



Texas 4-H Homes For Horses

## Program Requirements - Fast Facts!

- ◇ Follows 4-H calendar year. Program begins with Day 1 Meet & Greet (September 14, 2024) and concludes at the end of the Texas State 4-H Horse Show (July 20-26, 2025)
- ◇ 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 15, 2024. Apply online at <https://forms.gle/U5zsTFmqMmrb85mM7>
- ◇ Applicants will choose one of two horse project categories to participate and will be required to submit a video with their application demonstrating their horsemanship abilities.
  - In-hand horse projects
  - Under saddle horse projects
- ◇ Applications will be narrowed down to finalists who will go through an interview process via long distance following application deadline.
- ◇ 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 at the Humane Society of North Texas Ranch, 1033 County Rd. 910, Joshua, TX 76058
- ◇ By applying, 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 journaling
  - Monthly online discussion response
  - Social media engagement
  - Development of bi-annual financial management document
  - Accommodation of at least one private meeting with horse present at its place of residence with the program lead and any subsequent meetings, as needed, thereafter
  - Participation in the Texas 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 2024 and July 2025 in the amount of \$250 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 facilitated by the program.
  - Attend all media and public relation events pertaining to the program and showcasing of horses.
- ◇ Grant funding for this program has been awarded by the Texas Thoroughbred Association through an initiative by the Texas Racing Commission
- ◇ Program Contact:
  - Dr. Chelsie Huseman, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Horse Specialist, [chelsie.huseman@tamu.edu](mailto:chelsie.huseman@tamu.edu), 979-314-8498

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