4-H & FFA Junior Livestock Auction

Date: Saturday, September 19, 2026
Time: 10:00 a.m. MDT

Purpose

The purpose of a Junior Livestock Auction is to support and invest in the growth and success of youth involved in agricultural programs. Through the sale of their animal projects, participants are recognized for their hard work, responsibility, and dedication. The auction provides a meaningful opportunity for the community to give back by encouraging young people to continue developing valuable life skills such as leadership, work ethic, and stewardship. By supporting these efforts, we help foster the next generation of agricultural leaders and strengthen the future of our communities.

Buyer Operations

1. Individuals and/or businesses may register as a buyer on the day of the auction in the Market building of the Fairpark, this is also where the auction itself will take place.

2. Once registered, a buyer will then receive a numbered card. This number is the buyer or bidder number.

3. To bid on an animal, buyers must raise their numbered card once the sale begins on that animal. Once the bidding has ended on an animal, the auctioneer will announce that the animal is “sold” to the highest bidder. The highest bidder will then hold up their numbered card for the ring person and/or auctioneer so they may take down your buyer number to indicate which buyer purchased the animal.

4. This process is repeated for each additional animal the buyer wishes to purchase.

**Proxy buyers are available for individuals or businesses who wish to purchase an animal but prefer to have a representative bid on their behalf. Those interested in utilizing a proxy buyer should consult the auction clerk or a member of the auction committee prior to the start of the auction

Note: The proxy buyer acts solely as an agent in the bidding process and is not the purchaser of the animal. The party on whose behalf the proxy is bidding assumes full responsibility for payment and final disposition of the animal.

Method of Purchase

Buyers have multiple ways to participate in and support exhibitors through the Junior Market Livestock Auction:

1. **Outright Purchase**

    a. Buyers may purchase an animal for custom slaughter or personal use. Buyers selecting this option assume responsibility for arranging transportation of the animal and are responsible for paying the full sale price of the animal.

    b. This is a good option to use if you are purchasing an animal with the intent to slaughter and obtain its meat products for your own personal use, or if you would like to purchase a female animal for production purposes. Regardless of the intended use, this option allows the buyer to purchase the animal entirely to be used as they see fit. Note: Grand and Reserve Champion animals **must** go to slaughter.

    c. To utilize this option, buyers must inform the ring person where the animal is being sent to as soon as it has been purchased in the auction.

2. **“Boost” Option**

    a. Buyers may choose to “boost” an animal rather than take possession. In this case, the animal is released to a designated floor buyer for processing and distribution. The “boost” buyer is responsible only for the difference between the final bid price and the established floor price listed on the sale order *(Ex. The floor price for a market steer is $2,300. Your final bid is $4,000. You elect to “boost” the animal, therefore you would pay the final bid price of $4,000 MINUS the floor price of $2,300, for a total of $1,700).* Note: The “boost” buyer does not take possession of the animal or receive any resulting products.

    b. This is a good option to use if you do not wish to purchase an animal outright for personal use but still wish to support a Junior Livestock Exhibitor. The “boost” buyers help provide funding to the youth exhibitor to support their efforts in their individual livestock project area and promote the continued education and experience of our youth exhibitors.

c. To utilize this option, buyers must inform the ring person that they wish to “boost” the animal as soon as it has been purchased in the auction.

3. **Add-On Contributions**

    a. Buyers may support exhibitors through add-on contributions without purchasing or boosting an animal during the auction itself. Note: The “add-on” buyer does not take possession of the animal or receive any resulting products.

    b. This is a good option to use if you don’t want to bid on an animal in the auction itself, you were outbid on an animal in the auction but still wish to contribute money to the youth exhibitor, or want to contribute a certain amount of money to various exhibitors in the auction without actually bidding on each of their animals.

    c. To utilize this option, buyers must fill out an add-on form indicating which animals/exhibitors they would like to contribute to and the amount in which they would like to contribute. This form must be turned in to the livestock office by the conclusion of the auction or at time of payment.

**Buyers may participate individually or jointly with other individuals or businesses to purchase or “boost” an animal. All joint purchases or contributions must be clearly declared to the ring official at the time of sale, and all participating parties must provide their registered buyer numbers. The auction committee is not responsible for the allocation of costs, billing arrangements, or distribution of products among joint buyers.

