

County Project Showcase Contest

Youth (Grades 4 - 12) will deliver a timed, prepared speech to a panel of judges based on a creation of a project in one of the project areas.

All 4-H'ers who participate in the County Project Showcase Contests are eligible to advance to the Regional Project Showcase held at Liberty High School in Jackson, TN.

DATE: Thursday, April 8, 2027 @ 6pm

PRE-REGISTRATION DEADLINE: April 1, 2027

LOCATION: UT-TSU Shelby County Extension Office

CHECK-IN: 5:30pm

Guidelines:

Project Showcase is similar to Public Speaking Contest, but you may have a VISUAL AID! You may use a tri-fold display board, just as you would in a school science fair.

Rules:

Speakers will be expected to dress appropriately.

Girls: Suit, dress, nice top, modest skirt or pants, hair should be pulled away from face.

Boys: Suit, khaki or dark dress slacks, button collared shirt (Polo or full button-down), tie (optional)



Time Frame

4th - 5th Grade: 2 - 3 minutes

6th - 8th Grade: 2 - 3 minutes

9th - 10th Grade: 2 - 3 minutes

11th - 12th Grade: 2 - 3 minutes

All County Project Showcase Participants will automatically qualify to advance to the Western Region 4-H Project Showcase. No live animals.

COUNTY PROJECT

SHOWCASE CONTEST CONT.

9th - 10th Grade:

Interview with a panel of judges. A visual is allowed.

4th - 5th Grade

Project Demonstration. You should be able to show how your project works "step-by-step" to a panel of judges. You must setup and breakdown in a room with an audience.

6th - 8th Grade

Interactive Table-Top Display Exhibit. You should be prepared to explain your project to the judges.

11th - 12th Grade

Interview with a panel of judges. In addition to the visual, 4-Hers will also submit a working resume!

Absolutely NO: Jeans (blue or any color), athletic wear, action wear, t-shirts, hoodies, sweatshirts, head coverings (hats, caps, beanies, durags, bandanas, etc.), shorts, or open-toed shoes including flip flops and sandals.

COUNTY PROJECT

SHOWCASE CONTEST CONT.

Detailed Guidelines

Demonstrator (15 points possible)

- Appearance: Neat / clean. Posture. No distracting jewelry. Hair out of eyes. No gum. Well-groomed. (5 Points)
- Voice: Is it pleasing, clear and distinct with correct grammar? (5 Points)
- Poise and enthusiasm: Good voice projection. Good eye-contact with the audience and judges. Appears calm and collected. (5 Points)

Presentation (50 points possible)

- Introduction: Is it attention-getting? Does it give the purpose of the demonstration? Is it brief and important—telling what is to be done? Or is it just the opposite—merely a repetition of the demonstrator's name and club when he/she has already been introduced? (10 Points)
- Main points clearly stated: Are all the steps clearly seen and can be understood by the audience? Are the points easily distinguished? (10 Points)
- Summary: Is it interesting and short—but complete? Are key points re-emphasized? Is no new material introduced? Was the purpose met? If gestures are used, are they natural? (10 Points)
- Demonstration given convincingly: Does it seem the 4-H'er has knowledge of the subject and does not read his/her information? (5 Points)
- Equipment / Visuals: Is it well-selected and organized? Is the work area clearly seen? Is the equipment suitable and effective for the job—handled with ease—arranged for efficient use—used as needed—free of name brands or labels?
- Are visuals neat, clear, and well-illustrated: Used to amplify, not duplicate, methods shown? Are charts not too crowded—with simple designs—and only necessary charts used? Are they handled smoothly? (10 Points)
- Work area: Is it left neat or as it was before the demonstration? (5 Points)

Subject Matter (35 points possible)

- Selection and organization: Is it presented in logical sequence with only one theme or idea presented: subject narrow enough to be covered adequately? Is topic related to the 4-H project? (10 Points)
- Source of information: Is it accurate and up-to-date: selected from reliable information from USDA or UT Extension recommended practices: personal experience can be cited: source of information can be cited: suited to age, interest and experience of the demonstrator? (15 Points)
- Practical questions: Are they answered accurately: 4-H'er admits not knowing answer instead of guessing: subject adequately covered enough there is no need for additional questions? (10 Points)

COUNTY PROJECT

SHOWCASE CONTEST CONT.

Project Areas

STEM

- Computer & Technology Applied Sciences
- Electric
- Engineering & Safety Sciences

Personal Growth

- Performing Arts
- Recreation
- Personal Development
- Citizenship
- Leadership
- Communication/ Public Speaking

Animal Science (Large Animal)

- Beef
- Horse
- Sheep
- Goat
- Dairy
- Swine

Animal Science (Small Animal)

- Companion Animals
- Poultry
- Veterinary Science (small or large)

Nutrition & Health

- Food Sciences
- Nutrition, Health, & Fitness

Consumer Skills

- Consumer Ed/ Economics
- Creative Arts & Design
- Entrepreneurship
- Photography Clothing & Textiles

Environmental Education

- Entomology/ Beekeeping
- Horticulture & Gardening
- Plant Science
- Forestry, Wildlife, & Fisheries

Tips for planning your project showcase!

Organization

Begin with an introduction.
Discuss main points & objectives.
Summarize your main points in your conclusion.
Explain each step.

Colors

Dark backgrounds, yellow letters are easy to read. White backgrounds with dark letters are attractive. Avoid using bright background with bright letters. Choose colors that are easy to read.

Writing

Use large lettering you can see from the back row. Block letters are easier to read than cursive. Capitalize only when necessary.

Visual Aids Visual aids are an important part of the demonstration. Special attention should be given to each visual. List everything you need for your demonstration. List each step. Briefly summarize your conclusions.