

MI Pigs 2026
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MI PIGS is a youth program that recognizes Michigan's youth exhibitors through sanctioned pig shows that include showmanship, educational contests, and activities. Youth who participate in the sanctioned shows earn points for their placement. Points are tracked for pigs shown by that exhibitor, as well as showmanship and educational contests, and activities throughout the show season.

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
 - Green & White
 - Spartan Classic
 - Michigan Livestock Exposition
 - Online Educational Opportunities throughout the year.
- Market Hog Placings

Youth Participants are all invited to attend our Annual Year-End Banquet, which will include:

- Dinner
- Prizes
 - ★ Overall Showman in each Age Division
 - Beginner, Novice, Junior, Intermediate, Senior
 - Overall Showman for the Year
 - ★ Top Youth Overall
 - Showmanship
 - Educational Contest
 - Pig Placement

MI Pigs Participants MUST follow these RULES and REGULATIONS to be a member:

- *Michigan Residents Only*
 - MI Pig SHOW exhibitors must be residents 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 years old by January 1, 2026, but NOT older than 21 as of January 1, 2026*
 - The age guidelines will allow the youngest (3 years, as of 1/1/26) or oldest (21 years, as of 1/1/26) 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 developmentally aged peers to participate. (As recommended by the Americans with Disabilities Act).
 - 3-year-old youth exhibitors are required to show independently without assistance in the show ring to qualify for MI PIGS points.
 - To be eligible for MI PIGS points, 3-year-olds and older must show independently without any help in the show ring.
- *Complete Online \$25 Registration for MI PIGS*
 - This is a one-time fee for the show season. (January to October 2026) Each exhibitor must complete the entry process **BEFORE** the exhibitor's first sanctioned show.
 - ★ 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 before the first show where the youth exhibitor will be collecting points.
 - ★ **IMPORTANT:**
 - **The login (email) used for the MI Pigs Series sign-up is the SAME Login that must be used for all entries for sanctioned shows!**
 - This is critical to accurately calculate the points.
 - All youth exhibitors in a family may be signed up under the same account using a single login account. This account should be made available to all family members who might be completing entries for the shows in 2026.
- All animals entered in MI PIGS must be in:
 - **Ownership** of the MI Pig exhibitor throughout the remainder of the show season.

- **Possession** of the MI Pig exhibitor throughout the remainder of the show season.
- **Care** of the MI Pig exhibitor throughout the remainder of the show season.
- The animal must be owned by the youth exhibitor and/or family. To receive points, the animal must be shown by the youth making the entry. Exceptions for 2 or more animals in the same class.
- MI PIGS exhibitors who 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 an MI PIGS exhibitor becomes ill after check-in at a show, they must contact the MI PIGS director or the 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.
- Showmanship will be offered at every MI PIGS-sanctioned show. Exhibitors must show their own animal entered in the show (or a family member's pig) in showmanship to receive points.
 - Showmanship divisions:
 - Beginner 3-7 years
 - Novice 8-11 years
 - Junior 12 – 14 years
 - Intermediate 15-17 years
 - Senior 18-21 years.
- If the animal is disqualified during a class, the exhibitor will lose all points for that animal for that show.
- 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 the protest is valid, the \$100 is returned; otherwise, MI PIGS retains the \$100. MI PIGS reserves the right to review any possible rule violations.

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 an 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, the MI PIGS board of directors has the right to remove points from the 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.

Conduct and Registration:

- All youth and families who register for MI Pigs membership agree 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.
- 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 show will handle the situation accordingly. If an exhibitor is disqualified from a show, the exhibitor will not receive any points from that show.
- 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

- Total points will be kept for each exhibitor and their animals entered at each show.
- Awards will be presented to:
 - Top Overall Exhibitors
 - Top Showmanship exhibitors (overall and in each age division)
 - Top Educational Contest division
- The exhibitor's top points from not more than **7 shows** will be used for the year-end totals.
- If an MI PIGS exhibitor is beaten by a non-MI PIGS exhibitor, the MI PIGS exhibitor will receive points for their actual placement in the class.
- The single highest-placing pig for each exhibitor will be counted for each show.
- Points shall be earned on the following basis:

Class placings:

- **1st place** = number of head in class x 5
- **2nd place** = number of head in class x 4
- **3rd place** = number of head in class x 3
- **4th place** = number of head in class x 2
- **5th 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/divisions of less than 125 head:**

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

Points Example:

