

QUALITY ASSURANCE

Attention Dawson County 4-H Members & Families Exhibiting Animals

What is Quality Assurance (QA) & Who is required to complete Quality Assurance?

Livestock Quality Assurance is a course designed for youth ages 8-18. Participants learn about good production practices and producing quality food products that come from livestock. 4-H and FFA youth ages 8-18, who are enrolled in any of the livestock projects listed below are required to complete **three (3) courses** in the Youth Quality Care Assurance online course (YQCA) annually, or attend an in-person training or test out. Any youth who enrolled in any of the livestock projects listed below are required to complete Livestock Quality Assurance annually in order to show for County Fair, State Fair and/or Aksarben.

- Beef
- Sheep
- Swine
- Rabbit (State Fair Only)
- Poultry (Only Production Broilers and Turkeys for County Fair or any for State Fair)
- Meat Goat
- Dairy Goat
- Dairy Cattle

The online course has been divided into three age levels:

- Junior - 4-H youth ages 8-10
- Intermediate - 4-H youth ages 11-14
- Senior - 4-H youth ages 15-18

National QA Program (YQCA)

Nebraska Extension is part of a national team introducing a new Quality Assurance Curriculum called Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA). The YQCA course is available online 24/7. After completing the 3 courses required, you will print off one certificate as verification. This is what you will email Sheryl, or bring in to the office, or mail it. sfellers1@unl.edu

YQCA Log In Instructions

The new National Quality Assurance is called YQCA or Youth Quality Care of Animals. This Quality Assurance training and certification is required at all Nebraska 4-H and FFA shows for Beef, Swine, Sheep, Goats, Poultry, Rabbits and Dairy.

The on-line option certifies any age of youth for one year. You must complete 3 courses (modules) in your age group and of your choosing per year:

1. Go to yqca.org to Sign In/Register. May need to use a browser besides Internet Explorer.
2. Use the **4-H Online** box and **Nebraska 4-H Youth Development**.
3. Use your 4-H Online user name and password to start the process.
4. After entering your information, select **Online Choice**
5. Select payment method **Credit Card**. Cost per 4-H'er per yearly certification is \$12.00.
6. After completing the 3 courses, be sure to save and print out a completion certificate and take or email to the Extension Office – sfellers1@unl.edu.
7. For **Swine Exhibitors** the number on your completion certificate is your PQA number you will use to sell hogs and to enter shows.
8. If you encounter problems, contact help@yqca.org.

Testing Out and Face-to-Face are also options:

Test Out – Passing a test for the Intermediate (11-14) & Senior (15-18) levels at the Extension Office, certifies 4-H'ers for those age group time periods. Study material is available at dawson.unl.edu under the 4-H tab. There is no cost to test out. If you tested out previously in your current age group, you do not need to recertify.

A **Face-To-Face Training** has been set for Tuesday, June 12 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. at the Extension Office Meeting Room soon in Lexington. The training is open to any member and is good for one year. The cost is \$3.00. Please pre-register at yqca.org under your age group, instructor-led training, and by selecting the June 12 Lexington meeting.