

## The 4-H Horse Program offers several ways for youth, ages 5-19, to participate.

**Horse Bowl-** Use your knowledge of horses and related subject matter to compete on a four or five member team against other teams. Display your knowledge in a competitive and friendly atmosphere. Competition is open to everyone, with teams divided according to age into Junior, Mixed (Junior and Senior), and Senior Divisions. State senior winners travel to national competition.

**Horse Project-** List your goals, experience, and accomplishments in a Horse Project Record Book. Turn your record book in each year to review the previous year's work. Learn about horses and related subjects at a level appropriate for your age and experience.

**Portfolio Record-** Summarize your 4-H activities and experience over a period of several years in a cumulative record. Competition is held at the district, state and national levels. Scholarships are awarded to the national winners.

**Hippology-** Hippology is the "study of the horse". Contestants are tested on horse knowledge, identifying horse related tack and equipment and solving problems. Compete for the Junior or Senior Horseman-of-the-Year Awards. Competition is open to individuals and four-member teams. The top contest individuals in the senior division participate in regional and national competitions.

**Community Service Projects-** Get involved in your community by doing adaptive riding, ride-a-thons, sharing your horse with rest home patients, etc. Help volunteer leaders plan and conduct community service projects.

**Horse Shows-** Compete with your horse at local 4-H shows. Qualify in one of 16 divisions to show at the NC State 4-H Horse Show, held annually in July, through participation in district qualifying shows. The Southern Regional horse show is also held annually, which brings together the top riders from 13 states. The North Carolina State Fair also provides classes for 4-H members only.

**Horsemanship Camp-** Attend horsemanship camp with your horse for one week each summer. Increase your knowledge and skills through riding instruction and demonstrations. Learn about your horse while having fun with your 4-H friends and volunteer leaders.

**Trail Rides-** Join other 4-H'ers and adult on a fun trail ride organized by local clubs.

**Retreats-** Meet other 4-H'ers and volunteer leaders who are interested in horses for a weekend retreat at various locations in North Carolina. Make new friends from across the state and expand your knowledge of horses. Experienced horseman in various horse-related areas will conduct clinics and demonstrations.

**Horse Public Speaking-** Share your knowledge with others by participating in local, district, and state horse public speaking contests. The state senior winner is eligible to represent North Carolina at regional and national competitions.

**Horse Presentations-** Teach others about something related to horses by giving an illustrated talk or demonstration. Compete as an individual or a two-member team. The state winner (s) is eligible to represent North Carolina at regional and national competitions.

**Horse Judging-** Learn good conformation, breed character, and performance ideals in different breeds of horses. Learn to evaluate a horse based on knowledge and facts and give oral reasons to defend your decisions. Four-member teams and individual judges place several classes of conformation (halter) and performance classes. State senior winners receive travel scholarships to participate in regional and national competitions.

**Horse Craft Contest-** Exhibit your craft skills by creating horse related items for your horse or yourself. This opportunity lets you explore and develop economic alternatives for you and your horse.

**Horse Drawing Contest-** Broaden your horizons and use your creative talents to increase awareness of the horse project through drawing exhibitions.

**Horse Painting Contest-** Apply your artistic talent within the horse project area by increasing your knowledge and skill in equine painting, while learning the value of developing visual exhibits for a specific topic.

**Horse Poster Contest-** Demonstrate your interest in horses with a poster. Improve your skills in linking words and visuals to create an appealing display.

**Horse Photography-** Gain self-confidence and develop photographic skills that will last a lifetime. Increase your knowledge of photography as it relates to horses, while learning the value of organizing and developing visual exhibits.

**Horse Sewing Contest-** Provides an educational opportunity for participants to exhibit their sewing skills pertaining to the horse project and encourage participants to explore and develop economic alternatives for themselves and their horse.

**Creative Writing Contest-** These events provide an outlet for written expression for the 4-H member in horse-related topics. Creative Writing Contests recognize youth who have writing talent in three contest areas:

**Short Story Contest-** Contains a beginning, middle, and end using a time line. Mainly judged on the *creativity and imagination* involved.

**Poetry Contest-** Will have a maximum of 50 lines. Mainly judged on the *creativity and imagination* involved.

**Essay Contest-** A series of paragraphs on one topic written as a personal opinion. Mainly judged on the specific *content* of the essay.

**Cloverbuds-** A special program for youth ages 5-7 years of age. Special manuals, educational experiences, and show classes are offered in a non-competitive way.

**Scholarships-** Win 4-H horse program scholarships and continue to seek education beyond high school.

**Leadership Training-** Attend adult and teen leadership conferences specifically designed to improve horsemanship abilities, equine management knowledge, and leadership skills.

## 4-H HORSE PROGRAM GOALS

The purposes of this program are to encourage 4-H members:

1. To develop good leadership abilities, build character, and assume citizenship responsibilities.
2. To experience the pride of caring for a horse or pony and be responsible for its management.
3. To develop an appreciation of horse-back riding as a healthy and wholesome form of recreation.
4. To learn skills in horsemanship and an understanding of the business of breeding, raising and training horses.
5. To increase the knowledge of safety precautions needed to prevent injury to you, others, and their mounts.
6. To promote greater love for animals and a humane attitude towards them.
7. To be better prepared for citizenship responsibilities by working in groups and supporting community horse projects and activities.
8. To teach good sportsmanship

Would you like to support the  
*North Carolina 4-H Horse Program*  
Through the North Carolina Ag  
Foundation  
NC State University College of Agriculture and Life  
Sciences

Funding Opportunities (check the areas of interest):

Donations to Scholarship Endowment \_\_\_\_\_

Sponsorship of 4-H Events:

- \*Horse Judging \_\_\_\_\_
- \*Horse Bowl \_\_\_\_\_
- \*Hippology \_\_\_\_\_
- \*Horse Shows \_\_\_\_\_
- \*Horse Camp \_\_\_\_\_
- \*Communications Contest \_\_\_\_\_
- \*Artistic Expression Events \_\_\_\_\_
- \*Creative Writing Events \_\_\_\_\_

Please call me during the (day/evening)  
(circle one)

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
(please print)

Home Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Company Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Some companies will match their employee's gifts!

Daytime Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

Fax Number (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

Evening Phone (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE  
For additional information, please contact:

Alaina Cross at (919) 515-7871, email  
alaina\_cross@ncsu.edu



### OPPORTUNITIES

Do you love horses but don't own one?  
Would you like to learn more about horses  
and be in a club with other people who like  
horses, too?

4-H has the answer for you!

Do you enjoy working with youth? Would  
you like to help young people develop life  
skills as a volunteer leader?

4-H has the answer for you, too!

The North Carolina 4-H Horse Program  
offers several ways for youth, ages 5 - 19, to

**Joining the North Carolina 4-H Horse  
Program will allow you to learn more  
about horses and horsemanship, and  
have fun doing it!**

For more information contact:

Extension Horse Husbandry  
NCSU, Box 7621  
Raleigh, NC 27695-7621

Phone: 919-515-5784  
Fax: 919-515-8518

Visit the North Carolina State  
University Extension Horse  
Husbandry Website:

[equinehusbandry.ces.ncsu.edu](http://equinehusbandry.ces.ncsu.edu)



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