



Rules and Regulations

1. **Age Requirement:** Youth competitors must be 8, but not yet 20, before January 1, 2024. Those who are 20 years and older are eligible to compete in the Adult Division.
2. **4-H Membership Requirement:** All youth contestants must become members of Michigan 4-H if they are of eligible 4-H age as of January 1, 2024. See #9 for age divisions.
3. **Emails for Registration:** Each contestant is required to have a unique email address. Family members cannot use the same email address.
4. **Provide Accessible Mobile Phone Number:** Please provide a mobile phone number that will be accessible during the Skillathon, if possible.
5. **Teams:** The contest is not open to teams.
6. **Pledge of Honesty:** All contestants must sign a Pledge of Honesty prior to the competition. This pledge will affirm that the contestant will not use any type of aid, resource, or assistance in the answering of questions. Failure to comply will result in disqualification.
7. **Use of Electronic Devices:** 4-H members will be allowed the use of computers, tablets, and cell phones for the sole purpose of conducting the contest. Use of devices to communicate with others is prohibited. Use of any electronic device, printed materials, or notes to look up information/resources during the contest is also prohibited.
8. **Competitive Intensity:** The contest is designed with the competitive intensity of a state-level event to give youth the opportunity to display their advanced skills in critical thinking, decision making, reasoning ability, communication skills, and livestock knowledge. Participants should understand the basic concepts of this event for it to be a positive experience that fosters experiential learning.
9. **Age divisions:** based on 4-H age as of Jan 1, 2024.
The divisions are broken out as follows:
 - a. Novice (8-11 years)
 - b. Junior (12-14 years)
 - c. Senior (15-19 years)
 - d. Adult (20 years+)



Rules and Regulations (cont.)

10. **Session Categories:** Participants will compete Market and Livestock categories where they will be asked to answer questions from the following:

- a. **Large Animal** (combined: Beef, Dairy, Equine, Swine, Sheep, and Goats)
- b. **Small Animal** (combined: Dogs, Rabbits/Cavies, and Poultry)
- c. **Nutrition**
- d. **Anatomy/Physiology**
- e. **Multifarious** (Biosecurity, Careers, Quality Assurance, etc.)

11. **Format of Skillathon:**

- a. The Skillathon is hosted via Zoom, while the test itself is a timed Quilg document.
- b. Each participant will be assigned to a breakout room with other competitors from their age division.
- c. At least two judges will be in each breakout room to monitor the participants and answer questions.
- d. Participants will receive an email link to Google Docs and must log in with a unique email address. Once they open the doc, they will have a set amount of time to complete the session.
- e. Each session contains multiple categories.
- f. Questions are presented in the following formats: multiple choice, true/false, or matching.
- g. Once all categories are complete, participants are finished and may leave the Zoom.
- h. Number of questions per category session by age division
 - i. Novice: 25 questions per category (125 total)
 - ii. Juniors: 30 questions per category (150 total)
 - iii. Seniors: 35 questions per category (175 total)
 - iv. Adults: 35 questions per category (175 total)



Rules and Regulations (cont.)

12. **Scoring:** Points will be awarded to contestants based on their overall performance in each category. Points will be awarded on the percentage of total points earned in each contest, based on the maximum score possible.
 - a. Ties will be broken as follows:
 - i. Multifarious category overall score.
 - ii. The total number of correct responses from the following questions in each category will be used to determine the final placing if needed to break a tie.
 1. Novice – questions 5 and 7
 2. Juniors – questions 11 and 17
 3. Seniors – questions 21 and 24

Contest Method of Conduct

1. All [youth participants must register for the contest through 4-H Online](#).
2. All [adult participants must register for the contest through the Qualtrics link](#).
3. The competition will be held at the assigned times over Zoom.
4. All contestants must have their Zoom profile name match the name on their registration.
5. During the competition, contestants will be divided into groups and will remain with that assigned group throughout the round of sessions.
6. All contestants must have their cameras on during the competition. Your face must be completely visible while in the zoom room. Failure to have camera on may result in the individual's score not being included in the final placing.
7. Allotted time for each category will be 12.5 minutes for Novices, 15 minutes for Juniors, and 17.5 minutes for Seniors and Adults.
8. All decisions made by the Michigan 4-H Skillathon Contest Officials are final.

Americans with Disabilities Act

Individuals with disabilities who need an auxiliary service or accommodation to participate must request their needs during registration. Youth will place their request through the 4-H Online registration page. Adult contestants will place their request through their registration page.

Awards



1. All awards will be presented during a virtual ceremony on the evening of March 11, 2024.
2. Awards will be presented to the top 5 overall individual(s) for each age division.
 - a. Hooded Sweatshirts.
 - b. Up to \$100.00 in Scholarship money for one 4-H program/event to be redeemed by December 31, 2024.

Announcement of Results

All results are final once announced. The only exception to this rule will occur if an error is found in the announced results. Any correction to these results will be made as deemed necessary by the 2024 Michigan 4-H Skillathon Contest Officials. All awards will be presented during a virtual ceremony on the evening of March 11, 2024.

Schedule of Michigan 4-H Skillathon State Championship

March 6, 2024:	4:30 pm Eastern (Weekday Championship option)
March 9, 2024:	9:30 am Eastern (Saturday Championship option)
March 11, 2024:	7:00 pm Eastern (Virtual Awards Presentation)