



South Dakota 4-H Late Policies

Last revised April, 2026

Introduction: Under the 4-H mission of positive youth development, we balance personal responsibility with educational opportunity. We acknowledge that some missed deadlines are mistakes, however, we also need the individual/family to recognize the severe importance of completing tasks by – or prior to – the posted deadline.

NO EXCEPTIONS Late Policy: Starting in 2026, South Dakota 4-H will be implementing a No Exceptions Late Policy for the following state-level deadlines and events:

- State Shoot registration deadline (11:59 PM CDT April 16)
- Clover Classic Quiz Bowl team registration (11:59 PM CDT June 1)
- Animal Identification in 4HOnline AND DNA nomination (11:59 PM CDT June 1)
- Youth Horse Literacy Event completed (June 1)
- Youth Livestock Literacy Event OR YQCA completed (July 1)
- State Horse Show exhibition classes registration and State Horse Quiz Bowl team registration (11:59 PM CDT July 1)
- State Fair registration for livestock and display exhibits (11:59 PM CDT August 1)
- Eastern Dog Championship show and Western Dog Championship show (11:59 PM CDT August 1)

In the event you have missed one of the deadlines listed above, you will **NOT** be able to participate in that state level event. There will be no exceptions or opportunities to appeal. *Any communication with 4-H professionals to plea, persuade, bribe, etc. will be grounds for membership suspension.*

Youth In Action Events (YIA): Starting in 2026, South Dakota 4-H MAY allow late entries within 7 calendar days of the respective deadline into the following state level Youth in Action events:

- Clover Classic registration (11:59 PM CDT June 1) – excluding Quiz Bowl team registration
- State Horse Youth In Action Events: Hippology, Horse Judging, Horse Public Speaking and Demonstration contests (11:59 PM CDT July 1) – excluding Quiz Bowl team registration
- State Fair YIA events: Dairy Skill-A-Thon, Poultry Skill-A-Thon, Rabbit Skill-A-Thon, Consumer Decision Making, Family and Consumer Sciences Skill-A-Thon, Fashion Review, Horticulture Skill-A-Thon, STEM Challenge, Special Foods, and YIA Communications Project. (11:59 PM CDT August 1)

In the event you have missed any of the YIA deadlines listed directly above, you MAY be allowed to participate with the following stipulations:

- Families must contact the State 4-H Office within 7 days of the respective registration deadline and complete the form on the back side of this document. Preferred method of contact is by email to SDSU.4H@sdstate.edu
- There will be a fee of \$50 per 4-H'er per event they wish to enter late. Payment must be made by CHECK ONLY and must be presented to event organizers prior to the start of the event. Checks must be made payable to South Dakota 4-H. Cash or card will NOT be accepted.
- Any youth who have properly entered the event late are allowed to participate; however, they will NOT be eligible for ANY awards or honors given at the event. Youth will also be ineligible to advance to national contests, if applicable.
- Late acceptance flexibility is fully the decision of the State 4-H Office, and there will be no appeals.

Enrolling in 4-H: South Dakota 4-H will allow 4-H Membership enrollments at any and all times. However, enrolling in 4-H after a state nomination (e.g. livestock identification) or an event deadline/requirement does NOT make that individual exempt from the late policies listed above.

County level or other 4-H events: The policies and procedures listed in this document apply only to the listed state-level events. Counties or other 4-H events may have their own late policies. Please contact your local 4-H educator or the event contact for more information on their policies.



SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY EXTENSION



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Date: _____ Deadline Missed: _____

Authorized Signature: By signing this document, I am acknowledging that I have missed a State 4-H deadline for a state level Youth In Action event, thereby choosing to pay a \$50 late fee and recognizing that I am ineligible for any awards or honors given at this event.

4-H Member (print): _____ (sign): _____

Parent/Guardian (print): _____ (sign): _____

State 4-H Staff Only

Date Received: _____ Staff Name: _____

Deadline Missed: _____

Has the \$50 fee for the event been received in full? Yes No

Have the event organizers been made aware that this individual is a late entry and will not be eligible for any awards?

Yes No Not applicable

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