

DIVISION T - 4-H/FFA PROMOTION

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Division Rules & Regulations:

1. **All exhibits must be pre-entered.**
 - a. Sections I & II: 4-H and FFA club/chapters may exhibit in Sections I & II. **4-H entries will be made by the 4-H club leader in 4-H Online at <https://v2.4honline.com> by July 31st and verified by the 4-H Extension Educator.** FFA advisors should email Kai Huang at khuang14@umd.edu.
 - b. Sections III & IV: Only 4-H Members may exhibit in Sections III & IV. **YOU MUST USE THE INTERNET ENTRY SYSTEMS FOUND AT www.marylandstatefair.com. Internet entries are due by July 15th.**
2. Exhibitors and exhibits must comply with "General State Fair Rules & Regulations", "General 4-H and FFA Rules & Regulations", these "Division Rules & Regulations" and the applicable "Section Rules & Regulations".
3. The Official 4-H Clover emblem is a green four-leaf clover with a letter "H" in each leaf and the stem turned to the right and MUST include the insignia '18 U.S.C. 707'. The Official 4-H Clover should appear in its entirety and should not be obscured by text or other images. For more info on the Official 4-H Clover, reach out to your local 4-H educator or extension office. These guidelines were created to ensure that the authorization and use of the 4-H Name and Emblem remains consistent and appropriate- developed to protect the treasured 4-H Name and Emblem, to ensure that authorized use benefits and supports the 4-H Youth Development Program, aligns with the principles of 4-H positive youth development, and does not in any way hurt the image of 4-H by association.
4. Programs and activities delivered on behalf of AGNR through operating units such as University of Maryland Extension (UME) 4-H Youth Development must ensure program assurances are provided to the public as it enhances the awareness of accessibility and equality of AGNR's programs and activities, of which 4-H falls under that umbrella. The short disclosure statement should be included in all official 4-H promotional materials, such as booths, banners, postcards, and posters. The short disclosure statement is: "This institution is an equal opportunity provider."
5. All exhibits must relate to and promote 4-H or FFA. Cartoon figures, such as SpongeBob, Mickey Mouse, etc., cannot be used since they are copyrighted.
6. All entries must be the work of the Exhibitor (or Club when applicable) and completed between September 2025 and August 2026.
7. Booths and banners must primarily be the work of club or chapter members. Parents, leaders, and advisors may supervise and assist with the design but may not do a significant portion of the construction. 4-H Promotional Posters and Graphic Art Design must be the work of the Exhibitor.
8. Exhibits previously entered in the State Fair are not permitted to be re-entered. Booth frames, etc. may be reused.
9. **Entries for this division will be received Tuesday, August 25th from 2pm to 8pm in the 4-H/FFA Home Arts Building and will be released on Monday, September 14th, 2026 from 9am to 7pm. An early-bird release period will be made available on Sunday, September 13th from 8pm to 10pm AFTER the building is closed to the public.**

SECTION I - 4-H and FFA CLUB/CHAPTER BOOTHS

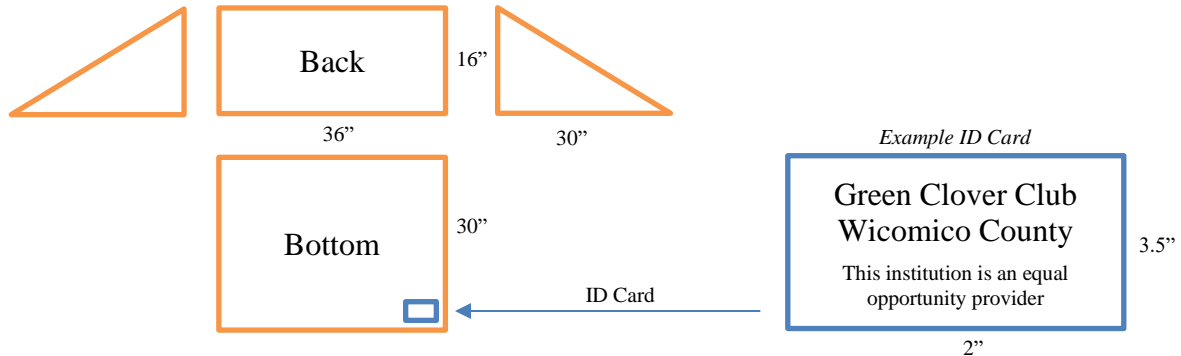
Section Rules & Regulations:

