

2025 Kansas State Youth Livestock



In order to show at the Kansas State Fair (KSF) or Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS), you must first nominate your animal.

What is a nomination? A nomination is documentation that you have owned, possessed and cared for your animal since a certain date in order to show at a state show.

How are the nomination dates set? The nomination dates are set by minimal guidelines set forth by Kansas 4-H on how long you should own, possess and care for your animal to have gained the optimal experience. In addition, the KSF and KJLS Board of Directors agree on these dates.

What are the nomination dates?

May 1 - Market Steers and Market Heifers

June 15 - Commercial Heifers, Market Lambs, Commercial Ewes, Market Hogs, Commercial Gilts, and ALL Meat Goats (Market Goats, Commercial Does, and Registered Does)

How do I know what to turn in? The Youth Livestock Program has compiled a list of requirements (checklist) for each species.

How much does it cost? The nomination fee is \$12.00 per animal, for all species.

What is the Declaration form? The declaration form is required for all Kansas families/households who nominate animals and wish to show at Kansas State Shows (Kansas State Fair Grand Drive or KJLS). This form states the family/household name, along with who is able to show within that family/household. In addition, it lists the physical location of where the animals are kept, and also has a statement about possession, ownership and care of the animals. It must be signed by all individual exhibitors, and a parent/legal guardian. Each family/household must complete a declaration form annually, which includes all eligible exhibitors for the current program year. This form will be updated in the online nomination system for each child in the family who plans to show.

Is a Nomination the same as an entry for the show? NO! You must first nominate your animal in order to declare that you own, possess and care for them. Then, you must actually enter that animal for the show following the specific entry processes set forth by the Kansas State Fair (KSF) and Kansas Junior Livestock Show (KJLS). You must do both of these things in order to show. *Both nomination information and entries are submitted online, using ShoWorks. However, each step in the process utilizes a unique link. Nominations are facilitated by KSU, in partnership with the state shows, with the DNA sent to the KSU Youth Livestock Program office. However, the entries for KSF and KJLS are managed by those respective Livestock Show offices.*

How will I know if my Nomination is complete? Once your DNA is received and nomination information verified, you will receive a letter in the mail from the KSU Youth Livestock Program. This letter will list all of the animals that we have in the system from you. A family/household will receive a separate letter for each species nominated. If you submitted incomplete or incorrect information, it will tell you what you are missing and how to fix that issue. In addition, nominations received are posted on the KSU Youth Livestock Program website: www.YouthLivestock.KSU.edu, under Nominated Livestock, so you can see if your nomination is complete. We update this often during the nomination season and highly recommend that you use this tool.

What if I don't get everything in the first time? If your confirmation letter states that something is incomplete or incorrect, **there is a one-time fee of \$20.00.** This includes information on the Declaration Form, data submitted online in ShoWorks, DNA Envelopes, and Signatures (exhibitor(s) or parent(s)/legal guardian(s)). The \$20.00 incomplete fee must be submitted with the missing or corrected information for the nomination to be complete.

Where do I get ear tags and DNA envelopes? Animals must be tagged through your local Extension Office. Make sure you communicate with your local Extension Office far enough in advance for them to have materials and are prepared to guide you through the process. DNA must be submitted in an official DNA envelope, purchased in advance through ShoWorks. Families may order them directly. One type of envelope is available for all species. Please refer to the Step-by-Step page in the "Rookie Guide" for detailed information on appropriately obtaining DNA samples from your animals.



Youth Livestock Program · Kansas State University
214 Weber Hall · Manhattan, KS 66506 · 785-532-1264

