YQCA Components

Food Safety
- Basics of animal identification
- Herd health plan
- Biosecurity practices

Animal Well-being
- Daily animal care
- Providing high-quality feed
- Animal health product usage

Character Development
- Sharing the story
- Goals to succeed
- Ethics in the show ring

Only YQCA certifications will be accepted at the North Dakota State Fair for all 4-H Livestock Events.

Email questions to: Dr. Leigh Ann Skurupey, State 4-H Youth Development Specialist—Animal Science at Leigh Ann.Skurupey@ndsu.edu

Call with questions:
Office: 701-231-6658
ND 4-H YQCA Website: https://www.ndsu.edu/4h/member_information/programs_events/yqca/

FAQs

- Is YQCA mandatory for all North Dakota 4-H’ers? Although it is strongly recommended, YQCA is only required for those 4-H’ers who will show livestock at the North Dakota State Fair. This is for 4-H shows ONLY.
- How long has YQCA been operating officially/successfully? It was launched in March 2017 and has gained much success with over 29 states involved.
- Can someone test out of YQCA? Yes. However, the cost is not currently discounted.
- Who can be trained for the instructor-led training? Only agricultural education instructors, veterinarians and Extension agents approved by the YQCA state representative (Dr. Leigh Ann Skurupey).
- How much does getting certified cost? The online module certification is $12, and the instructor-led training method of certification is $3.
- How is payment made for instructor-led trainings? Youth pay the $3 during the registration process online.
- How long does getting certified take? A minimum of 60 minutes (one hour).
- Does the YQCA certification ID sync with 4HOnline? YES! It sure does! You must sign in with your 4-HOnline account.
- Does my county require a YQCA certification? Perhaps!
- Check out our website and on the PDF to see if your county requires YQCA or not: https://www.ndsu.edu/4h/member_information/programs_events/yqca/
- How does the agent get the YQCA certification IDs? Extension agents can look under the 4-H’ers record under “Trainings” for that individual OR they can generate a report on 4HOnline: Enrollment tab > Select Reports on the far right > Select the enrollment reports tab > Select Standard on the left side > scroll down and right click to export the LearnGO! New Course Activity to excel.
- As an agent, what do I do with the YQCA certification ID number? Nothing! YQCA is synchronized with 4HOnline and thus the 4-H’ers YQCA certification number is transferred into “Trainings” under their record.
- I only show horses. Do I need to be YQCA certified? No. The North Dakota 4-H Equine Committee is designing an equine safety, welfare and ethics program that parallels YQCA for our 4-H equine enthusiasts.
- Do 4-H’ers acquire a new YQCA certification number each year? Yes they do. New curriculum will be launched every year around March. Youth should re-certify around the same time they tested each year.
- What is the $12 used for? The technology partner receives $10, $0.36 for credit card fees and $1.64 goes back to YQCA for new module development for each year. Please visit our website for more information: https://www.ndsu.edu/4h/programs_events/yqca/

Instructor-led Training (ILT)

Certified veterinarians, agricultural education instructors and Extension agents can be certified for free to lead an instructor-led training (ILT) course for 4-H’ers. Acquiring the certification through an online module takes about one hour. Only YQCA can certify individuals for ILT. Once certified, you will take a short quiz. Once you pass with at least a 70 percent, you will be given a junior slide deck and a mixed slide deck to teach youth attendees (PowerPoint Presentation). The mixed slide deck is geared toward all 4-H ages. Each deck comes with a script and an activity guide. The slide deck is mandatory to teach. Your ILT YQCA certification should last about 60 minutes. The activity guide is optional. Once certified, a leader can add additional information if desired. Send an email to Dr. Skurupey if interested and she will put you on the approved list for ND.

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Individuals with disabilities are invited to request reasonable accommodations to participate in NDSU-sponsored programs and events. To request an accommodation(s), please contact Micki Mertz at 701-231-7519 by October 24, 2017 to make arrangements.

January 2020
The YQCA organizational board of directors adopted the following goals for the YQCA training and certification program:

- Ensure safety and well-being of animals produced by youth for showing and for 4-H and FFA projects
- Ensure a safe food supply to consumers
- Maximize the limited development time and budgets of state and national youth program leaders to provide an effective quality assurance program
- Offer livestock shows a valid, national quality assurance certification for youth livestock exhibitors

YQCA GOALS

CURRICULUM

1. Go to [http://yqca.org](http://yqca.org) (Firefox and Chrome browsers appear to work best)
2. Click on Sign In/Register (top right corner)
3. Log in with 4HOonline by selecting North Dakota 4-H Youth Development
4. Select from the course list the appropriate age level as shown circled in red:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age Group</th>
<th>Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5-9 Junior</td>
<td>Web-Based Training ($12)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10-12</td>
<td>Instructor-Led Training ($3)</td>
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5. Select Web-Based Training ($12) to be guided through certification on your own. If an instructor-led training is being held in North Dakota, you can register for a session by selecting Instructor-led Training ($3), then North Dakota, and the scheduled training from the dropdown menu.

6. Select add credit card to pay for course training.
7. Allow at least 60 minutes to complete the course.
8. Once completed, print your YQCA certificate and keep it on file. Your YQCA Certification ID number will be added to your 4HOonline profile by logging in with 4HOonline.
9. Renew your YQCA Certification annually.

Get YQCA Certified

YQCA promotes the development of a common framework for youth livestock quality assurance programs that will enhance the educational experience of youth, improve the care of animals and provide a higher level of food safety to consumers. This program features:

- Evidence-based content organized by age level
  - Junior: ages 8-11
  - Intermediate: ages 12-14
  - Senior: ages 15-18
  - Young adult: ages 19-21
  *Young adults take the Web-base Training ONLY, and cannot be certified through instructor-led training

- High-quality, clear educational objectives
  In addition to the content at appropriate age levels, each curriculum topic is accompanied by specific educational objectives to guide the learning process.

- Online learning
  The online program focuses on three topics: food safety, animal well-being and character development. Each topic includes a knowledge builder, skills lab and quiz. Each is designed for each age group. To fulfill their year of training, youth will complete the online modules with a pass rate of 80 percent on the quiz. Students are able to repeat the module if needed.

YQCA GOALS

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2. Ensure a safe food supply to consumers
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