1. **CLASSES:**
 1. There are two classes offered: A) Themed and B) Open.
 2. **Themed** booths shall use the following theme for **2026 "4-H: Ready for Work and Life"**.
 3. Future theme is as follows:
2027 "4-H: Ready Then, Ready Now, Ready for Anything"
2028 "Be Bold, Be Kind, Be 4-H"
 4. **Open** booths may feature any theme promoting 4-H or FFA. Make sure when you look at the booth, that you can tell what it represents and a clear message.
2. **Pre-Entry:**
 - **Each 4-H office may only have a maximum of 2 booths entered.**
 - FFA may enter a maximum of 10 booths to be assigned by the FFA Executive Secretary.
 - 4-H entries will be made by the 4-H club leader in 4-H Online at <https://v2.4honline.com> by July 31st and verified by the 4-H Extension Educator. FFA advisors should email Kai Huang at khuang14@umd.edu.

- 4-H Club entries will be approved by the local 4-H Office. Typically, only the county champion booth in both classes will be approved for State Fair competition.

3. **Size and Construction:**

- **Booth Dimensions:** 36" W x 30" D x 16" H, the sides must be in the shape of a right triangle using the following dimensions: 16" tall x 30" long/deep.



4. **ID Card:**

- The identification card must be typed not handwritten. Font size minimum 16pt.
- The card should be (business card size) 2"x3.5" in size and displayed horizontally.
- Securely attached to the bottom board, on the right front corner.
- The ID card must include the Club/Chapter Name, club county, and the program's Assurance Statement: "This Institution is an equal opportunity provider."
- **Incorrect or Missing ID Cards will result in score deduction.**

5. **Booth Details:**

- Nothing in the booth may be taller than the sides of the booth where the item is placed.
- No Electrical hookups will be provided. If battery packs are used, they must be turned on when delivered and left on for the duration. Judges, Superintendents, 4-H members, volunteers, family members and/or other 4-H Staff will not be allowed to turn batteries on or off for entries prior to judging.
- The structure **MUST** be constructed of durable materials that will look good for the duration of the fair.
- Booth items **MUST be securely fastened** to prevent damage, loss or to prevent items from shifting if moved. Booths are often relocated after they are dropped off, if items shift due to poor design they will be left where they fall.
- Failure to comply with these instructions may cause the booth to receive a deduction in score or disqualified and not receive a premium.

6. **Booths MUST Display:**

- Booth Title
- A minimum of one **OFFICIAL 4-H Clover or FFA crest** must be displayed with a **minimum size of 4 inches** horizontal or vertical. See Division Rule #3 on the definition of Official 4-H Clover
- Suggestions: Use readable font choices and sizes, make sure to use proper clover and crest in readable formats, colors and sizes. This is a marketing/promotional display, make sure to highlight your organization. When displayed can we tell who is promoting this booth and what for? Be creative with the placement of logos, text, graphics, and 3-dimensional items.
- Failure to comply with these instructions may cause the booth to receive a deduction in score or be disqualified and not receive a premium.

7. **Judging:**

- Booths will be judged on their own merit and receive a rating of "Excellent", "Very Good" or "Good" using the following criteria:
- Official 4-H Clover emblem must include the insignia '18 U.S.C. 707'.
- **Design and Structure Ratings**
 - Overall craftsmanship and cleanliness.
 - Durability, Items securely fastened.
 - Items fit into the booth.
- **Visual Appearance**

- Fonts are easy to read, large enough, and a pleasing color.
- One official 4-H Clover or FFA crest is used and clearly displayed.
- One official 4-H Clover or FFA crest is a minimum of 4 inches.
- Creativity and imagination.
- **Promotion Power Ratings**
 - Effective title and suitable subject content.
 - Ability to convey a clear message related to the title.
 - Ability to attract attention and hold interest.

8. Awards:

- Ribbons and premiums will be awarded to each exhibit.
- Premiums: Excellent - \$60, Very Good - \$50 and Good - \$40.
- One champion booth will be selected for each class, A) **Themed** and B) **Open** and each champion booth will receive a rosette and an additional \$10 premium.
- One reserve champion booth will be selected from each class (A. & B.) and will receive a rosette and an additional \$10 premium.

