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## ADDITIONAL RULES APPLY IN EACH COMPETITION DEPARTMENT.

-  Exhibitors are encouraged to make all entries early. The right is reserved to reject any entry.
-  In most divisions, competition is limited to residents of North Carolina.
-  All entries must be made in the name of the owner, breeder, manufacturer, grower, producer, or one whose skill the exhibit represents. A firm, to be entitled to exhibit as such, must have been organized not less than 30 days prior to the closing date for entries and such firm must have been organized as a bona fide firm for the purpose of producing or buying and selling the articles or animals it proposes to exhibit in the name of such firm. A firm will be regarded as one exhibitor.
-  All exhibits must be officially registered with the Fair before the deadline for each department. No article or animal will be entitled to space or considered for judging until proper registration has been made.
-  **Late entries will not be accepted.**
-  Exhibitors are encouraged to make their entries online by accessing the registration link on the [State Fair General Competitions website](#). If mailing in entry forms, official printed forms or copies of forms must be used in making applications for entry. Be sure to fill out the application form completely, accurately, and legibly.
-  Exhibitors must provide a valid Social Security Number (SSN) or Employer Identification Number (EIN) at the time of registration to be able to receive a premium check and cannot be provided at a later time once registration is submitted. Declining to provide a valid SSN or EIN at registration will result in forfeiture of all premiums earned. For online registration, entering 000-00-0000 or any other obviously invalid SSN or TIN will automatically be regarded as a declination to provide a valid number and result in forfeiture of premiums earned from any NC State Fair Competitions.
-  Entry fees are required in some departments.
-  Each individual entry item may only be entered in one class.
-  Unclaimed exhibits from competitive departments will be considered abandoned if not called for within **one week** after the official closing of the Fair and may be disposed of as the Fair Manager sees fit.
-  Removal of exhibits before the date and time specified will result in forfeiture of all premiums won, all fees paid, and the right to further participation in Fair competitions.
-  All exhibits will be numbered and recorded in the books of the proper department and class. Entry tags with corresponding numbers will be issued. This tag must be securely attached to the exhibit and must remain on the exhibit throughout the Fair.
-  The State Fair assumes no responsibility for the incorrect tagging of exhibits.
-  Shipped entries must be **received** by Monday, October 5th, 2026. Entries may be shipped via UPS or Fed Ex (signature required) to: NC State Fair Attn Entry Department 4285 Trinity Road Raleigh NC 27607
-  The management will not be responsible for delayed shipments which arrive at the Fair too late to be considered for judging.
-  All reasonable care will be given to all exhibits; however, exhibits are entered at the **exhibitor's risk**. The Fair and staff are not responsible for damage, theft, or loss at any time.
-  Entries made in wrong classes may be moved to the proper class by the Department Superintendent or Competitive Exhibits Director.
-  Division Directors and Department Superintendents will have full authority over allocation of space.
-  The NC State Fair makes no guarantee that all entries will be displayed.

-  The Fair management reserves the right to reject any exhibit which does not reflect merit and which would not be a credit to both the exhibitor and the Fair.
-  Division Directors, Department Superintendents, and/or Judges must report disqualification of entries to the Fair Manager immediately after such action is taken. Under no circumstances will judging be considered official and premiums paid in a class where disqualification is recommended until approval of the disqualification(s) is obtained from the Fair Manager.
-  Decision of the judges will be final and no appeal will be considered, except in cases of protest in writing, with strong evidence of fraud or violation of the rules of the Fair. Protests must be in writing and filed with the State Fair Competitive Exhibits Director.
-  Judges, when requested, may give the reasons for their decisions embracing the value and desirable qualities of the exhibits to which they have awarded premiums.
-  Judges will not award premiums or ribbons to any article or animal that does not qualify for one of the classes in the NC State Fair Premium Book.
-  Judges may choose to not award any or all placings in a class if entries are not deemed to be of sufficient quality and quantity.
-  There will only be one ribbon awarded per placing per class, unless otherwise specified.
-  The State of North Carolina will require submission of a NC Substitute W-9 prior to making any payment of \$2,000 or greater or any payment that results in a total of \$2,000 or more during one calendar year from the North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services to any individual or entity. All exhibitors expecting earnings above this threshold are strongly encouraged to complete and upload the NC Substitute W-9 form to prevent any delay in receiving premium prize money.
-  If any problem develops concerning prize check issuing and mailing, additional paperwork will be required.
-  Photographs of exhibits and winners will be taken by official photographers of the NC State Fair. Exhibitors hereby grant the NC State Fair permission to utilize photographs, images, or likenesses in whole or in part for use in official NC State Fair publications and promotions.
-  Any participant who wishes to comment on a contest must do so in writing by sending an e-mail to: [NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov](mailto:NCSFCompetitions@ncagr.gov)
-  The following colors of ribbons will be used to designate awards:

