

MI Pigs 2025

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MI PIGS is a youth program that recognizes Michigan's youth exhibitors through sanctioned pig shows that include showmanship and educational contests and activities. Youth who participate in the sanctioned shows earn points for their placing. Points are tracked for pigs shown by that exhibitor, showmanship and educational contests and activities.

The **MI PIGS** program goals are to:

- Encourage youth to participate in showing pigs throughout the state
- Develop leadership and promote education
- Recognize the youth showing pigs in Michigan
- Develop youth with a better understanding of the swine industry in Michigan



Youth participants will earn points in the following areas:

Showmanship, Educational contests (held at Green & White, Spartan Classic, and other posted online opportunities) as well as your highest pig placing at sanctioned shows. End of year prizes will be awarded in Showmanship (Top in each of the 5 divisions as well as overall), Educational contests, and Top youth overall (a combination of showmanship, educational and pig placings) and Top Pigs divisions.

Exhibitors will have the opportunity to nominate individual hogs to be recognized in the Top Pig division at the end of the year! (Additional fee required).

MI PIGS program Rules & Regulations:

1. Only Michigan residents who are 3 years old by January 1, 2025, but not older than 21 as of January 1, 2025 are eligible to participate in the program. MI PIGS sanctioned shows must follow the age guidelines that will allow youngest (3 yrs. as of 1/1/25) or oldest (21 yrs. as of 1/1/25) MI PIGS youth to participate in a competitive setting. (MLE age requirements are an exception). We welcome youth with a chronological age greater than 21 years of age who participate in 4-H or school activities with their developmental aged peers, to participate. (As recommended by the American with Disabilities Act).
2. MI SHOWS exhibitors must be a resident of Michigan for more than 6 months in each calendar year and must attend a Michigan school (exception made for Michigan resident college students attending out of state institutions).
3. To participate, MI PIGS exhibitors must pay a \$25 registration fee. This is a one-time fee for the show season. (March to September 2025) Each exhibitor must complete the entry process BEFORE the exhibitor's first sanctioned show. In 2025 educational contests at Green & White will also be included.
4. Online entries – Exhibitors are responsible for completing the registration process using the online system (Showman.app). Online registration will have a date/time stamp and must be completed prior to the first show where the youth exhibitor will be collecting points. (exception in 2025 for educational contests at Green & White). **IMPORTANT: The log in (email) used for MI Pigs Series sign up is the SAME Log in that must be used for all entries for sanctioned shows!** This is CRITICAL to accomplish appropriate points calculation. All youth in a family may be signed up using a single log in account. This account should be made available to all family members who might be completing entries for the shows in 2025.
5. All animals entered in MI PIGS must be in the ownership, possession, and care at the time of the entry by the MI PIGS exhibitor and/or immediate family and must remain in the ownership, possession, and care of the exhibitor/family throughout the remainder of the show season.

