



## **SC Meat Goat Project Scholarship *Application Packet***

### **ELIGIBILITY**

- The Scholarship Contest is only open to youth registered with the South Carolina Meat Goat Project. No other entries will be accepted.
- The applicant must be at least 14 but not over 18 years of age on January 1 of the current project year.
- Applicants must have attended at least three shows in addition to the SC Meat Goat Project Final Show (November 9, 2024) for the current project year.
- Applicants must participate in all six phases (skill-a-thon, record book, judging, resume & cover letter, and interview) of the scholarship contest.
- The entry form must be postmarked by the deadline (as indicated on the application). Entries will not be accepted after this date, no exceptions.
- Individuals may only be awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place monies once and 2<sup>nd</sup> place monies twice.

### **CONTEST COMPONENTS**

- Meat Goat Skill-A-Thon - This is a two-phase contest to test youth on their meat goat knowledge, including gestation, birthing, nutrition, general health, and the goat industry. The examination phase is the written exam. The station phase consists of a series of stations or tables where (at each) all contestants will respond to the requirement of each station. An example of a station would be to identify different types of hay. Please see SC Meat Project Skill-A-Thon Rules and Information available on the project website ([www.scmeatgoatproject.com](http://www.scmeatgoatproject.com)). All contest test/question material will come from the following resources:
  - SC Meat Goat Project Guide (available on the project website, [www.scmeatgoatproject.com](http://www.scmeatgoatproject.com))
  - SC Meat Goat Project Care Guide (available on the project website, [www.scmeatgoatproject.com](http://www.scmeatgoatproject.com))

- o SC Meat Goat Project Glossary of Terms (available on the project website, [www.scmeatgoatproject.com](http://www.scmeatgoatproject.com))
  - o Questions judges ask throughout the show season.
  - o Equipment and tools (catalogs available on Sullivan Supply, Inc- <https://www.sullivansupply.com/> and Weaver Livestock- <https://www.thewinnersbrand.com/>)
  - o Forages (<https://goats.extension.org/goat-pastures-and-forages/>)
  - o Grains and feeds (<https://content.ces.ncsu.edu/nutritional-feeding-management-of-meat-goats#:~:text=Lush%20leafy%20forage%20and%20browse.meal%20and%20corn%20gluten%20feed.>)
- **Record Book** - Applicants keep records and complete activities throughout the project as explained in the SC Meat Goat Project Record Book: General Rules and Information available on the project website. A photocopy of your completed record book or original record book will be submitted no later than 1 hour after completion of the Final Show. They will be scored within each age group based on the criteria listed in the record book. \*Do not turn in your original copy as these will not be returned until the project awards banquet if you need the record for any reason.
  - **Judging** – Applicants will participate in the judging contest held at the final show. During this contest, youth place multiple classes of four live market goats to test their skills gained in the selection and evaluation of market goats. Contest participants and scholarship applicants are not required to give judging reasons.
  - **Cover Letter and Resume** - A Cover Letter and Resume must accompany the entry form. Your application will not be considered complete without these items. Guidelines and examples of a Cover Letter and Resume are included in this packet.
    - o The cover letter should not be a narrative of your resume. Instead, use this to introduce your personality to the judge. Describe who you are, what this project has done for you, why you deserve this scholarship, and what you will do if awarded the scholarship. Your cover letter must not exceed one page in length with 1" margins!
    - o The resume should list your accomplishments, experiences, and skills, including projects and other related involvements (4-H, FFA, school). The resume must not exceed two pages in length with 1" margins; no pictures allowed.
  - **Interview** - The Interview will be on the morning of the Final Show. A schedule for the day with times will be sent to all applicants once the committee has determined the Final Show schedule (usually at least a month before the show). You must be present for the interview to remain eligible for the scholarship contest. Interview attire is business casual. Business casual is defined as:
    - o For women – a reasonable length skirt (not a mini skirt) or full-length pants of a non-jean material combined with a top or an informal dress;
    - o For men – a collared shirt {can be button-down or a polo}, trousers with a belt

and shoes; unacceptable for either gender – gym clothes, crumpled or ripped clothing, miniskirts, bare midriffs, flip-flops.)

- **Showmanship** - The Showmanship Class will be an additional class added to the final show specifically for scholarship applicants. Details about time and locations will be made available once the committee has determined the Final Show schedule (usually about at least a month before the show). Showmanship attire is as you would dress for any show.

