



American Royal Interview Contest

Entry Deadline: 11:59 PM CST on September 25, 2026

About

The purpose of the American Royal Interview Contest is to prepare youth exhibitors for their future careers. In the preliminary round, individuals will develop a resume and cover letter that includes factual and relevant information about their work, experiences, education, etc. that they can use for their future endeavors. Only the top applicants in each age division will advance to the interview portion of the contest, where they will complete a mock interview related to their selected position.

[CLICK HERE TO ENTER](#)

Rules

1. Participants must be a Youth Exhibitor of the American Royal Fall Livestock Show, i.e. participants must, or will, have competed in the American Royal Fall Livestock Show Event from October 15, 2026, to October 17, 2026, to be eligible. No outside entries will be accepted. Age divisions are listed below.
2. No participant will be eligible to compete in any contest at the American Royal if they have any sanctions or disciplinary action taken against them by the North American Livestock Show & Rodeo Managers Association, The International Association of Fairs and Expositions, 4-H, FFA, and/or breed association(s).
3. The contest coordinator and the management of the American Royal reserve the right to rule on any question of eligibility not covered in the preceding rules.
4. All work must be that of the entrant.
5. Entry material will be submitted online and the top 10 participants in each age division will be selected to partake in an interview at the American Royal Complex on October 15, 2026.
6. Participants will be divided into their respective age divisions and their interview will be focused on the topic areas listed below.
 - a. **Junior:** Showmanship Interview (Interview will not exceed 5 minutes)
 - b. **Intermediate:** Scholarship Interview (Interview will not exceed 7 minutes)
 - c. **Senior:** Internship Interview (Interview will not exceed 10 minutes)
7. Junior division participants must submit a demographic form conveying information about their animal. Junior division participants **do not** have to create a resume or cover letter.
 - a. [Click here to submit your demographic form here.](#)



8. Intermediate and Senior division participants must submit an updated resume and cover letter conveying why they should be selected to receive the scholarship/internship. Scholarship and Internship descriptions are listed below.
 - a. Click [here](#) to submit your resume and cover letter.
9. Submitted materials should be updated each year as resumes and cover letters cannot be presented for a contest at a previous American Royal Livestock Show.
10. Files must be saved in a .pdf format and submitted electronically by the contest deadline.
 - a. The file name must include first initial and last name, i.e., JDoe_Resume and JDoe_CoverLetter
11. A panel of qualified judges selected by the American Royal Association will score entries and conduct interviews.
12. Submitted materials will be critiqued based on the following:
 - a. Organization, content, grammar, relevance, completeness.
13. The interview will be critiqued based on the following:
 - a. Communication ability, response to questions, and overall impression
14. Final placings will be determined by submitted materials and interview scores.
15. In the event of a tie, judges will determine the tiebreaker.
16. The top ten applicants from each age divisions will be determined and contacted prior to the 2026 American Royal Fall Livestock Show. The selected individuals are required to participate in an interview to be considered for the top three placings. Participants will interview on **October 15, 2026**, at a scheduled time with industry leaders and professionals to finalize the placings.
 - a. If a participant has a conflict with their scheduled time for their sales pitch because of their showmanship class, they should notify the American Royal Education Department at education@americanroyal.com, as soon as possible.
17. The top three applicants from each age division will be recognized on October 17, 2026, either before the Royal Elite Drive or JPLA.
18. Contestants are encouraged to wear business casual clothing for the interview. Show attire is also acceptable.



Age Divisions

Based on the age of the individual on January 1, 2026

- Junior: 7-12 years old (Interview will not exceed 5 minutes)
- Intermediate: 13-16 years old (Interview will not exceed 7 minutes)
- Senior: 17-21 years old (Interview will not exceed 10 minutes)

Scholarship description and internship description are listed below.



Intermediate Division

Scholarship Description

The American Royal Association is presenting a \$1,000 dollar scholarship to a Fall Livestock Show Exhibitor. The recipient of this scholarship should be a representation of the American Royal Association and its values while understanding the importance of advocating for the livestock industry. This scholarship will be awarded to an individual who exhibits outstanding leadership, academic excellence, and industry involvement.

The scholarship recipient must plan to pursue higher education by attending either a vocational/trade school, a junior college, or a senior college. The recipient's degree must relate to the agriculture industry. The recipient should demonstrate an understanding of the American Royal Association and the food and agriculture industry.

American Royal Mission, Vision, and Purpose

Our mission is to be the Nation's leader for food and agriculture education, events, and engagement.

Our vision is a world where food and agriculture are celebrated, and all generations are committed to its future.

We exist to champion food and agriculture.

All descriptions are hypothetical.

Reminder to submit an updated resume and cover letter conveying why you should be selected to receive this scholarship.

[Click here to submit your cover letter and resume.](#)



Senior Division

Internship Description

The American Royal Association is seeking an individual to serve as their Spring Livestock Show Intern to assist with preparation for the show being hosted in March 2027. The selected individual will work directly with the American Royal Staff in various departments, including the Communication Department, Livestock Department, and Veterinarian Staff. This is a seasonal position, lasting from January through April, with required attendance at the Spring Livestock Show.

The main responsibilities for this position are assisting with executing marketing and communication deliverables, assisting with the livestock office, and assisting with the veterinary preparation for the event.

Responsibilities

- Assist the American Royal Communications team with creating and posting social content on proper channels
- Capture pictures before, during, and after the event
- Highlight important stories that showcase our mission
- Capture video content through contestant interviews, performances, etc.
- Assist with DNA order processing, data entry, filing, and organization
- General customer service including telephone calls, emails, messages
- Proof and sort awards
- Prepare Livestock Show results
- Assist with addressing animal health concerns as needed during the show
- Ensure proper DNA management and processing
- Complete proper drug testing procedures
- Manage and maintain proper records of health certificates from all exhibitors

All descriptions are hypothetical.

Reminder to submit an updated resume and cover letter conveying why you should be selected for the internship.

[Click here to submit your cover letter and resume.](#)