6. The animal must be owned by the youth exhibitor and/or family. To receive points the animal must be shown by the youth making entry. Exceptions for 2 or more animals in the same class.
7. MI PIGS exhibitors that are physically unable to show their animal, may have another MI PIGS exhibitor show it for them, but the owner must be present at the show and inform the MI PIGS director of the situation to earn points. If a MI PIGS exhibitor becomes ill after check-in at a show, they must contact MI PIGS director or show staff for approval. If an exhibitor becomes ill at home before leaving for a show, and cannot attend, then no points will be awarded.
8. Showmanship will be offered at every MI PIGS sanctioned show. Exhibitors must show their own animal entered in the show (or a family members pig) in showmanship to receive points. Showmanship divisions: Beginner 3-7 years; Novice 8-11 years; Junior 12 – 14 years; Intermediate 15-17 years; and Senior 18-21 years.
9. If the animal is disqualified during a class, the exhibitor will lose all points for that animal for that show.
10. Any protest regarding the MI PIGS rules not being executed at a sanctioned show must be filed at the MI PIGS sanctioned show. The protest must be written and accompanied by \$100.00. The person placing the protest is responsible for all costs incurred to verify the protest. The written protest must state plainly the cause of the complaint and must be filed before the championship drive at the show. MI PIGS protests need to be turned into a MI Pigs director (or other MI Pigs Committee members) and will be handled by the MI PIGS committee. If protest is valid the \$100 is returned, otherwise MI PIGS retains the \$100. MI PIGS reserves the right to review any possible rule violations.
11. **Conduct.** Any unsportsmanlike conduct or misrepresentation on the part of a MI PIGS exhibitor, parent or board member will not be tolerated. All exhibitors are always expected to be cooperative and courteous. If a MI PIGS exhibitor or parent, is found to have misrepresented themselves potential disciplinary actions may follow. This includes social media. If proof is brought to the attention of the MI PIGS director that you violated a MI PIGS rule or have shown unsportsmanlike conduct, MI PIGS board of directors has the right to remove points from animal/exhibitor that is found in violation or suspend/expel an exhibitor from MI PIGS. MI PIGS exhibitors expelled from a sanctioned show for major rules violations, inhumane treatment, or similar activities, may be considered for expulsion from the MI PIGS program. The board of directors will have the responsibility of determining violations and or sanctions within the MI PIGS program and their determination is final.
12. **Conduct and Registration:** All youth and families who register for MI Pigs membership are agreeing to abide by the rules and all conduct as stated above. Illegal activities at MI Pigs events by youth/family members as well as unsportsmanlike or unethical conduct may result in expulsion from the MI Pigs program.
13. MI PIGS does not govern sanctioned shows. The show must uphold its own set of rules. If there is a question at a sanctioned show, each individual show will handle the situation accordingly. If an exhibitor is disqualified from a show, the exhibitor will not receive any points from that show.
14. Point totals will be published using the online system. Educational Contest points will be posted separately. It is the responsibility of each exhibitor to review totals for accuracy and report any discrepancies within 15 days of the posting.

MI PIGS Points System

1. Total points will be kept for each individual exhibitor and their individual animals entered at each show.
2. Awards will be presented to Top Overall Exhibitors, Top Showmanship exhibitors (overall and in each age division) and Top Educational Contest division. (Top Pig awards described below).
3. The exhibitor's top points from not more than 10 shows will be used for the year-end totals.
(Note shows that hold an AM/PM are counted as 2 separate shows)

4. If a MI PIGS exhibitor is beaten by a non-MI PIGS exhibitor, the MI PIGS exhibitor will receive points for the actual place in the class.
5. The single highest placing pig for each exhibitor will be counted for each show.
6. Points shall be earned on the following basis:

Class placing:

- 1st place = number of head in class x 6
- 2nd place = number of head in class x 5
- 3rd place = number of head in class x 4
- 4th place = number of head in class x 3
- 5th place = number of head in class x 2
- 6th place to last place = number of head in class x 1

Division Champion = 15 pts + class pts are replaced by the 1st place pts of the largest class of that division.

Reserve Division Champion = 10 pts + class pts are replaced by the 1st place pts of the largest class of that division.

For shows that offer market and breeding gilt classes – Each section (market or breeding) will be counted separately.

For shows/divisions of less than 125 head:

- Overall Champion = 40 pts. (+ largest class of day market/gilt and champion points)
- Overall Reserve Champion = 35 pts. (+ largest class of day market/gilt and champion points)
- 3rd Overall Champion = 30 pts. (+ largest class of day market/gilt and champion points)
- 4th Overall Champion = 20 pts. (+ largest class of day market/gilt and champion points)
- 5th Overall Champion = 10 pts. (+ largest class of day market/gilt and champion points)

For shows/division over 125 head:

- Overall Champion = 60 pts. (+ largest class of day market/gilt and champion points)
- Overall Reserve Champion = 50 pts. (+ largest class of day market/gilt and champion points)
- 3rd Overall Champion = 40 pts. (+ largest class of day market/gilt and champion points)
- 4th Overall Champion = 30 pts. (+ largest class of day market/gilt and champion points)
- 5th Overall Champion = 20 pts. (+ largest class of day market/gilt and champion points)

7. All points recorded for a class are based on the actual number of hogs that enter the show ring for that particular class.
8. Exhibitor MUST show their own animal (entered in the show) in showmanship.
9. **SHOWMANSHIP** points shall be earned on the following basis:
 - a. For shows greater than or equal to 91 total exhibitors in showmanship
 - i. Points will be given for the top 10 showman in each age division –
 - ii. Champion Showman 60 pts
 - iii. Reserve Showman 55 pts.
 - iv. 3rd Overall Showman 50 pts.
 - v. 4th Overall showman 45 pts.
 - vi. 5th Overall Showman 40 pts.
 - vii. Exhibitors that make the cut in showmanship 15 pts.
 - viii. All exhibitors who show in showmanship – but don't make the cut 5 pts.
 - b. For shows less than 91 total exhibitors in showmanship
 - i. Points will be given for the top 5 showman in each age division –
 - ii. Champion Showman 45 pts.
 - iii. Reserve Showman 40 pts.