**SCORING**

The scholarship will be awarded to the individuals starting with the highest total score added together as follows:

Possible Points	Component	Description
100	Skill-A-Thon	100 possible points are available through the written exam and station portion of the contest.
100	Record Book	100 possible points given using the rubric available on page 8.
150	Judging	50 possible points given on each of the three market goat judging classes.
100	Cover Letter & Resume	100 possible points given using the rubric available on page 6.
100	Interview	100 possible points given using the rubric available on page 7.
100	Showmanship	100 possible points given using the following point scale: 1st place - 100 points 2nd place - 90 points 3rd place - 80 points 4th place - 70 points 5th place - 60 points 6th place - 50 points 7th place - 40 points 8th place - 30 points 9th place - 20 points 10th place - 10 points Any placing below 10th place - 5 points
<b>650</b>	<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE POINTS</b>	

*Scoring formula for categories that have a total point higher than their scholarship points value (Record Book, Judging) = (points scored/total points possible)/scholarship point value*

## **TIEBREAKERS**

In the event of a tie, the individual with the highest score in the following categories will be used, in the order listed, to determine the scholarship recipients:

1. Record Book Score
2. Skill-A-Thon
3. Interview
4. Judging

## **AWARDS**

- Scholarships will be awarded to the highest-scoring individuals based on the scoring criteria listed above.
- The Project Committee works hard to secure funds for scholarships. The actual amount depends on how much funding is available each year. Therefore, the number of scholarships available may vary from year to year.
  - A tentative number of scholarships will be announced once the advisory committee has the final details about potential sponsors at least two weeks before the final show.
  - The advisory committee will announce the final, confirmed number of scholarships at the final show during the scholarship contest.
- Awards are as follows based on monies raised each year:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> place 60%
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> place 40%
- Winners are required to write a timely thank you letter/card to the scholarship sponsor. The project committee must be provided with a copy of the letter/card sent to the sponsor/s and notified of the date sent.
- Scholarships will be paid out after proof of continuing education classes is submitted and may be paid directly to the Technical School, College, or University of the individual's choice or used for books or other educational supplies as needed.
- Monies not requested or used by the individual's 22<sup>nd</sup> birthday will be forfeited.

## **AWARDS BANQUET**

- Scholarship winners will be announced at the Awards Banquet in January following the Final Show. Information will be sent out regarding the banquet to all project participants.

### **Guidelines for Meat Goat Scholarship Cover Letter**

Your cover letter should introduce you to the committee and reflect your personality. The examples below are just to give you an idea of what to write.

#### **Format**

No more than 1 page with 1" margins.

Must be typed; follow a standard business letter format.

No less than 11 point font size; font must be easily read.

Must contain complete personal information (name, address, email address, etc.).

Must be included with the scholarship application.

Spelling, punctuation, and grammar must be correct.

Must contain the following sections:

- Street Address: Type your address only if it is not part of the letterhead
- Current Date
- Recipient's Address: Be as specific as possible.
- Salutation: Be as specific as possible (Dear Scholarship Committee)
- Paragraph 1: A brief introduction of yourself and your future goals.
- Paragraph 2: Describe what the meat goat industry means to you, why you deserve the scholarship, and what you will do if awarded the scholarship.
- Paragraph 3: Provide a conclusion and your contact information.
- Signature: Make sure to sign your letter in cursive writing.

### **Guidelines for Meat Goat Scholarship Resume**

Your resume should further tell the committee about you and your experiences.

#### **Format**

No more than 2 pages.

No less than ¼ inch margins on each edge.

Must be typed.

No less than 10 point font size; font must be easily read.

Must contain identifying information (name, address, email address, etc.).

Must be submitted with a matching letterhead with a cover letter and application.

Spelling and grammar must be correct.

Must contain the following sections:

- Objective: Your mission statement. State your future goal and/or reason you are preparing the resume.
- Summary: Detail your strengths and experiences related to the objective of the resume.
- Education: Comprehensive list of education and related course work.
- Experience: Summarize any jobs (paid or unpaid), explain all experiences using active verbs.
- Activities: Summarize all project or project-related activities. Summarize any other organizations, sports teams, church, or community activities.
- Awards: List any awards or accomplishments that the scholarship committee should know. List the award title, date awarded, and criteria or why you received the award (if applicable).