Class	Class Description
T4001	4-H/FFA Booth Themed
T4002	4-H/FFA Booth Open

SECTION II - 4-H AND FFA BANNERS

Section Rules & Regulations:

1. CLASSES:

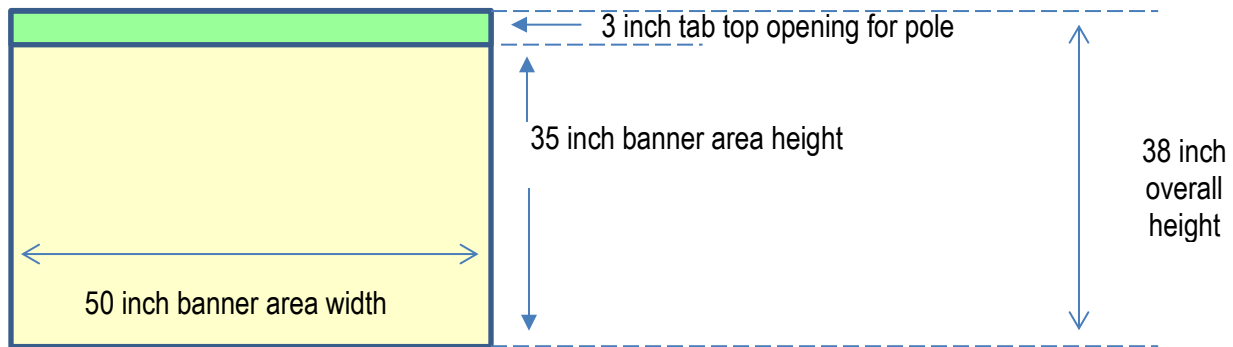
1. There are two classes offered: A) Themed and B) Open.
2. **Themed** banners shall use the following theme for 2026 “4-H: Ready for Work and Life”
3. Future theme is as follows:
 - 2027 “4-H: Ready Then, Ready Now, Ready for Anything”
 - 2028 “Be Bold, Be Kind, Be 4-H”
4. **Open** banners may feature any theme promoting 4-H or FFA. Make sure when you look at the banner, it delivers a clear message.

2. Pre-Entry:

- Each 4-H Club may enter only 1 banner.
- FFA may enter a maximum of 10 banners to be assigned by the FFA Executive Secretary.
- 4-H entries will be made by the 4-H club leader in 4-H Online at <https://v2.4honline.com> by July 31st and verified by the 4-H Extension Educator. FFA advisors should email Kai Huang at khuang14@umd.edu.

3. Size and Construction:

- Banner dimensions must be **50” wide and 38” tall**. Failure to comply with these instructions may cause the banner to receive a deduction in score or be disqualified and not receive a premium.
- Banner must be constructed to hang on a pole. The opening for the pole should be a minimum of 3” and is included in the overall size of 38” long. **Do not bring your own pole.**
- Banners may be constructed of any type of durable material. Must be able to be folded or rolled.
- Appliqué and embroidery are suggested applications. The design must be on one side only.



4. Banner MUST Display:

- Banner Title
- A minimum of one OFFICIAL 4-H Clover or FFA crest must be displayed with a **minimum height or width of 6 inches**. See Division Rule # 3 on the definition of Official 4-H Clover.

5. ID CARD:

- The identification card must be typed not handwritten. Font size minimum 16pt.
- The card should be (business card size) 2"x3.5" in size and displayed horizontally.
- Securely attached with safety pins, sewn, or glued on the back side of the banner on a bottom corner.
- The ID card must include the Club/Chapter Name, county, and the program's Assurance Statement: "This Institution is an equal opportunity provider."
- **Incorrect or Missing ID Cards will result in a score deduction.**

6. Judging: Banners will be judged on their own merit and receive a rating of "Excellent", "Very Good" or "Good" using the following criteria:

- **Official 4-H Clover emblem must include the insignia '18 U.S.C. 707'**
- **Design and Structure Ratings**
 - Overall craftsmanship and cleanliness.
 - Durability of fabric/materials used.
 - Items securely fastened.
- **Visual Appearance**
 - Fonts are easy to read, large enough, and a pleasing color.
 - One official 4-H Clover or FFA crest is used and clearly displayed.
 - One official 4-H Clover or FFA crest is a minimum of 6 inches.
 - Creativity and imagination.
- **Promotion Power Ratings**
 - Effective title and suitable subject content.
 - Ability to convey a clear message related to the title.
 - Ability to attract attention and hold interest.

7. Awards: Ribbons and premiums will be awarded to each exhibit. Premiums: Excellent - \$40, Very Good - \$35 and Good - \$25. One champion banner will be selected for each class, A) **Themed** and B) **Open** and each champion banner will receive a rosette and an additional \$10 premium. One reserve champion banner will be selected from each class (A & B) and will receive a rosette and an additional \$10 premium. A group award certificate will be presented to the county 4-H office with the highest number of banner entries submitted, and the educator will also receive recognition.