- BOB wins 1st place in Class #1. There are **10 Pigs** total in his class ($10 \times 6 = 60$ points). BOB is the **OVERALL RESERVE CHAMPION**, which
 - = $35 \text{pts} + \text{Class winnings}(60) = 95 \text{ pts}$. BOB was in the LARGEST Class of the day with 10 pigs
- SARAH wins 1st place in Class #2. There are **8 Pigs** total in her class ($8 \times 6 = 48$ points). SARAH is the **OVERALL CHAMPION**, which
 - = $40 \text{pts} + \text{Class winnings}(48) = 88 \text{pts}$
 - SARAH'S class winnings were **adjusted** to the LARGEST class of the day of **10 Pigs** $10 \times 6 = 60 \text{pts}$, SARAH'S NEW TOTAL $60 + 40 = 100 \text{pts}$

★ **For shows/division over 125 head:**

- ❖ **Overall Champion** = 60 pts. (+ largest class of day market champion points)
- ❖ **Overall Reserve Champion** = 50 pts. (+ largest class of day market and champion points)
- ❖ **3rd Overall Champion** = 40 pts. (+ largest class of day market and champion points)
- ❖ **4th Overall Champion** = 30 pts. (+ largest class of day market and champion points)
- ❖ **5th Overall Champion** = 20 pts. (+ largest class of day market and champion points)
 - All points recorded for a class are based on the actual number of hogs that enter the show ring for that particular class.

- Exhibitors MUST show their own animal (entered in the show) in showmanship.

SHOWMANSHIP points shall be earned on the following basis:

- ★ **For shows greater than or equal to 91 total exhibitors in showmanship**
 - ❖ Points will be given for the Top 10 showmen in each age division –
 - ❖ Champion Showman 60 pts
 - ❖ Reserve Showman 55 pts.
 - ❖ 3rd Overall Showman 50 pts.
 - ❖ 4th Overall showman 45 pts.
 - ❖ 5th Overall Showman 40 pts.
 - Exhibitors that make the cut in showmanship 15 pts.
 - All exhibitors who show in showmanship, but don't make the cut, 5 pts.
- ★ **For shows with fewer than 91 total exhibitors in showmanship**
 - ❖ Points will be given for the Top 5 showmen in each age division –
 - ❖ Champion Showman 45 pts.
 - ❖ Reserve Showman 40 pts.
 - ❖ 3rd Overall Showman 35 pts.
 - ❖ 4th Overall Showman 30 pts.
 - ❖ 5th Overall Showman 25 pts.
 - Exhibitors that make the cut in showmanship 10 pts.
 - All exhibitors who show in showmanship – but don't make the cut, 5 pts.

Educational Contest Division

- ★ For a participant to be eligible for the Top Overall Exhibitor awards, the exhibitor will have to participate in **at least 4 Educational activities**.
- ★ Educational Contest points will count from the 2026 Green & White, Spartan Classic, MLE, and other shows/events as assigned below.
- ★ Educational Contest activities will include photography, essay, poster, graphic design, speech, livestock judging and skill-a-thon, quizzes, and similar activities.

- ★ 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 October 1.

Educational Contest points shall be earned on the following basis:

- ❖ 1st place will receive 25 pts. in each contest
- ❖ 2nd place will receive 20 pts. in each contest
- ❖ 3rd place will receive 15 pts. in each contest
- ❖ 4th place will receive 10 pts. in each contest
- ❖ 5th place will receive 7 pts. in each contest
 - All participants not placing in the top 5 will receive 5 pts for each contest
 - The top 4 Educational activity points will be used toward the total points for Premier Exhibitor.
 - In the case of a tie, all ties will be broken using the educational activities completed. (Total Educational points)
 - Contests/Events that are not scored but are participated in will result in 5 points being awarded to each participant.

Educational Contests for 2026:

The **top 4** Educational Activity Points will be used towards your total points

- January 2026-**Green & White (Quiz, Scavenger Hunt, Judging)**
- April 2026-**Photo Contest** (Juniors/Intermediate/Seniors)
- May 2026-**Pig & Me Photo Shoot** (Beginners ONLY)
- May 2026- **Learning Lens Video** (All Youth)
- June 2026-**Spartan Classic** (All Youth)(**Quiz, Overall Skillathon**)
- June 2026- **Digital Swine Show Flyer** (Juniors/Intermediate/Seniors)
- June 2026- **Swine Packet** (Beginners ONLY)
- July 2026-**Quiz at Michigan Livestock Expo** (for youth eligible for entry at MLE – the quiz will be offered using an online link and scored separately).
- July 2026- **Pig Coloring Contest** (Beginners ONLY)
- August 2026- **Design a Promotional Flyer for Hog Sale** (Juniors/Intermediate/Seniors)
- August 2026- **Freehand Coloring Design Flyer** (Beginners ONLY)
- August 2026- **Short Story** (Beginners/Novice)
- August 2026- **Essay Contest** (Juniors/Intermediate/Seniors)
- **2026 Completion of YQCA training** (credit for successful completion)
- YQCA can be completed anytime during 2026

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

*******All the details and deadlines will be posted on Facebook*******

