



March 2024

Dear 4-H Horse Member,

You are eligible to enter the 4-H Horse Ambassador Contest. The rules are as follows:

- A. Open to girls and boys who are currently carrying a horse project and will be **age 14 or older as of January 1, 2024, and having completed 2 prior years of horse showing.**
- B. The contest will be out of 350 points, focusing on 4 different areas. The person with the most points will win.
  1. 100 points-Essay: In 250 words or less, explain “Why do you want to serve the role of Horse Ambassador” and “What would make you a good Ambassador for our horse program?” The essay must be submitted with your application by **May 15th, 2024 by 4pm** at the Champaign County Extension Office. Essays should be typed in 12 font-Times New Roman. Essays will be judged on proper grammar and completion of topic questions. **DO NOT** make any reference to your name, club, or personal information in your essay. They will be reviewed and scored by a panel of judges with no names attached. All essays are to be written in your OWN words. **ANY SUSPICION OF PLAGIARISM WILL RESULT IN A DISQUALIFICATION FROM THE CONTEST.**
  2. 100 points-Written Test: A written test will be administered on **Tuesday, June 11th, 2024** AFTER you complete your interview. This is the **ONLY** time that tests and interviews will be offered. Information on the test will come from the *Beginning Horse Management and Uniform Rules for 4H Horse Shows* book, available at the Extension Office.
  3. 100 points-Interview: Interviews will be held on **Tuesday, June 11th, 2024**. After the application deadline, participants will be contacted by the head of the Horse Ambassador Committee (Kamryn Dunham and Kyla Beaver) and assigned a 15-minute interview slot. Participants will be notified by **Tuesday June 4th, 2024** of their interview time. Interviews will be held at the Champaign Co. Community Center (conference room tbd). Interviews will include questions on 4H experience, project animal, county/state rules (Uniform Rules for 4H horse shows available at county 4H office), and horse knowledge. **Contestants must wear their choice of show clothes to the interview. Any contestant who shows up late to their interview time slot will automatically be deducted 20 points from the interview portion of the contest.**
  4. 50 points-Showmanship: A special showmanship class will be held at the **Champaign County PAS Show on Saturday, June 8th, 2024 beginning at 8:30 am** (rain date tbd). A pattern will be used, using the PAS scoring system.

\*\*\*Horse used for showmanship tests **MUST be your 2024 4H horse project** \*\*\*

- Participants must not be or ever have been married.
- Ambassador winner cannot participate in any future Ambassador contests.
- A 4-H Horse Ambassador and Reserve Horse Ambassador will be chosen.
- Ambassadors must be willing and available to present ribbons/trophies during the 4-H classes and open horse shows at the 2024 Champaign County Fair. There will be numerous opportunities to ride in local parades throughout the year and to participate in events representing the horse industry and 4-H.
- Chosen Ambassador and Reserve Ambassador will wear modest, appropriate attire while wearing sash and tiara – no short shorts/skirts, halter tops, etc.

The 2024 Champaign County Horse Ambassador and Reserve will be announced during the Opening Ceremonies for the 4-H Jr. Fair on **Friday, August 2nd, 2024** following the 2023 Ambassador and Reserve's final ride through the arena.

Enclosed is the application to be completed and returned to:

OSU Extension, Champaign County  
1512 S. U.S. HWY 68, Suite B100  
Urbana, Ohio 43078

**APPLICATIONS ARE DUE NO LATER THAN **MAY 15th, 2024** to be eligible to participate. **Any applications that are turned in late will receive an automatic 20 point deduction to the contestant's total score.****

Sincerely,

*Melinda Ryan*

Melinda Ryan  
4-H Educator

# 2024 Horse Ambassador Application

Name

---

Parent's Name(s)

---

Address

---

---

Phone (home)

(cell)

School

Age as of 1/1/24

Project Animal(s)

Number of Years in 4-H

---

Shirt Size

---

Halter and Blanket Sizes

4-H Club

---

E-mail

Office Use Only

Contestant #

How have you been involved in 4-H?

Have you had any leadership experiences? (Include titles, roles, and duties)

List any community services activities in which you have been involved? What was your role and what did you do?

List 4-H, Church, and School Activities:

\*\*\*\*Please list one person as a reference for your character and commitment to our 4-H horse program-specifically.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

☐ I have discussed the responsibility of this leadership role with my parents and am prepared to fulfill the commitments if chosen as Horse Ambassador or Reserve.

Applicant signature

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent signature

\_\_\_\_\_