## Meat Goat Project Scholarship Cover Letter and Resume Score Sheet

Participant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Possible Points	Category	Judging Criteria	Points Awarded
<b>Cover Letter</b>			
5	Introduction	The audience and purpose of the cover letter are strong and clear. The opening paragraph gives a brief introduction of the applicant, indicates the letter's purpose, and directs the reader to their resume (if not done elsewhere).	
10	Body of Letter	The cover letter describes what the project has done for the applicant, why they deserve this scholarship, and what they will do if awarded the scholarship.	
5	Conclusion	The cover letter has an appropriate closing, including a statement thanking the reader, mentioning contact information, and referring to the resume (if not done elsewhere).	
3	Appearance & Organization	Content flows smoothly and makes sense—clear sections with ample white space. Easily read, neat with no spelling or grammar errors. Consistent and overall, aesthetically pleasing. Do letter and resume appear to go together?	
2	Technical Details	Followed directions. Followed outlines. No spelling or grammar errors.	
<b>Resume</b>			
15	Objective & Summary	The audience and purpose of the resume are strong and clear. The wording is creative and attention-getting. Explains why you are the best investment.	
50	Overall Resume Content	Items are relevant, and each section includes required information (dates, locations, specific details, etc.)	
5	Appearance & Organization	Content flows smoothly and makes sense. Clear sections with ample white space. Easily readable, neat with no spelling or grammar errors. The use of bullets, bolding, and underlines are adequate but limited. Consistent and overall, aesthetically pleasing. Do letter and resume appear to go together?	
5	Technical Details	Followed directions. Followed outlines. No spelling or grammar errors.	
<b>100</b>	<b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>	<b>TOTAL POINTS AWARDED</b>	

## Meat Goat Project Scholarship Interview Score Sheet

Participant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Possible Points	Category	Judging Criteria	Points Awarded
15	First Impression	Greeting and introduction, a proper handshake, on time, and dress appropriately.	
25	Technical Detail	Voice, speech, grammar, vocabulary, pronunciation, and eye contact. Self-confident, personality, and poise.	
10	General Attitude	Show interest in the scholarship process and is enthusiastic about the interview. The contestant is relaxed and confident.	
50	Preparedness and Quality of Answers	Is comfortable with the interview process and appears to be prepared. Shows knowledge and prepared responses to questions.	
<b>100</b>	<b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>	<b>TOTAL POINTS AWARDED</b>	

## Meat Goat Project Record Book Score Sheet

Participant's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Possible Points	Category	Judging Criteria	Points Awarded
5	Cover or Title Page	The following information should be provided: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must include youth's first and last name.</li> <li>• County in which the youth resides.</li> <li>• Email address for youth or parent.</li> <li>• Age and youth's date of birth.</li> </ul>	
25	Project Work	Includes activities in the meat goat project and/or related to the meat goat project (examples: non-project organized meat goat activities, in-state or out-of-state meat goat activities). These can be clinics, workshops, shows (placing & awards), sales, tours, visits with livestock producers/professionals, time spent working with your animal (include hours in comments), and much more. Experiences that involve training your project animal, improving animal living conditions, and general farm management can be included in this section (daily chores should not be included). It is also important to include animal records that don't fit in other sections, for example, weight gain.	
10	Leadership	Leadership activities may include (but are not limited to) offices held, committees served on, serving as a teen leader for an activity, or assisting a fellow project member. These leadership roles may be done as part of or outside of the project, including (but not limited to) 4-H, FFA, church, and school groups.	
20	Health Record	It is vital to keep an accurate record of all your animals' health. These can include (but not limited to) vaccinations, worming, when an animal is sick, and treatment of sickness or injury.	
20	Project Finances	Project assets, project expenses (feed, equipment, etc.), animal health expenses, other expenses (show fees, membership fees, project fees, etc.), and project income can be recorded in this section. Don't forget to show us a profit or loss at the end! You can keep records on just your project animal or your herd of meat goats.	
15	Support Materials	This section is devoted to supporting all project-related work. These may include photos, news articles, letters, ribbons, sale catalogs, and other pieces of information that support the youth's work. In this section, items may overlap, but they must lay flat on the page. Shingling is not allowed. (Shingling is a process where one item opens to view another.) We ask that support material have a caption explaining their importance. All support materials must be securely attached. Extra points will not be given for decorations.	
5	Reliability and Layout	This section of the rubric is not for a physical section in the record book but rather an evaluation of the book's overall completeness. The judge will be looking to see if all sections are present, accurate/complete records are kept, neatness of handwriting (age-appropriate), and correctness of spelling and grammar is considered in this section.	
<b>100</b>	<b>TOTAL POINTS POSSIBLE</b>	<b>TOTAL POINTS AWARDED</b>	





## SC Meat Goat Project Scholarship Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age as of Jan 1<sup>st</sup>: \_\_\_\_\_ Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Please fill the following with at least three meat goat shows you have completed during the current year.

Date	Name of Show	Location

**The application must be postmarked by October 21, 2024.** No application will be accepted after this postmarked date.

The application will be considered complete if it includes all of the following:

1. Completely filled out application.
2. Cover Letter
3. Resume

Please email to [scmeatgoatproject@yahoo.com](mailto:scmeatgoatproject@yahoo.com) or mailed to the following address:

SC Meat Goat Project Scholarship  
Attn: Rebecca Williamson  
509 Walker Rd., Ware Shoals, SC 29692