

**DEPT of AG, TRADE & CONSUMER PROTECTION**  
**COUNTY and DISTRICT FAIRS** *(Subchapter 1)*

**GENERAL REQUIREMENTS and DEFINITIONS**

**ATCP 160.01 (AG 5.01) DEFINITIONS**

1. "Class" means grouping in which exhibits may be entered, including an animal breed or age group for animal exhibits; a type of produce, crop or food; or a specific age, age group or educational grade level of exhibitor.
2. "Department" as it relates to the organizational structure of a fair, means animal species, production group, or other principal classification of exhibits. As used in any other context, "department" means the State of Wisconsin department of agriculture, trade and consumer protection.
3. "Division" means one of 3 exhibitor group classifications for a fair and is limited to junior, open and senior citizens divisions.
4. "Lot" or "lot number" means the numerical designation assigned by a local fair for a specific category of exhibits within a class.

**ATCP 160.02 (Ag 5.02) PREMIUM REQUIREMENTS**

**1. GENERAL**

- (a) The state aide authorized by s.93.23 (1), Stats., may be paid only on net premiums, which consist of total premiums paid less total entry fees received. The department may withhold state premium aid from any fair which does not enforce the animal health provisions required under ch. ATCP 10 for all classes of livestock exhibited at the fair. State aid will be paid only on premiums actually paid by bank check or draft.
- (b) No deductions may be made from premium money won by an exhibitor. Premiums may, however, be withheld where exhibition rules established by the fair association are violated. A written statement of violation shall be submitted to the department to justify action taken by a local fair.
- (c) Premiums offered shall be definite in amount. No decrease or increase in published premiums may be made because of the financial condition of the organization or any other reasons.
- (d) State aid may be paid on no more than 2 premiums awarded an exhibitor under one premium or lot number in open division individual livestock classes, except poultry and rabbits, and no more than one premium in all other classes, including poultry and rabbits.
- (e) To be eligible for state aid, no animal or article shall be entered in competition for more than one premium at any county or district fair in this State except as part of a herd group, carcass class or a performance class.
- (f) No state aid will be paid on the cost of ribbons, cups, trophy

prizes or entertainment contests.

**2. PREMIUM LISTS**

- (a) Premiums for which state aid is requested by county and district fairs shall conform with the uniform premium list and other requirements set forth in these rules. Fairs requesting state aid for net premiums shall submit to the department a printed copy of the premium list used at the fair, as required under s. ATCP 160.92 (3)(d).
- (b) The officers of each fair shall mail a copy of the premium list to their associations, societies, or boards conducting a fair in Wisconsin upon request.
- (c) Sections ATCP 160.01 through 160.07 and 160.91 shall be published in premium books used by a fair for which state aid is requested.

**3. ENTRY FEES**

- (a) Entry fees not in excess of 10% of the purse offered on any specific article may be charged exhibitors. When no entry fee is charged, stall rents may be charged in the horse, cattle, sheep, goat, swine, poultry, rabbit, and pet stock departments. Stall rents shall not exceed \$1.50 per single stall or animal or \$3.00 per box stall for horses; \$1.00 per single stall or animal or \$2.00 per box stall for cattle; and \$.50 per animal or \$2.00 per pen for swine, goats or sheep. A standard pen for swine, goats, or sheep is approximately 64 square feet. Cage rents may not exceed \$.50 per head for poultry, rabbit and pet stock exhibits. (County fairs can adjust fees based on expenses.)
- (b) Exhibitors in educational and school departments shall not be required to purchase an exhibitor's ticket. Any other exhibitor may be required, if no entry fee is charged, to purchase an exhibitor's season ticket at a price not to exceed that charged for a non-exhibitor's season ticket.

**4. SPLIT FAIR DATES**

No state aid may be paid to fairs having split dates, unless prior written approval is granted by the department. Extreme hardship must be established by the fair organization before approval can be granted. A split date is one where exhibits or contests are judged, and premiums paid at more than one time or at more than one location during the current year. When split dates are approved, all blue ribbon winners shall be required to repeat their demonstration or exhibit at the regular fair dates, unless exempted by the department in hardship cases. The repeated demonstration or exhibit may be presented though the use of audio-visual media, still photography or an educational display. Split date approval may not

be required for Clothing Revue, Demonstration, Favorite Foods Revue or dogs and small animals.

