

## WHAT IS YQCA?

The acronym stands for “Youth for the Quality Care of Animals”

The YQCA program was developed in a partnership with Extension educators and specialists involved in Animal Science from 10 universities that already had livestock quality assurance courses available to youth.



Industries such as the National Pork Producers, National Beef Cattle Association, National Milk Producers, and a few other organizations contributed to the importance of wanting to be able to share a consistent message with youth exhibitors on proper care and management of animals.

## YQCA IN INDIANA 4-H

To exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, meat goats, dairy goats, poultry and rabbits, all 4-H members in Indiana must be certified through the YQCA program.

While this is a statewide requirement, it should not be viewed as just another rule, but rather as an important educational opportunity for 4-H livestock members. Making this a statewide exhibition requirement is how Indiana 4-H ensures that 4-H members learn about quality assurance, but it really has nothing to do with animal exhibition. The reason for requiring YQCA is for youth to learn best management practices with their animals.

The livestock industry is experiencing significant negative publicity because of animals from youth livestock programs. Are you ready to help the livestock industry take on this challenge by ensuring 4-H youth are learning to ethically raise and exhibit their animals? You can help these perceptions by being a part of the solution.

## GOALS OF REQUIRING YQCA IN INDIANA 4-H



- Ensure that Indiana 4-H livestock members are more prepared to be ambassadors for animal agriculture in their role as youth livestock exhibitors.
- Ensure animals from the Indiana 4-H livestock program are treated with the utmost care.
- Ensure that Indiana 4-H livestock members are contributing to a safe and wholesome food supply.

## ONLINE TEST OUT OPTION

Individuals wishing to test out must meet the following criteria:

- This is only available to youth in the FIRST year of intermediate (age 12), senior (age 15) and young adult (age 19)
- The test consists of 50 questions and requires a pass rate of 80% or better for certification.
- If passed, the certification will last through the end of a user’s age level (intermediate – ages 12, 13 & 14; senior – ages 15, 16, 17 and 18)
- Users will have ONE chance to take the test-out option. If they fail, they will not be provided another opportunity for that level of certification.

*Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service is an equal access/equal opportunity institution.*



# Putnam 4-H YQCA TRAININGS

January 29th –6PM-7PM York Automotive Building, Fgrds.  
February 4th- 6PM-7PM Purdue Extension Putnam Office  
March 2nd- 6PM-7PM Julian Science Bldg. DePauw University  
April 9th –6PM-7PM York Automotive Building, Fgrds.  
June 29th 1PM-2PM York Automotive Building, Fgrds.  
June 29th 7PM- 8PM York Automotive Building, Fgrds.

***There is a \$3 cost for in-person sessions. We have some coupon codes remaining from last year that are first come first serve. Once they are gone, members will need to cover the cost of the training. All in-person trainings will be held in the Extension Office.***

***To exhibit beef cattle, dairy cattle, swine, sheep, goats, poultry, and rabbits, 4-H members MUST BE certified through the YQCA program.***



## **There are 2 ways to be YQCA certified:**

1. Youth may complete the entire course online at [yqca.learn-grow.io](http://yqca.learn-grow.io). Pay a \$12 fee for online certification or \$36 fee for 3 year test out option.

*Test out option is now available. See reverse side for details*

2. Youth attend an in-person YQCA training.

*Please sign up for an in-person training at least a week in advance. Contact information is below.*

*See reverse side for more information about the Youth for the Quality Care of Animals program.*

**QUESTIONS? CONTACT:  
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Putnam County**

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