Class	Class Description
T4008	4-H/FFA Banner Themed
T4009	4-H/FFA Banner Open

SECTION III - 4-H PROMOTIONAL POSTERS

Section Rules & Regulations

- Entry Qualification:**
 - Each 4-H member may only enter 1 poster per class.
- Size and Construction:**
 - Posters should not be smaller than 11 x 17 inches but no bigger than 16 x 20 inches. They can be either horizontal or vertical.
 - Posters must be drawn on or affixed to standard poster board and must be two-dimensional. Exhibitors may use any art medium including markers, crayons, acrylic, oil, ink, or collage.
- Posters may** feature any theme promoting 4-H.
- Posters MUST Include:**
 - The OFFICIAL 4-H Clover emblem or FFA crest, and the theme title on the front side. See Division Rule # 3 on the definition of Official 4-H Clover.
 - The UMD AGNR program's Assurance Statement: "This Institution is an equal opportunity provider."
 - The following information must be printed on the upper left-hand corner of the back of the poster: Exhibitor's Name and 4-H County/City.
- Judging:**
 - The Judges will give placings up to 10th Place in each class. Unless otherwise noted in the section, exhibits will be judged in one of the 4-H Age Divisions as of Jan 1: Junior (ages 8-10); Intermediate (ages 11-13); Senior (ages 14-18).
 - Entries not conforming to class description and/or division/section rules & regulations will be disqualified.
- Awards:**
 - Ribbons will be awarded to the 1st – 10th Place exhibits in each class. Premiums: 1st (\$10), 2nd–10th (\$8). Rosettes will be awarded to the Champion Junior, Intermediate and Senior posters if there are sufficient entries as determined by the Superintendent.

Junior	Inter.	Senior	Class Description
T1016	T2016	T3016	Poster

SECTION IV - 4-H PROMOTIONAL GRAPHIC ART DESIGN

Section Rules & Regulations

- Entry Qualification:**
 - Each 4-H member may only enter 1 design per class.
- Size and Specifics:**
 - Designs may not be smaller than an 8"x10" or larger than an **8 1/2" x 11"** and may be horizontal or vertical.
 - Designs must be computer generated.
 - All artwork created must be original, do not use images or photos from the internet. **You may include original Photographs taken by the 4-Her in the design.**
 - Final Graphic Art Designs should be:
 - Printed on 8.5" x 11" Heavy White Card Stock/Coated Papers or 8" x 10" photographic paper. Glossy and matte finishes are accepted.
 - All Designs must be mounted on a firm mat weight board. Final mounted designs may not be larger than 11" x 14" mat. Use pre-cut mats if needed.
 - Be creative with the design, use readable fonts, and send a clear message.
- Graphic Art Designs will be divided into four classes:**
 - County** - create a design promoting your county 4-H program.
 - Maryland** – create a design promoting the Maryland 4-H program.
 - Open** - create a design promoting any 4-H project area or 4-H in general.
 - 4-H Club** - create a design promoting your 4-H club
- MUST Include:**
 - Include a minimum of one OFFICIAL 4-H Clover emblem. See Division Rule # 3 on the definition of Official 4-H Clover.
 - The UMD AGNR program's Assurance Statement: "This Institution is an equal opportunity provider."
 - The following information must be printed on the back of the poster: Exhibitor's Name and 4-H County/City.

5. **Judging:**

- The Judges will give placings up to 10th Place in each class. Unless otherwise noted in section, exhibits will be judged in one of the 4-H Age Divisions as of Jan 1: Junior (ages 8-10); Intermediate (ages 11-13); Senior (ages 14-18).
- Entries not conforming to class description and/or division/section rules & regulations will be disqualified.

6. **Awards:**

- Ribbons will be awarded to the 1st – 10th Place exhibits in each class. Premiums: 1st (\$10), 2nd–10th (\$8). Rosettes will be awarded to the Champion Junior, Intermediate and Senior posters if there are sufficient entries as determined by the Superintendent.

CLASSES

Junior	Inter.	Senior	Class Description
T1020	T2020	T3020	County 4-H Graphic Art Design
T1021	T2021	T3021	Maryland 4-H Graphic Art Design
T1022	T2022	T3022	Open 4-H Graphic Art Design
T1023	T2023	T3023	Club 4-H Graphic Art Design