Virginia FFA/4-H: Vet Science Event
State Fair of Virginia
2026 Contest Letter

State Fair Address: Meadow Event Park 13111 Dawn Blvd Doswell, VA 23047 Caroline County	**Contest Registration and Tickets:** Participants must have a $6 Student Competition Ticket to enter the Fairgrounds unless they are already at the Fair for another competition. Agricultural Education instructors are responsible for ordering tickets: https://www.vaffa.org/stat e-fair-of-virginia	**Event Location:** Livestock Tent	**Date:** September 28, 2026 **Times:** *Check In:* 10:00 AM *Contest Begins:* 10:30 AM (approximately)
Contest Superintendents: Katherine Carter Hunter Liles Lauren McCroskey	**Entry Deadline:** September 16, 2026, by 5:00 PM.	**Questions? Contact Us!** Virginia FFA Association Andy Seibel - gseibel@vt.edu Sarah Jo Jones - shelms07@vt.edu 540-231-3823	

Purpose:
The purpose of the State Fair of Virginia 4-H/FFA Vet Science Event is to:

- Stimulate the study of and interest in veterinary science through the selection, management, and production through agricultural education and 4-H curriculum
- Provide recognition for those who have demonstrated skills and competencies because of interest and instruction in veterinary science.

Rules and Guidelines:

1. This contest is open to pre-entered 4-H, and FFA members in the state of Virginia.
2. No electronic devices, including smart watches, may be worn, used or carried by contestants.
3. There will be two divisions: Junior division will be students in grades 9 and below

and Senior division will be students in grades 10-12. Chapters/Clubs may enter two teams per division.
4. Individuals and teams may compete. A team consists of 3 or 4 individuals.
5. If four contestants are designated, all will participate, and the lowest scoring individual overall will be automatically designated as an alternate. The alternate's scores will not be included in team scores, but alternates will be eligible for individual awards.
6. Contestants may not talk or discuss materials during the contest.

Event Format: The contest will consist of five phases:

General Knowledge Exam: (100 Points)
The objective of general knowledge is designed to determine team members' broad understanding of the veterinary science field.

Topics for the exam may include the following:

a. Behavior
b. Disease (causes and sources, signs and clinical signs)
c. Medical records
d. Medical terminology
e. Anatomy/physiology
f. Body Condition Score: Dog, Cat, Beef Cattle, Dairy Cattle, Equine
g. Regulations (OSHA: Federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration; GHS: Globally Harmonized System for Hazard Communication; SDS: Safety Data Sheets)
h. Patient management
i. Facility management
j. Practice management
k. Genetics
l. Nutrition
m. Husbandry

Identification: (100 Points) each section
Participants will identify equipment, parasites and breeds/species. Identification lists are located at the end of this handbook.

- Equipment ID - Participants will identify pieces of equipment (actual equipment and photos). They will also need to have general knowledge about the use of each item.
- Parasites/Microscopic ID - Participants will identify parasites (specimen and photos) and explain the life cycles of selected parasites. Participants will identify microscopic organisms.
- Breed ID - Participants will identify breeds of small and large animals (photos).

MATH APPLICATIONS QUESTIONS: (100 points)
The math questions will vary based on the scenario. Questions may include

conversions, dose calculations, dilutions, cost calculations and invoices.

Tie Breakers: The following criteria will be used to break ties, should they occur

Individuals:

1. Highest written exam
2. Highest math application
3. Highest ID score

Teams: The highest average score in above order

Awards:

Ribbons:

1st-6th Place Teams - Rosette Ribbons
1st-6th Place Individuals - Rosette Ribbons
7th-10th Individuals - Flat Ribbons

Premiums (Top Senior Teams):

Placing	Premium	Placing	Premium
1st	$100	6th	$50
2nd	$90	7th	$40
3rd	$90	7th	$30
4th	$70	9th	$20
5th	$60	10th	$10

Premiums (Top Senior Individuals):

Placing	Premium	Placing	Premium
1st	$50	6th	$25
2nd	$45	7th	$20
3rd	$40	7th	$15
4th	$35	9th	$10
5th	$30	10th	$5

Premiums (Top Junior Teams):

Placing	Premium	Placing	Premium
1st	$50	6th	$25
2nd	$45	7th	$20
3rd	$40	7th	$15
4th	$35	9th	$10
5th	$30	10th	$5

Premiums (Top Junior Individuals):

Placing	Premium	Placing	Premium
1st	$25	6th	$5
2nd	$20	7th	$5
3rd	$15	7th	$5
4th	$10	9th	$5
5th	$5	10th	$5

