2026 New Mexico State Fair Volunteer Program

Horse Shows

Mission: The State Fair Horse Show has many roles and positions behind the scenes that we would like to offer to those in the community who want to support the Horse Shows at the State Fair this year. This is a program that will require many minds and hands to execute a busy presentation of what the New Mexico horse community has to offer. No experience with horses required. We have educational clinics, competitions, and the Meet the Breeds Barn Aisle.

We will be hosting an online Zoom meeting to further educate, prepare, and train anyone interested in the volunteer positions available. On-site arena staff will learn how to use the software and how classes run. Final schedule will be shared by the Volunteer Coordinator with Zoom link August 19th. Please mark your calendar with these pre-production dates:

Deadline for Applications: August 17th email preferred to NMSFVolunteers@gmail.com
Zoom Orientation (1 hour) meeting August 19th 6pm
On-site Training for Arena Staff @ Expo August 22nd 2-4pm OR September 5th 2-4pm

Parking/Admission Pass Pick-up:

Rudy's on Carlisle September 5th 5-7pm OR Paul's Vet Supply on Osuna September 7th 5-7pm

When: Volunteer shifts will be scheduled in approximately 6-hour shifts. Mornings from 8am to 2pm, Afternoons from 1pm to 7pm. Dates are Saturday September 5th through Sunday September 20th. Check all available dates/shifts you can commit to on the application form. Plan the extra time to get in the gate and get to the Horse Arena.

How: Complete BOTH application and liability waiver and email to Shannon Burt at NMSFVolunteers@gmail.com with subject "Fair Volunteer App". Be sure you have filled out all contact information. We will review all applications and contact everyone as the event gets closer with confirmations on shifts and Zoom meeting for positions needing training.

Volunteer coordinator Shannon Burt will be your point of contact after the confirmation process. Parking and admission passes will be assigned to only the confirmed volunteer for the specific dates committed. You will sign in and out at the Horse Show office in the southwest corner when you participate and designate which organization you would like to dedicate volunteer work credit.

Who: Anyone is welcome to apply to volunteer over the age of 18 as an individual. Individuals with disabilities and youth 18 and under are encouraged to participate with their adult guardian or approved assistant who is with them for the entire volunteer shift. Many positions require no horse or event experience. Some positions do require some on-site and online software training and a Zoom meeting will be held for all volunteer applicants to attend. We will further discuss safety, protocol, and expectations at that time. All volunteers will be required to return liability waiver prior to participating during the event.

Where: The New Mexico State Fair is at Expo NM. Gate 8 entrance (Louisiana and Lomas) will be utilized for all Horse Show staff and volunteers. This is the gate south of Lomas on the East side of the campus. Only right-hand turns are allowed during the State Fair, so plan to come from Lomas and go south on Louisiana. Passes will be distributed to volunteers before the start of the Fair. There will be a secured room for volunteers to store their purses/keys/water bottles during their shift.

NM State Fair 2026
Volunteer Application

Horse Shows

1. **Contact Information:** Individual or Organization for Breed Barn

Name: _____

Address: _____

_____ DOB: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

1. **Liability Form Signed:** _____ (Required)

2. **Availability:**

Saturday 9/5/26	AM_____ PM _____	Sunday 9/13/24	AM _____ PM _____
Sunday 9/6/26	AM_____ PM _____	Monday 9/14/26	AM _____ PM _____
Monday 9/7/26	AM_____ PM _____	Tuesday 9/15/26	AM _____ PM _____
Tuesday 9/8/26	AM_____ PM _____	Wednesday 9/16/26	AM _____ PM _____
Wednesday 9/9/26	AM_____ PM_____	Thursday 9/17/26	AM _____ PM _____
Thursday 9/10/26	AM _____PM _____	Friday 9/18/26	AM _____ PM _____
Friday 9/11/26	AM _____ PM _____	Saturday 9/19/26	AM _____ PM _____
Saturday 9/12/26	AM _____ PM _____	Sunday 9/20/26	AM _____ PM _____

3. **Position:** (Individual) Experienced OR Would like to try (need guidance on role)

Gate	_____	_____
Ring Steward	_____	_____
Announcer	_____	_____
Test/Card Runner	_____	_____
Scorer	_____	_____
Scribe	_____	_____
Award Presenter	_____	_____
Obstacle Crew	_____	_____
Hospitality	_____	_____
Other_____	_____	_____

Position: (Organization)

Meet A Breed Barn Host Half Day _____ Full Day _____ Preferred Date: _____

Set up your material and present topics/demos/interactive public presence in the Palomino Barn.

Horse in Meet A Breed Barn 9/9-9/20 Breed_____

Shavings and hay provided by Expo. Horses must be safe around public, no biting/disruptive vices.

Email to: NMhorseshows@gmail.com

Mariah Wilson/Show Manager 505-803-3228

Shannon Burt/Volunteer Coordinator 505-720-5764

NEW MEXICO STATE FAIR - VOLUNTEER REGISTRATION

Name_____ Date of Birth _____

Mailing Address_____

Phone Number_____ Email_____

I understand that I am a volunteer for the New Mexico State Fair. As a volunteer, I am not an employee of the New Mexico State Fair. I will not receive any salary or money for the services I provide. I will not receive any employment benefits such as workers' compensation, medical coverage or retirement. I am also aware that all volunteers are subject to reference and background checks as provided by law and shall be subject to all State Fair policies.

Further, I will work as an invitee of the New Mexico State Fair. Nothing herein creates an employment contract between the New Mexico State Fair and me. I understand that my invitation to volunteer may be revoked by the New Mexico State Fair at any time for any reason.

VOLUNTEER INDEMNITY AGREEMENT

Volunteers shall exercise control of his/her activities at all times. Volunteers assume full responsibilities and agree to indemnify, hold harmless and defend the State of New Mexico, the New Mexico State Fair Commission, and all of its officers, agents and employees from all liabilities, loss or damage the New Mexico State Fair may suffer as a result of claims, demands, costs, fees and liabilities of any type of description whatsoever arising from the performance by the volunteer under this agreement.

The volunteer shall not be responsible to defend, hold harmless or indemnify the New Mexico State Fair and the State of New Mexico for any liability to the extent such liability is directly caused by wrongful acts, errors or omissions of the New Mexico State Fair, the State of New Mexico or their employees. At all times the liability of the New Mexico State Fair is governed by the provisions of the New Mexico Tort Claims Act.

In the time of Covid-19 and in response the complex health and safety concerns associated with the ongoing pandemic it is imperative that volunteers adhere to all Covid-19 safe practices set forth by the New Mexico Department of Health and the State Fair. Moreover as volunteer, you recognize that your participation, involvement and/or attendance at any Fair event or activity includes possible exposure to and illness from infectious diseases including but not limited to COVID-19. While particular rules and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious illness and death does exist and that you knowingly and freely assume all such risks related to illness and infectious diseases, such as COVID-19.

Volunteer Name (Please print clearly)	Volunteer Signature Shall constitute an effective original signature of a party for all purposes under this Agreement.	Date