



Entering State Fair Competitions: Frequently Asked Questions

Is there a cost to enter ag-hort-bee, creative activities, fine arts or K-12 competitions? No. There are no fees associated with entering any of these competitions.

If my article needs to be delivered during fair time (Aug. 24 – Labor Day, Sept. 4), do I need an admission ticket? Yes. Anyone who needs to deliver an exhibit item during fair time to be judged must have an admission ticket.

I tried logging into my account to register online with last year's password, and it does not work. Why can't I log in? Every year, you must register for a new account. Past information is not saved in the system. Once you are registered for 2017, this is the login information for the rest of the year.

Can a non-Minnesota resident enter a competition? Non-Minnesota residents may enter livestock, horse and crop art competitions. All other competitions are limited to Minnesota residents.

Creative Activities

Where can I find an entry form for creative activities if I don't have Internet access? There is not an entry form for creative activities. You may register by sending in your contact information with a list of the classes and descriptions you wish to participate in on an 8 ½" x 11" piece of paper.

Am I required to register early for creative activities? All entries in creative activities must be registered by the deadlines (as noted on the creative activities web page and premium book).

To qualify, when would my creative activities entry have to have been created? Entries must be created within the past three years.

Fine Arts

Does my piece need to be framed for phase one of the competition? No. However, it must be framed for phase two.

Can I enter a gallery wrapped piece? (Gallery wrap is a method of stretching so the canvas wraps around the sides of the piece and is secured to the back of the wooden frame.) No. Gallery wrapped items can be entered only if framed (i.e. we can accept gallery wrapped items if a frame is around the edge).

Can I leave wires and other hanging hardware on my framed piece for entry? No. All wires and hardware must be removed from the piece. We use a universal system to display the artwork.

Can I use a pattern (i.e. paint-by-numbers, kits, models, etc.) for my fine arts entry? No. All art must be the creation of the entrant.

K-12 Competition

Do I have to be a teacher to enter in K-12 competition? No. Parents of a child may enter the work. A teacher may also enter the work of students in grades K-12.

Does the entry item have to have been made at school? No. Entries can be created at home or in programs outside of school.

Do I have to register my child/student's work? Yes. All entries in K-12 competition must be registered by the deadlines noted on the K-12 competition web page and premium book.

Ag-Hort-Bee

Do I need to provide display materials for my vegetables or flowers? No. Display materials such as plates, vases, etc. will be provided, with the exception of collections and arrangements. See the premium book for the most detailed display information.

What is the difference between a sample and a specimen? A sample is a portion of the entire plant, crop, etc. A specimen is one item within the sample. For example: If you want to enter your tomatoes, you will want to take a sample of the tomatoes from the tomato plant. The sample that is entered will consist of six tomatoes. Each one of those six tomatoes is considered a specimen.