



Texas 4-H Homes For Horses

Program Requirements - Fast Facts!

- ◇ Follows 4-H calendar year. Program begins September 1st and concludes at the end of the Texas State 4-H Horse Show (last full week of July)
- ◇ Youth will have the privilege to advance the training of their adopted horse and improve the overall health and wellbeing of the animal
- ◇ Youth undergo an application process and eligibility requirements include:
 - At least 13 years old
 - An active Texas 4-H member that has participated or is enrolled in a Texas 4-H horse educational event and/or contest
- ◇ Applications due August 1, 2021. Apply online at <https://www.tx4-hhomesforhorses.com>
- ◇ Applicants will choose one of two horse project categories to participate in:
 - In-hand horse projects
 - Under saddle horse projects (applicants wishing to participate in the under saddle horse project will be required to submit a video with their application demonstrating their riding ability at the walk, jog, lope, stop, and back)
- ◇ Applications will be narrowed down to 20 finalists who will go through an interview process conducted August 13-20, 2021 via long distance.
- ◇ Those selected to participate in the program will be paired with a horse carefully selected for them by program leadership and adoption partners based on the information provided in the application and interview.
- ◇ Horses will be adopted by the family for the 4-H year and must remain in the family's ownership to complete the program and be eligible for stipend, educational resources, competition, and scholarships.
- ◇ Texas 4-H Homes for Horses is partnering with The Right Horse Initiative to locate horses in transition and match them with the program and 4-H youth.
- ◇ All participants are required to attend the Day 1 Meet and Greet where they will learn about their new equine partner and take them home. September 11th (in-hand projects) or September 12th (under saddle projects) at Humane Society of North Texas Ranch, 1033 County Rd. 910, Joshua, TX 76058
- ◇ By submitting an application, 4-H youth and their families are agreeing to provide their new horse project the following minimum care during the duration of the program:

- Adequate shelter and safe, secure fencing in good repair
- Adequate hay, feed, and a continuous supply of fresh water
- Access to daily turnout
- Necessary veterinarian care, include routine checkups, vaccinations, teeth floating, a deworming program, and emergency care
- Regular farrier care, whether the horse is shod or barefoot
- ◇ Participation in this program will require, but is not limited to, the following obligations:
 - Attendance of Day 1 Meet and Greet
 - Monthly video journaling
 - One public relations engagement about your journey with your horse per semester (fall, spring, summer)
 - Participation in at least one educational check point per semester (fall, spring, summer)
 - Participation in at least one private meeting per semester (fall, spring, summer) with program lead
 - Participation in the State 4-H Horse Show (to be eligible for scholarships)
- ◇ Stipend for horse care costs, such as grain, hay, farrier care, and routine veterinary care will be issued December 2021 and June 2022 in the amount of \$500 at each date. Horse must remain in the family's ownership for the entire duration of the program to receive stipend.
- ◇ Participating in Texas State 4-H Horse Show:
 - Specialized classes of competition to showcase transformation and progress of horse
 - Scholarships available on a competitive basis
 - Adoption event – Families can choose to permanently keep their adopted equine partner (a suggested donation of \$550 to the facilitating adoption partner is encouraged) or turn horse ownership over for an adoption event at the show
- ◇ Grant funding for this program has been awarded by the Texas Thoroughbred Association through an initiative by the Texas Racing Commission
- ◇ Program Contacts:
 - Dr. Chelsie Huseman, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Horse Specialist, chelsie.huseman@tamu.edu, 979-845-5264
 - Lexi Romo, Texas A&M Graduate Assistant and Program Lead, alexi.romo29@tamu.edu

*For more comprehensive program details please visit
<https://www.tx4-hhomesforhorses.com>*