



First-Time Youth Livestock Exhibitor Grant 2026 Grant Guidelines

The Missouri State Fair Foundation is on a mission to cultivate the next generation of Missouri agriculture. This grant is an effort to encourage more youth exhibitors to show for the first time at the Missouri State Fair. It is our hope that by offsetting some of the costs incurred by exhibiting livestock, more young people will be able to benefit from this invaluable learning experience.

1. The exhibitor must be a Missouri resident and a current member of 4-H or FFA and be between the ages of 8 and 18 **by December 31, 2025**.
2. Application must be signed by the applicant and parent/legal guardian.
3. Exhibitor may not have previously exhibited **any** livestock (horse, cattle, dog, swine, sheep, goat, poultry, or rabbit) at the Missouri State Fair (this includes open, 4-H, and FFA classes). The exhibitor may have entered projects to be displayed in the 4-H or FFA Building.
4. Only one grant per exhibitor will be awarded.
5. Grants will be awarded for the following species: Horse, Cattle, Dog, Swine, Sheep, Goat, Rabbit & Poultry.
6. The exhibitor must attend AND exhibit their entry in a 4-H or FFA Livestock class at the 2026 Missouri State Fair to receive payment.
7. If selected as a grant recipient, you will be required to do the following:
 - a. By July 15, 2026, provide a brief project report via email to msff@mostatefairfoundation.net. The report will include a picture of you and your livestock entry along with a short essay describing your project/entry and what you are doing to prepare for show season. These will be used for media and promotional purposes.
 - b. Exhibit your livestock entry at the 2026 Missouri State Fair.
 - c. By September 20th, 2026, provide via email to msff@mostatefairfoundation.net a picture of you exhibiting at the Missouri State Fair with a brief report about what you learned from the experience.
8. The grant will be paid to the exhibitor after they have finished showing at the Missouri State Fair AND provided the picture and report. All checks will be mailed after the conclusion of the 2026 Missouri State Fair.
9. **Deadline to enter is April 1, 2026.** Winners will be announced **May 1, 2026**. Applications must be submitted to the Missouri State Fair Foundation via email (msff@mostatefairfoundation.net) or mail with a postmarked date no later than April 1, 2026.

For questions or more information please contact the Foundation office at 660-951-4053 or email msff@mostatefairfoundation.net



First-Time Youth Livestock Exhibitor Grant

Grant Application Deadline: April 1, 2026

Name _____ Birth Date _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s) _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

County _____ Phone _____ E-mail _____

4-H Club or FFA Chapter _____

Please circle which species you will exhibit: (circle one)

Horse Cattle Dog Sheep Swine Goat Rabbit Chicken

Please limit responses to the space provided.

Why do you have interest in exhibiting livestock?

Tell us about your 4-H or FFA Project:

What goals do you have for your livestock project this year?

FIRST-TIME YOUTH LIVESTOCK EXHIBITOR GRANT 2026 GUIDELINES

What do you hope to gain from exhibiting at the Missouri State Fair?

Briefly describe your financial need for this grant:

Send application to either:

msff@mostatefairfoundation.net

Missouri State Fair Foundation
c/o: First Time Exhibitor
2503 W 16th St
Sedalia, Missouri 65301

Acknowledgement

I hereby acknowledge that the Missouri State Fair Foundation may use my name and photos in public press releases and social media in the event I am awarded a grant as a result of this application.

Exhibitor's Signature _____ **Date** _____

Parent/Guardian's Signature _____ **Date** _____