- iv. 3rd Overall Showman 35 pts.
 - v. 4th Overall Showman 30 pts.
 - vi. 5th Overall Showman 25 pts.
 - vii. Exhibitors that make the cut in showmanship 10 pts.
 - viii. All exhibitors who show in showmanship – but don't make the cut 5 pts.
10. Educational Contest Division
- a. For a participant to be eligible for the Top Overall Exhibitor awards the exhibitor will have to participate in at least 4 Educational activities.
 - b. Educational Contest points will count from 2025 Green & White, Summer Classic, MLE and other shows/events as assigned below.
 - c. Educational Contest activities will include photography, essay, poster, graphic design, speech, livestock judging and skill-a-thon, quizzes and similar activities.
 - d. We will be offering a variety of educational activities. These will be offered throughout the MI PIGS show season. Please watch Facebook for these activities and due dates. All educational activities must be completed by September 1.
 - e. Educational Contest points shall be earned on the following basis:
 - i. 1st place will receive 25 pts. in each contest
 - ii. 2nd place will receive 20 pts. in each contest
 - iii. 3rd place will receive 15 pts. in each contest
 - iv. 4th place will receive 10 pts. in each contest
 - v. 5th place will receive 7 pts. in each contest
 - vi. All participants not placing in the top 5 will receive 5 pts for each contest.
 - vii. The top 4 Educational activity points will be used toward the total points for Premier Exhibitor.
11. In the case of a tie – all ties will be broke using educational activities completed. (Total Educational points)
12. Contests/Events that are not scored but are participated in will result in 5 points being awarded to each participant.

Educational Contests for 2024:

1. MI Pigs participants interested in being eligible for the top overall exhibitors must complete a minimum of 4 contests. The highest 4 scores will be used in calculating the overall exhibitor scoring if more than 4 contests are completed.

All contests at 2025 Green & White (Quiz, scavenger hunt, judging, design contest)

All contests held at 2025 Spartan Classic - June 2025. (Quiz, design contest, etc)

Quiz at Michigan Livestock Expo (for youth enelgible for entry at MLE – the quiz will be offered using an online link and scored separately).

Not less than 3 online submission contests posted on MI Pigs Social media and emailed to all contestants. These contests will be in May, June, and July 2025.

Completion of YQCA training (credit for successful completion). YQCA can be completed at:

<https://yqcaprogram.org/> Submit certificate of completion to MI Pigs director (mipigsinfo@gmail.com).

MI Pigs Top Pig Contest rules:

- 1. Individual pigs may be entered, and points will be tracked and recorded. Each pig must participate in a minimum of 5 sanctioned shows. Points will be calculated for the top 10 shows.
- 2. Each pig will be entered and record EID tag numbers as well as ear notches, breed and barrow/gilt. Sanctioned shows will be asked to record EID tag number/ear notch for all hogs entered.
- 3. Entry fee is \$25 per hog.
- 4. Pigs must be shown by immediate members of the family making entry (members of the same household/address). All names must be listed at time of entry.

5. Pigs must be in the constant care and ownership of the family making entry.
6. End of year awards will be made to the top 5 crossbred pigs and top 5 breed pigs overall. If entries support, awards will also be awarded to individual breeds.
7. Entries must be completed using the online form prior to the first show where points are awarded.
8. Points will be awarded to pigs using the same sliding scale listed above.
9. Points in only one section (market or breeding) at each show will be counted for each pig.
10. There is no requirement to entry pigs in the Top Pig Contest. All pigs shown by eligible MI Pigs youth can collect points, regardless of entry in the Top Pig Contest.

Sign up on the Showman.app website:

<https://showman.app/shows#/show-series/mi-pigs/join>