<b>AWARD</b>	<b>RIBBON COLOR</b>
Grand Champion	Purple
Reserve Champion	Lavender
First Place	Blue
Second Place	Red
Third Place	White
Fourth Place	Pink
Fifth Place	Yellow
Sixth Place	Dark Green
Seventh Place	Light Green
Eighth Place	Tan
Ninth Place	Gray
Tenth Place and Above	Light Blue

Use this form to enter on paper.



# NC STATE FAIR ENTRY FORM

DEADLINE SEPTEMBER 15

<i>Have you moved since the 2025 fair?</i>	YES	NO
<i>Has your name changed since 2025?</i>	YES	NO
<i>Did you win money at the 2025 fair?</i>	YES	NO

**Exhibitor's Legal Name:** *(ONLY provide the information of the exhibitor or participant)*

\_\_\_\_\_  
First Name, Middle Name, Last Name - as it appears on your social security card, driver's license or any government document

**Exhibitor's Legal Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address - R.F.D., PO Box or Apartment Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip

\_\_\_\_\_  
County

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone

\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_  
Birth Date

**Exhibitor's Social Security Number:** *(write DECLINE if you do not wish to receive money)*

- Exhibitors are allowed to register for competitions without disclosing their Social Security Number.
- Choosing NOT to disclose their SSN at the time of registration forfeits any and all prize money.
- Prizes such as ribbons, medals, rosettes and plaques will still be awarded.
- State Fair staff WILL NOT contact winning exhibitors following the fair who did not submit their SSN at the time of registration.
- State Fair staff WILL NOT accept any calls/emails/etc. from winning exhibitors who chose not to disclose their SSN.

**IMPORTANT IRS INFORMATION:** Internal Revenue Service (IRS) regulations require that we have the Social Security Number (SSN) or Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) which corresponds to the name to whom the check for prize money is written. If we are notified by the IRS that the SSN or TIN does not match the name of record, we will have to backup withholding taxes and you may be subject to a \$50 penalty by the IRS. A separate form should be used for each SSN/TIN. You must provide this information to be eligible for prize money. Also IRS regulations state that any prize money totaling \$2,000 or more in a calendar year must be reported on a Form 1099.

**Exhibitor Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

By signing this form you are agreeing to the terms and conditions concerning social security numbers and all state fair rules and regulations.

MAIL FORM TO: NC State Fair Entry Office 1010 Mail Service Center Raleigh NC 27699-1010

**PAPER ENTRY FORMS ARE LIMITED TO 20 ENTRIES**  
Unlimited Online Entry at [www.ncstatefair.org](http://www.ncstatefair.org) or <http://ncsfge.fairwire.com>



NC Substitute W-9 forms are required for exhibitors who earn total premiums of \$2,000 or more in one calendar year from the State of North Carolina. You won't get paid if the form is incomplete. If you make a mistake, start over on a new form.