Parasite/Microscopic Identification List

- Avian red blood cell (erythrocyte)
- Calcium oxalate crystals
- Cat Warble (Genus *Cuterebra*)
- Cocci (bacteria)
- Coccidia (Genus *Isospora* or *Eimeria*)
- Demodectic Mite (Genus *Demodex*)
- Ear Mite (Family *Psoroptidae*; Genus *Otodectes*)
- Eosinophils
- Flea Tapeworm Egg (Genus *Dipylidium*)
- Flea Tapeworm Segment (Genus *Dipylidium*)
- Giardia (Genus *Giardia*)
- Heartworm Adult (Genus *Dirofilaria*)
- Heartworm Microfilaria (Genus *Dirofilaria*)
- Hookworm Adult (Family *Ancylostomatidae*; Genus *Ancylostoma*, *Uncinaria*, *Bunostomum* or *Globocephalus*)
- Hookworm Egg (Family *Ancylostomatidae*; Genus *Ancylostoma*, *Uncinaria*, *Bunostomum* or *Globocephalus*)
- Horse Strongyles (Family *Strongylidae*; Genus *Strongylus*)
- Liver Fluke (Class Trematoda; Genus *Fasciola*, *Fascioloides* or *Dicrocoelium*)
- Mammalian red blood cell (erythrocyte)
- Mast cells
- Mosquito Larva (Family *Culicidae*; Genus *Anopheles*, *Culex* or *Aedes*)
- Neutrophils
- Platelets
- Rods (bacteria)
- Roundworm Adult (Family *Ascarididae* or *Toxocaridae*; Genus *Toxocara*, *Toxascaris*, *Ascaris*, *Parascaris* or *Neoascaris*)
- Roundworm Egg (Family *Ascarididae* or *Toxocaridae*; Genus *Toxocara*, *Toxascaris*, *Ascaris*, *Parascaris* or *Neoascaris*)
- Sarcoptic Mite (Family *Sarcoptidae*; Genus *Sarcoptes* or *Notoedres*)
- Struvite crystals (triple magnesium phosphate)
- Taenia Tapeworm Egg (Family *Taeniidae*; Genus *Taenia*)
- Taenia Tapeworm Segment (Family *Taeniidae*; Genus *Taenia*)
- Tick — American Dog (Family *Dermacentor*; Genus *variabilis*)
- Tick — Black Legged Deer (Family *Ixodes*; Genus *scapularis*)
- Tick — Brown Dog (Family *Rhipicephalus*; Genus *sanguineus*)
- Tick — Lonestar (Family *Amblyomma*; Genus *americanum*)
- Urate crystals
- Whipworm (Genus *Trichuris*)
- Whipworm Egg (Genus *Trichuris*)
- Yeast (cytology)

Breed/Species Identification List

DOGS

Herding Group

- Australian Cattle Dog
- Australian Shepherd
- Border Collie
- Collie
- German Shepherd Dog
- Old English Sheepdog
- Pembroke Corgi

Hound Group

- American Fox Hound
- Basset Hound
- Beagle
- Bloodhound
- Dachshund
- Greyhound
- Rhodesian Ridgeback

Non-Sporting Group

- Bichon Frise
- Boston Terrier
- Bulldog
- Chow Chow
- Dalmatian
- French Bulldog
- Poodle

Sporting Group

- Brittany Spaniel
- Cocker Spaniel
- Chesapeake Bay Retriever
- English Setter
- German Shorthaired Pointer
- Golden Retriever
- Golden Setter
- Irish Setter
- Labrador Retriever
- Weimaraner

Terrier Group

- Bull Terrier
- Cairn Terrier
- Parson Russell Terrier
- Scottish Terrier
- Welsh Terrier
- West Highland White Terrier

Toy Group

- Cavalier King Charles Spaniel
- Chihuahua
- Miniature Pinscher
- Papillon
- Pekingese
- Pomeranian
- Toy Poodle
- Pug
- Shih Tzu
- Yorkshire Terrier

CATS

- Abyssinian
- American Shorthair
- Burmese
- Color point Shorthair
- Maine Coon
- Manx
- Persian
- Ragdoll
- Russian Blue
- Siamese
- Sphynx

BIRDS

- African Gray Parrot
- Canary
- Cockatiel
- Cockatoos
- Love Birds
- Macaw
- Parakeet
- Sun Conure
- Zebra Finch

REPTILES

- Bearded Dragon
- Chameleon
- Gecko
- Iguana
- Ball Python
- Burmese Python
- Corn Snake

POULTRY

- Chicken — Cornish
- Chicken — Leghorns
- Chicken — Plymouth Rock
- Chicken — Rhode Island Red
- Duck
- Turkey

SMALL MAMMALS

- Ferret
- Guinea Pig
- Hamster
- Hedgehog
- Mouse
- Rat

RABBITS

- Angora
- Belgian Hare
- Californian
- Dutch
- English Spot
- Flemish Giant
- French Angora
- Harlequin
- Holland Lop
- Mini-Rex
- Netherland Dwarf
- New Zealand
- Palomina
- Rex

DAIRY CATTLE

- Ayrshire
- Brown Swiss
- Guernsey
- Holstein
- Jersey

BEEF CATTLE

- Angus
- Brahman
- Charolais
- Hereford
- Shorthorn

HORSE

- Appaloosa
- Arabian
- Belgian
- Clydesdale
- Morgan
- Paint
- Percheron
- Quarter Horse
- Saddlebred
- Tennessee Walking Horse
- Thoroughbred

GOAT

- Nubian
- Angora
- Boer
- LaMancha

SHEEP

- Columbia
- Dorper
- Dorset
- Hampshire
- Merino
- Rambouillet
- Southdown
- Suffolk

SWINE

- American Landrace
- Berkshire
- Chester White
- Duroc
- Hampshire
- Yorkshire