Terms and Conditions

1. Animals will be sold on a per head basis. The base, or floor, price for each animal will be noted on the sale order, which is available the day of the auction.

2. Payment must be received on all animals before being released to private individuals or packers, unless prior arrangements have been made with Fairpark management.

3. Buyers are required to make immediate payment upon receipt of State Fair invoice. Interest of 1.5% will be charged monthly on any amounts owing 30 days after date of the first invoice. The Utah State Fair reserves the right to refuse bids from, or sales to, any buyer.

4. The Junior Livestock Committees, auctioneer, and staff of Utah State Fair accept no liability for injury, illness, or death of sale animals. Animals are the responsibility of the exhibitor until the packer or individual buyer accepts ownership.

5. When an animal is declared as sold to the packer or the buyer in the sale ring, it becomes the property of the packer or buyer. Any changes after that point must be done by private treaty with the packer or buyer and must not involve the State Fair.

6. **All sales are final**. There will be no re-sale of animals.

7. Exhibitors will not receive auction checks until payment has been received in full by the buyer. <u>This includes any exhibitor who elects to "buy back" their animal on the auction.</u>

8. In the event of a tie or dispute, the auctioneer's decision is final. All bids are to be made by bona fide bidders.

9. Add-on bids on the Grand or Reserve Champion animals after the auction will be recognized on auction reports and/or marketing materials following the conclusion of the fair.

10. Grand and Reserve Champion animals are considered terminal and may not be purchased for personal use. Champion and Reserve animals will be delivered directly to the mutually agreed upon packer of the State Fair Park Authority/buyer choosing. All animals will be harvested and held until all testing is complete. Distribution will occur upon the result of a clean drug test. It is strictly prohibited to replace or buy back Champion or Reserve animals from the packer.

<u>Exhibitor Rules</u>

1. Entries are open only to Utah 4-H and FFA members. All animals must be entered and exhibited in the 4-H/FFA Market Livestock shows to qualify for the auction. All animals must have been tagged according to the Utah Junior Livestock Association guidelines.

2. Animals which are not eligible for the auction, for any reason, are the responsibility of the exhibitor and will be released and able to leave after management approval on the evening of their respective judging day. White Ribbon animals will not be eligible for the 4-H & FFA Livestock Auction.

3. Animal owners who wish to sell private treaty to the packer must notify the livestock office no later than 30 minutes following the conclusion of final market show on Thursday, September 17th, 2026.

4. Any market animal withdrawn from the sale that are being sold to the packer must be placed in the area designated by the show officials prior to the beginning of the auction on Saturday morning.

5. Exhibitors who wish **NOT** to sell in the auction **MUST** notify the livestock office by completing the Auction Withdrawal form via QR code or in the livestock office no later than 30 minutes following the conclusion of final market show on Thursday, September 17th, 2026. **Failure to inform the office of decision could result in forfeiture of premiums or fines.**

6. All Market animals (including Champion and Reserve) must be cared for by the exhibitor until 6 PM on Saturday the 19th when they are released to the care of the packer for shipping. Each exhibitor has absolute responsibility for the care and condition of the animal they enter and bring to the Fair.

7. A sales fee of 5% of the total selling price will be charged by the auction committee for each animal sold. The fee will be withheld from the money collected from the buyer and will be noted in the settlement with the exhibitor. Exhibitors who elect to "buy back" their animal during the auction are also subject to the 5% sales fee.

8. Checks will be mailed to exhibitors once the animal has been paid in full by the buyer. If an exhibitor loses their check, a $25 stop-payment fee will be assessed and will be deducted from the reissued check.

9. Exhibitors must sell their own animal or premium and/or auction money will be withheld.

10. The base price for each individual animal will be listed on the sale order. The maximum pay weights will be as follows:

Steers – 1,400 lbs	Lambs – 150 lbs
Hogs – 290 lbs	Goats – 100 lbs

11. Grand and Reserve Champion animals in each species will sell first in the order determined by Fair Management, followed by a pre-determined rotation of species.

12. Exhibitors must be present and prepared to enter the sale ring at the time their lot appears in the official sale order. Failure to be present when called may result in forfeiture of the sale opportunity or other action as determined by Fair Management.

13. Once sold to the designated floor buyer/packer, each animal will be identified with a mark designating the assigned packer. The exhibitor is then responsible for promptly delivering the animal to the designated area for that packer, as directed by show officials.