## GUIDE TO FILLING OUT A NC SUBSTITUTE W-9 FORM

**\*\*\*** All sections marked with a red asterisk are required **\*\*\***

### **CONTESTANTS FILLING OUT THE FORM FOR THEMSELVES:**

- \*1. *Check the TOP BOX for Social Security Number (SSN)*
- \*2. *Write your social security number in the blank space*
- \*4. *Write your full legal name the same way it appears on your social security card*
- \* **Address line 1:** *Write your street number and street name*
- \* **City** *Write your city*   \* **State** *Write in your state*   \* **Zip Code** *Write in your zip code*
- \* **County** *Write your COUNTY like "Wake", NOT your country - like USA.*
- \*8. **Contact Name** *Write your name or your parents name*
- \*9. **Phone Number** *Write your phone number*
- \*11. **Email Address** *Write an email address where you can be reached*
- \*12. **Entity Type** *Check the first box for "Individual"*
- \*13. **Entity Classification** *Check "Other" at the bottom of the list write "Contest Winner" in the blank space below it.*
- \* **Printed Name** *Print your name*
- \* **Printed Title** *Write "Individual"*
- \* **Authorized US Signature** *Sign your name*
- \* **Date** *Write the date you fill out the form*


### **PARENTS FILLING OUT THE FORM FOR A MINOR CHILD:**

*Fill out the form with your child's information, including social security number.  
You can sign the form at the bottom if your child is too young to sign it themselves.*

### **GROUPS, BUSINESSES, OR FARMS FILLING OUT THE FORM:**

*Fill out the form with your business information, including your tax ID number.  
Fill out the form with the exact information as it appears on your tax documents.*

Fillable form must be saved to your computer, completed with your information, and returned to the N.C. State Fair. You can also print this form, fill it out and mail it in.

NC Office of the State Controller (IRS Form W-9 will not be accepted in lieu of this form) *Denotes a Required Field	<b>STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA</b> <b>SUBSTITUTE W-9 FORM</b> <b>Request for Taxpayer Identification Number</b>					
Section 1 – Taxpayer Identification	*1. <input type="checkbox"/> Social Security Number (SSN), OR <input type="checkbox"/> Employer Identification Number (EIN), OR <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) *2.		Please select the appropriate Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN, SSN, or ITIN) type and enter your 9-digit ID number. The U.S. Taxpayer Identification Number is being requested per U.S. Tax Law. Failure to provide this information in a timely manner could prevent or delay payment to you or require The State of NC to withhold 24% for backup withholding tax.			
	*4. Legal Name (as registered with the IRS - see instructions):		3. Unique Entity Identifier or Dunn & Bradstreet Universal Numbering System (DUNS) (see instructions):			
	5. Business Name/DBA/Disregarded Entity Name, if different from Legal Name:					
	Contact Information					
	*6. Legal Address		7. Remittance Address (Location specifically used for payment that is different from Legal Address, if applicable)			
	*Address Line 1:		Address Line 1:			
	Address Line 2:		Address Line 2:			
	*City	*State	*Zip (9 digit)	City	State	Zip (9 digit)
	*County		County			
	*8. Contact Name:					
	*9. Phone Number:					
10. Fax Number:						
*11. Email Address:						
*12. Entity Type		*13. Entity Classification	14. Exemptions (see instructions)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual/Sole Proprietor/Single-member LLC <input type="checkbox"/> C-Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> S-Corporation <input type="checkbox"/> Partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Trust/Estate <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=Partnership) _____		<input type="checkbox"/> Medical Services <input type="checkbox"/> Legal/Attorney Services <input type="checkbox"/> NC Local Govt <input type="checkbox"/> Federal Govt <input type="checkbox"/> NC State Agency <input type="checkbox"/> Other Govt <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) Contest Winner	Exempt payee code (if any):			
<b>Note:</b> Check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. Do not check LLC if the LLC is classified as a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner unless the owner of the LLC is another LLC that is not disregarded from the owner for U.S. federal tax purposes. Otherwise, a single-member LLC that is disregarded from the owner should check the appropriate box for the tax classification of its owner.		Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any):				
Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:						
1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me), and 2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding because of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding, and 3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined later in general instructions), and 4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.						
Certification instructions: Please refer to the IRS Form W-9 located on the IRS Website ( <a href="https://www.irs.gov/">https://www.irs.gov/</a> ):						
*Printed Name:		*Printed Title:				
*Authorized U.S. Signature:		*Date:				