

# Pork Quality Assurance (PQA) Workshop for Sanilac County 2017 Fair Exhibitors



PQA is a wonderful tool used to educate youth producers involved in the care of fair hog projects to ensure a safe, consistent, and wholesome consumer product. Each exhibitor is encouraged to have a current PQA certification. Sanilac County 4-H will be offering training to help youth prepare for this year's show and sale season.

**Nationally, youth ages 8-18 are certified in Youth PQA Plus based on the person's age as of January 1 of the current year. Youth exhibitors that are 19 can be given a variance to certify through the Youth PQA program instead of the adult program.**

## PQA Certification Requirements:

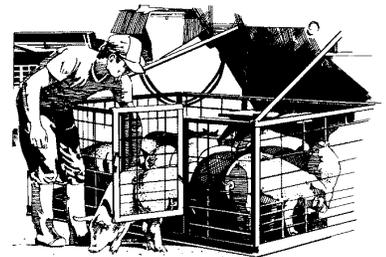
**9-11 year olds** beginner level—must attend workshop annually

**12-14 year olds** intermediate level—take written test during workshop, passing score on test certifies youth until they reach the next age bracket

**15-18 year olds** advanced level—take written test during workshop, passing score on test certifies youth until they reach the next age bracket

**19 year olds & older** – **\*\*19 year olds may certify through youth PQA for their last year of showing 4-H**

If you plan to continue selling swine beyond 4-H you must be Level III certified (Contact Tom Guthrie, Jackson County MSU Extension Swine Educator at (517) 788-4292 or [guthri19@msu.edu](mailto:guthri19@msu.edu) to complete an adult PQA Plus training.)



**RSVP is required no later than two days prior to each workshop.**

To register and get driving directions, contact the Sanilac County MSUE Office at 810-648-2515, or e-mail:

[msue.sanilac@county.msu.edu](mailto:msue.sanilac@county.msu.edu)

When registering by e-mail, put PQA in the subject line.

You will need to provide the name of each youth, birth date, 4-H county or Sanilac County club, and total number of people attending.

## **Sanilac County Workshop Date & Location**

**Saturday, May 6, 2017**

Sanilac County 4-H Fairgrounds (during Spring Fair event)

In Eatstand Building

218 Dawson Street, Sandusky, Michigan

12:45 p.m. Registration, 1:00 p.m. Workshop, 2:15 p.m. Test

Additional workshop locations may be available in other counties



## Online Training Available

National Pork Board will be offering online certification procedure for Michigan youth swine producers this year.

Youth exhibitors will have the opportunity to complete their PQA training requirements via an online training module. The module will include a testing procedure for

youth in the intermediate and advance categories. Acquiring access to the system and posting your updated certification expiration date in the database takes some extra time; they recommend that exhibitors begin the process to request access to the online training at least 1-month prior to needing your certification for fair. The training module does not have to be completed in 1-setting; however the test must be completed once the youth has started it. To access the online module: <http://www.pork.org/youth-pqa-plus/>

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