

Antelope Valley Fair Junior Livestock Program

Participation Policies and Application

Introduction

The Antelope Valley Junior Livestock Program has a longstanding tradition of excellence, education, and community support. To protect and enhance this tradition, starting in 2026, all individuals and groups (4-H Clubs, FFA Chapters, Grange Clubs, and Independent Exhibitors) must apply annually to participate.

The Antelope Valley Fair Junior Livestock Exhibitor Code of Conduct and Parent/Adult Code of Conduct are established to ensure that all participants, exhibitors and their parents or guardians, understand and agree to uphold the standards of integrity, animal welfare, and public safety. By participating in the Junior Livestock program, all parties commit to following all applicable state and local regulations, as well as fair-specific policies, to foster a respectful, educational, and responsible environment for youth development and agricultural excellence.

This Application is due on or before February 16, 2026, by 5pm. You may submit your application either in person to Jennifer Cloud at the front office at the Fairgrounds, or you may scan your application and once filled out email it to Jennifer at jcloud@avfair.com.

Failure to read and submit the signed agreement may result in ineligibility to show at the 2026 Fair.

Annual Application Packet Requirements

Each group and each individual must submit:

1. General Information Form

- a. Contact information for club/chapter leader or parent (for independent exhibitors)
- b. List of intended exhibitors and species

2. Understanding of Program Structure

- a. Participants must complete a short checklist to confirm understanding of how the Junior Livestock Program is governed and funded.

3. Code of Conduct Agreement

- a. **All** participating adults and youth must sign the Code of Conduct acknowledging they understand and will comply.

4. Volunteer Commitment

- a. We agree to provide a minimum of 8 volunteer hours per exhibitor supporting program activities (fair setup, fair cleanup, Barn Bash auction logistics, etc.)

5. Auction Participation Commitment

- b. Agree to promote buyer recruitment.
- c. Agree to support auction preparation tasks.

Group-Level Responsibility and Enforcement

- Groups are responsible for the conduct of their members.
- Ongoing issues with members may lead to consequences for the entire group.
- All disciplinary actions will follow the Livestock Code of Conduct guidelines.

How the Junior Livestock Program Operates

Understanding the structure of the Junior Livestock Program is essential for all participants:

1. **Livestock Council Oversight:**

The Junior Livestock Program is operated by the Antelope Valley Fair Livestock Council. The Council is responsible for day-to-day operations, event planning, and program management.

2. **Fairgrounds Oversight (CDFA Requirement):**

The Antelope Valley Fairgrounds is required by the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to oversee the Livestock Program.

This ensures compliance with State rules and regulations and maintains fiduciary responsibility.

3. **Program Revenues and Expenditures:**

All funds generated through the program, including proceeds from the Junior Livestock Auction, are used exclusively for the benefit of the program.

These funds support:

- Scholarships
- Capital improvements (e.g., barn upgrades, equipment purchases)
- Operational costs associated with the program.

4. **Council Rule-Setting:**

The Livestock Council establishes all rules, fees, and guidelines for program participation and auction operation.

5. **Auction Percentage Fees:**

A percentage fee, set by the Council, is charged at the livestock auction to cover auction-related expenses.

These expenses include:

- Transportation of animals
- Auction management costs

Antelope Valley Fair Junior Livestock Program

4-H, FFA, Grange Organizations

Application for Group Participation - 2026 Season

Applicant Information

Group Name and Group Affiliation (4-H, Grange, FFA, Other):

Primary Contact/ Leader/ Advisor Name:

Phone:

Email:

Exhibitor Details

List anticipated exhibitors that your group will be responsible for. List anticipated species showing (Please attach an additional sheet if necessary):

Understanding of the Program

Please initial each line to acknowledge that you have read and agree to abide by;

- ☐ I understand the Livestock Council operates the day-to-day program.
- ☐ I understand the Fairgrounds act as fiduciary oversight only, by State law.
- ☐ I understand all program and auction funds benefit the program exclusively.
- ☐ I understand all rules and fees are set by the Livestock Council.
- ☐ I understand the Fairgrounds receive no revenue from Junior Livestock activities.
- ☐ I understand how the Junior Livestock Auction works and the groups responsibilities about the event.

Commitments

Please initial each line to acknowledge that you have read and agree to abide by;

- ☐ I agree to abide by the Livestock Code of Conduct and all State and Local Rules.
- ☐ I agree to abide by the Livestock Safety Committee.
- ☐ I agree to follow the policies for Animal Treatment.
- ☐ I understand the consequences for violation of policies.
- ☐ I agree to fulfill the required volunteer hours.
- ☐ I agree to assist in recruiting buyers and supporting the livestock auction.

Signatures

By signing below, I confirm that I have read and understand the local and state rules and expectations in this application. I agree to follow all policies, and I understand that if I do not or any one of my family members does not, then it may result in a participant, family member being removed from the program or not being allowed to participate in future events.

Leader: _____ Date: _____

Antelope Valley Fair Junior Livestock Program

Livestock Leader

Application for Participation - 2026 Season

Applicant Information:

Leaders Name: _____

Organization/ Group Name: _____

Project: _____

Leader Email: _____

Leader Phone # _____

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Leader: _____ Date: _____

Antelope Valley Fair Junior Livestock Program

Individual Exhibitors

Application for Participation - 2026 Season

Applicant Information:

Exhibitor Name: _____

Organization/ Group Name: _____

Anticipated Species Showing: _____

Parent/ Guardian Name(s): _____

Parent/ Guardian Phone: _____

Parent/ Guardian Email: _____

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Parent/ Guardian #1: _____ Date: _____

Parent/ Guardian #2: _____ Date: _____

Exhibitor: _____ Date: _____