

# Leap into Sheep Program

This program is designed for youth who have an interest in animal agriculture and would like the opportunity to show a lamb. This program is designed for beginners who have not had the opportunity to show animals before and will only be allowed to participate in this program for one year. Youth will be required to pay \$50 upfront as a registration fee to Duplin County 4-H. This will cover the cost of the lamb, a bag of feed, a blanket, a feed trough, and a halter. Other expenses expected as part of this project will be the responsibility of the participant and are listed below. At the end of the project, any money received through the sale of the lamb after the NC State Fair will go to the participant.

This program is limited to 10 youth who are participants. Youth must submit an application by March 15 and will be contacted by April 15 to let them know if they have been accepted. All youth will be required to attend a one-hour Zoom session to go over the basic requirements for the program and the general health of their lambs.

## Expected Timeline

March 15	Applications are Due
April 15	Notify applicants
May 23-24	Deliver Lambs
June 28-30	NC Sheep & Goat Roundup
October 22-23	NC State Fair

## Counties of Participation

- In 2024 this program will be open to the entire state of North Carolina.

## What do you need to participate?

- Pen to keep your animal in, at minimum a 10'x10' pen (minimum 42" height) would be sufficient.
  - Bedding source (straw or shavings)
- Shelter for your animal to stay dry and protected from the elements.
- Must be able to pick up your lamb at a designated location on May 23-24.
- 4-H / Livestock Agent or FFA advisor that can check in to make certain they have the requirements to house a lamb.

## Expenses

- Registration Cost (Must be paid when you pick up the lamb): \$50
- Estimated Feed: \$150
- Hay: \$10-20
- Bedding: \$20
- Any additional expenses incurred (veterinary, etc.) will be the responsibility of the participant
- Total cost: \$240

### **Income**

- Lambs should be sold after the NC State Fair; this money will be retained by the showman.
- Support money will be retained by the Showman

### **What we will do to help**

- We will have a pen of 10 lambs. Youth will draw numbers that correspond with the tags in the lamb's ears.
- We will assign each youth one senior-age showman to help guide them with their project. They will have to meet a minimum of once per month to discuss how the lamb is doing and help with preparing the animal for the show. Additionally, they will assist in shearing the lamb for the NC State Fair.
- We will have one class specifically for the 10 youth who are participating in this program. This class will take place at the NC State Fair on October 23, 2024. Awards will be given to all of the participants.

**Participant Application Form can be found [HERE](#).**

### **Sponsors for this event**

