterns are the ONLY patterns to be used for PAS classes in 2026.** In addition to these patterns, the following rules will apply for the specified classes:

PAS Qualifying Showmanship Rules

A judge may bring the class into the arena and then do the pattern, or they may work the youth as they enter the arena. Draft horses are an exception in that they will always come into the arena and work out of the line.

PAS Qualifying Horsemanship/Equitation Rules

For Western Horsemanship and Hunter Equitation, the judge may work the pattern as the rider enters the area and then bring either the finalist or the whole class back for rail work. They may work the rail first and do the pattern afterward for any Horsemanship/Equitation class. Saddle Seat and Easy Gaited Equitation will always work the rail first.