

Utah 4-H Horse Program



Volunteer Leader Certification

Name: _____

County: _____

The Utah 4-H Horse Program is one of the largest 4-H programs in the state and involves some of the foundational projects for Utah State University's youth programs. The success and growth of this program over the past few years is a result of many dedicated volunteers who willingly give of their time, knowledge, and resources. Countless hours have been given in teaching our youth about horses, managing and running horse shows, putting on clinics, and helping the next generation develop the skills they need to take their place in the world.

The Utah 4-H Horse Volunteer Leader Certification program is designed to recognize our invaluable volunteers and provide a network of leaders that can help our youth with their Utah 4-H Horse Program Rank Advancements.

The Utah 4-H Horse Program Rank Advancements are designed as a tool for participants to set goals and achieve mastery within their project. Designated county 4-H faculty and staff, and volunteer leaders who have completed Level 1 or the Utah 4-H Horse Volunteer Certification may proctor and sign on off these ranks. Additionally, senior aged 4-H youth who have accomplished the first four ranks, or with the guidance and assistance of a Level 1 Utah 4-H Horse Volunteer, can help all youth pass off ranks 1 – 3.

County or state 4-H staff and faculty are able to certify you through level 2. A level 2 certified leader can then assist in certifying volunteer leaders through level 2. These individuals are referred to as proctors and will need to sign the forms for certification to be complete.

The 4-H slogan is "learning by doing" and the motto is "to make the best better". In order to exemplify this, our leaders hoping to be certified will accomplish similar tasks as the youth.

Faculty, Staff, and Volunteers should seek reliable sources such as the AYHC Horse Smarts books and Extension publications to increase knowledge and skills in order to help youth succeed.

Volunteer Leader Certification Level 1

This level covers the very basics of handling a horse and being safe and successful while interacting with horses. Leaders certified at this level are able to pass of all five rank advancement levels for Utah 4-H Horse Program youth.

Name _____ Phone _____

County Agent _____ Phone _____

Date Completed _____

Handler/Horse Team Skills	Date	Initials
*Demonstrate the correct method of approaching a horse when in a stall, corral, or pasture, and put a halter on.		
*Demonstrate how to properly catch a loose horse and put on a halter		
*Demonstrate proper grooming of a horse including picking hooves and maneuvering around a tied horse.		
Demonstrate a basic showmanship pattern including walking and trotting on the lead		
Demonstrate how to properly lunge a horse over ground poles at two different gaits, both ways, and changing direction		
Demonstrate or describe how you would properly clip and fit a horse for a horse show		
Demonstrate how to safely load and unload your horse in a horse trailer		
Demonstrate how to tack up a horse, properly fitting the bridle and saddle.		
Demonstrate how to mount your horse and travel at a walk, trot, canter, and be able to halt and dismount.		
Demonstrate a proper simple lead change in both directions and describe how you'd teach a youth to do the same		
Demonstrate or identify a proper flying lead change in both directions, describe what makes a flying lead change proper or incomplete		
Demonstrate smooth downward positions from each gait to a walk		
Mastery and Education Pick 4 or more of the following.	Date	Initials
Submit 5 potential quiz bowl or knowledge test questions for each chapter in one of the following resources: any volume of the 4-H Horse Study Material, the Western Rule Book, or English rulebook		
Design 1 pattern for 5 different events and submit them to the Utah 4-H Patterns book.		
*Name and locate all the parts of the horse		
*Name and locate all the parts of the hoof and describe how to avoid common ailments		
Answer the following questions: How is a horse measured? What are three gaits of a horse? *What are the standard colors of horses? Identify them. *What are the face and leg markings?		
What are the potential events for western individual, western two-handed, or English shows?		
What is the Utah 4-H helmet policy?		
What is the Utah 4-H Biosecurity policy for equine events?		

*Reference Utah 4-H Horse Study Material Volume I

Citizenship and Personal Development Pick 2 or more of the following	Date	Initials
Volunteer as a judge for a county or state portfolio contest		
Volunteer as the leader or co-leader in a chartered 4-H club		
Volunteer at a state level 4-H horse show, clinic, or event		
Volunteer as a scribe for a judge at a county 4-H or open horse show		
Organize and facilitate a service project in your county		
Organize or help teach a horse related clinic open to your county horse program		

By signing this form, I am verifying that the volunteer leader mentioned has completed these tasks in a satisfactory manner and is ready to be certified.

Volunteer Leader _____

Proctor _____

Volunteer Leader Certification Level 2

This level covers intermediate to advanced skills involved with handling a horse and being safe and successful while interacting with youth and their horses. Leaders must complete level 1 before being certified at this level, and can complete both levels in the same year. Leaders certified at this level are able to pass off all 5 rank advancement levels for Utah 4-H Horse Program youth as well as pass of volunteer leaders completing level 1.

Name _____ Phone _____

County Agent _____ Phone _____

Date Completed _____

Handler/Horse Team Skills Pick 2 or more of the following	Date	Initials
Demonstrate how to completely tack up your horse exhibiting best practices, mount, and ride two different gaits exhibiting proper horsemanship. *Reference the rulebook as needed.		
Demonstrate or identify how to properly execute 8 different trail obstacles, either in-hand or under saddle.		
Demonstrate how to properly take a horse's vital signs		
Demonstrate how you would evaluate a horse for unsoundness.		
Demonstrate how to evaluate the body condition score of a horse and properly identify a horse within a healthy range and a horse either too thin or too fat (pictures may be used if necessary for some, but not all, of these BCS)		
Mastery and Education Pick 10 or more of the following	Date	Initials
Submit 5 potential quick bowl or knowledge test questions for each chapter in one of the following resources: any volume of the 4-H Horse Study Material, the Western Rule Book, or English rulebook (must be different questions from Level 1)		
Submit 2 patterns for 5 different events and submit them to the Utah 4-H Patterns book.		
Participate in the Utah 4-H Horse Judge's Training		
Judge a Horse Classic event such as horse public speaking, horse judging, etc.		
Judge a county, regional, or state level 4-H horse show		
Scribe at a county, regional, or state level 4-H horse show		
Scribe at a non-4-H horse show or event		
Attend a regional or state level horse clinic with or without your horse (does not need to be sponsored by Utah 4-H).		
*Name and identify 15 common horse breeds and their identifying characteristics		
*Name and identify the common internal and external pests		
*Name and identify 5 different snaffle bits, and 5 different curb bits		
*Name and identify 5 different saddles and their uses		
Demonstrate how to properly fit a saddle to a horse		
Organize and hold a Horse Classic event in your county		
Volunteer at a Utah 4-H Horse Classic Event open to the State program		
Organize or help teach a horse related clinic open to the county or state horse program		

*Reference Utah 4-H Horse Study Material Volume I or II

Citizenship and Personal Development Pick 2 or more of the following	Date	Initials
Attend any state wide Utah 4-H Volunteer Training		
Volunteer as the leader of a chartered 4-H club		
Volunteer as a member of a horse organization outside of Utah 4-H		
Serve as a member of your county 4-H horse council		
Serve as a member of a state 4-H horse council		

By signing this form, I am verifying that the volunteer leader mentioned has completed these tasks in a satisfactory manner and is ready to be certified.

Volunteer Leader _____

Proctor Signature _____