#### **ATCP 160.03 (Ag 5.03) EXHIBITION REQUIREMENTS**

A county or district fair shall meet all of the exhibition requirements of this section to be eligible for state premium aid.

1. No fair society or other organization sponsoring a county or district fair shall require an exhibitor to become a member of the organization in order to enter an exhibit at the fair, nor shall the sponsoring organization make any deduction from an exhibitor's premium as a donation to the fair society, or require an exhibitor in any other way to make a donation to the society.
2. State aid may not be approved for out-of-state exhibits or for separate classes of local and non-local exhibitors. Aid may not be approved for payment of premiums to an exhibitor having an out-of-state address but claiming Wisconsin residency unless the fair secretary provides the department with an affidavit that the exhibitor's residence is geographically located within the state.
3. State aid may be paid only on articles or animals actually on display in an exhibit building or actually shown in the show ring on regular fair dates unless approval for split fair dates is obtained under s. ATCP 160.02 (4). State aid may not be paid on Dairy Herd Improvement Association records, transportation aid, production contests or other special educational exhibits unless prior approval is obtained under s. ATCP 601.04 (8).
4. State aid may not be paid on exhibits removed from the fair grounds before 4 p.m. of the last day of the fair, or such other later time as may be specified by the fair, without prior approval of the department. Authority for earlier removal may be granted by the department in case of meat animal sales or other special classes, if requested before the beginning of the fair. In other hardship cases, approval may be granted by the local fair. Exhibits in dog obedience and small animal pet classes may be judged during the regular fair but are not required to remain present during the entire fair. The local fair may prescribe the length of time junior fair exhibitors of horses shall keep their animals on the grounds.

#### **ATCP 160.04 JR FAIR DIVISION: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS AGE**

1. In the junior fair division state aid will be paid on prizes offered to exhibitors who are 8 through 19 years of age on January 1 of current fair year, except for exhibitors under ss. WTCP 160.65(1) and WTCP 160.80 who may be 5 through 8 years of age on January 1 of the current fair year. State aid will not be paid on prizes for club parades, club floats, song contests, or project which is not an exhibit or demonstration at the fair.
2. All exhibitors in the junior fair division shall be members of 4-H, FFA, FHA-HERO, Scouting programs, breed groups, or any other

recognized youth organization under adult leadership and with an education program approved by the local fair.

3. Exhibits in the junior fair shall be a result of the exhibitor's own labor and may include a study, merit or other special project, a skill area or a supervised occupational experience in which the exhibitor is regularly enrolled.
4. State aid may be used for the payment of no more than one premium awarded an exhibitor under any one premium or lot number in the junior fair division, except when awarded as part of a group in livestock exhibits or in showmanship.
5. Premiums in the educational department shall be paid directly to the exhibitor who made the exhibit and not to the school or teacher, except for group premiums offered to inter-school competitive classes. No aid may be paid on education department premiums unless a complete list of exhibitors and a complete set of judges' sheets for the education department, similar to those required in other departments, is filled with the department. All educational exhibits shall be displayed at the fair regardless of whether they are judged prior to or at the fair.
6. If 16 or more animals, items or articles are entered in any junior fair class, the class may be divided into 2 or more approximately equal groups according to weight, age or other identifying characteristic and each group judged as a class.
7. Special educational exhibits may be established if the proposal is presented to the Wisconsin Association of Fairs before October 1 of the year preceding its proposed establishment and the exhibit is approved by the department.
8. In all departments in the junior fair division under Subch. IV, special classes may be established where none are specified for the item, article, or a recognized breed, including special classes for grade and crossbred females in beef, swine and sheep. State aid may be paid for the created special classes in amounts equal to comparable established classes in the same department.

#### **ATCP 160.07 CLASSES: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

1. Classes may be combined if the number of entries in several single classes is insufficient. If any classes are combined, state aid shall be limited to the maximum total premiums listed for a single class of animals, items or articles in that department.
2. No state aid may be paid on premiums awarded for any sexually intact male dairy cattle, beef cattle, sheep, goats, swine or horses exhibited in any class unless the animal is a registered purebred as verified by a certificate of registry from the appropriate breed association or society, or by a copy of the application for registration.
3. Any animal entered as part of a group class may also be exhibited in

a class for individual animals.

4. Boars may not be entered as an exhibit in the swine department unless their tusks have been removed.