

RICHLAND AREA SHEEP PRODUCERS

Market Sheep/Goat Mentorship Program

2026 Guidelines

Objectives:

- 4-H/FFA members will learn about the sheep/goat industry by raising and selling a market animal.

Eligibility: To participate in the Richland Area Sheep Producers Market Sheep/Goat Mentorship Program, youth will need to meet the following eligibility requirements.

- Age requirement: Youth must be in 3rd grade through one year after high school AND under 20 years of age as of January 1 of the current fair year.
- Member of the Richland Area Sheep Producers (Dues \$5/individual or \$10/family)
- Member of a Richland County 4-H Club, FFA Chapter or a Breed Organization that is recognized by the Richland County Fair Board

Timeline:

- March 1 – Enrollment deadline for the Sheep/Goat Project (*4-H members only*)
- May 1 – Mentorship program application due
- June 15 – Animal identification deadline
- July 15 – Educational Points Report due to Extension Office by 4:30 p.m.
- July 15 – Meat Animal Sale Rules Acknowledgement form due
- August 1 – Fair Entry Deadline (www.FairEntry.com)
- September 9-13 – Richland County Fair (*See Fair Book for entry times, judging schedule, etc.*)
- September 12 – Meat Animal Sale at the Richland County Fair
- September 16 – Carcass Program at the Richland Locker
- September 23 – Meat Animal Sale Buyer Appreciation Dinner (*Tentative*)
- October 1 – Loan repayment due

Mentors:

Sheep Mentors & Jr. Mentors

Steve Banker/Riley Banker – spbanker@hotmail.com, phone# 608-475-0875

Gretchen Kanable/Bryn Kanable – gkanable@gmail.com, phone# 608-475-1398

Goat Mentors & Jr. Mentors

Kally Kohl - kkoch@riverdale.k12.wi.us, phone# 608-792-0136

Participants identify two possible mentors they would like to work with. The Richland Area Sheep Producers will match mentors with participants. Additional mentors may be added.

Program Expectations:

Mentors, Youth and Parents will decide on the expectations for the program, including:

- Amount of time the youth will be expected to work with the animal
- Required activities
- Expenses (ie. Trucking fees, Feed costs if animal is housed a mentor's farm, etc.)

Finances:

- The animal is purchased by the 4-H/FFA member and parent.
- Participants must contact mentor prior to purchasing an animal
- The Richland Area Sheep Producers will help finance the purchase of an animal (\$150/animal with a maximum of \$300 for 2 animals). The family pays the first \$100 towards the purchase of each animal.
- 4-H/FFA member receiving an interest free loan from the Sheep Producers must repay the loan in full by October 1.

Facilities:

Participants and Mentors will decide where the animal will be housed.

- At mentor's farm
- At participant's farm
- At another agreed upon location

Requirements:

To be eligible to exhibit and sell an animal at the Richland County Fair, participants must:

1. Be a member of a Richland County 4-H Club, FFA Chapter or recognized breed association. *(4-H members must be enrolled in Sheep Project by March 1).*
2. Identify the animal(s) and submit required paperwork by the June 15.
3. Submit the Sheep/Goats Educational Points Report and Meat animal sale Rules Acknowledgement form to the Extension Office by 4:30 p.m. on July 15.
4. Complete online Fair entry by August 1. *See Richland County Fair Book for additional information.*

Questions? Contact Steve Banker, 608-475-0875
Or Gretchen Kanable, 608-475-1398