

**2026**  
**TENNESSEE ASSOCIATION OF FAIRS MERIT AWARDS**

Fairs are evaluated by the State Merit Awards Committee. If determined worthy, your fair will receive an Award of Merit, 2<sup>nd</sup> runner-up, 1st runner-up, or champion award from the Tennessee Department of Agriculture respective of the four classifications of A, AA, AAA, or Regional. The Tennessee Association of Fairs will also present a “Most Improved” award for a fair in A, AA, or AAA classification and a Champion of Champions Award. In order for a fair to be eligible for one of the state or association awards, a fair must have paid \$1,000 or more in premiums for *approved* agricultural exhibits at their most recent fair.

**Name of Fair** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fair Mailing Address** \_\_\_\_\_

**Physical Address of Fair** (include street or highway number, city, and ZIP)\_\_\_\_\_

**Age of Fair \_\_\_\_\_ 2026 Fair Dates \_\_\_\_\_**

## CERTIFICATION

We hereby certify that the information in this application is true and accurate, and we agree to stand by the decision of the Merit Awards Committee.

President \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Secretary \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Manager \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

**MUST** be signed by at least two (2) fair officials. Premium catalog **MUST** accompany this application.

**MAIL TO: Blake Laws, Exec. Director**

**DEADLINE: November 1, 2026**

# Tennessee Association of Fairs

**1401 Williamsburg Dr.**

**Union City, TN 38261**

FAIR SUMMARY

FAIR CLASSIFICATION

Area served by fair: CountyRegional

Estimated total attendance (free and/or paid)

PARTICIPATION

Number of individual exhibits or entries (Totals p. 3 + p. 4)

Number of individual exhibitors (Totals p. 3 + p. 4)

Number of commercial exhibits

Number of volunteers assisting with fair during year

Number of hours contributed by volunteers

PREMIUM INFORMATION

Total amount offered in all premiums (i.e. prize money, agriculture, demolition derby, horse show, tractor pull, etc.)

Total amount actually paid in all premiums (cash)

Total amount offered in approved agricultural premiums

Total amount actually paid in approved agricultural premiums

FINANCES

County or local aid (County or local government funding)

Gross receipts for fair week only (excluding state or local aid. This is income that pertains to fair week. It may be collected at other times but is generated BECAUSE OF fair week, such as booth rent collected 3 weeks prior to fair.)

Actual expenses (excluding permanent improvements)

Expenses made for permanent improvements

Gain or Loss for fairGainLoss

Unusual circumstances resulting in the gain or loss

General weather conditions during the fair

Fair

2024

2025

2026

2

## Departments

## No. of Exhibits (entries)

## No. of Exhibitors (individuals)

## Livestock &amp; other animals

2024

2025

2026

2024

2025

2026

|                                        |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|----------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 1. Beef (Open Competition)             |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Junior Beef (Youth)                 |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Dairy (Open Competition)            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 4. Junior Dairy (Youth)                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 5. Sheep (Open Competition)            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 6. Junior Sheep (Youth)                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 7. Swine (Open Competition)            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 8. Junior Swine (Youth)                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 9. Mules & Draft Horses                |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 10. Goats – Total                      |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Meat Goats                             |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Dairy Goats                            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 11. Poultry                            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 12. Rabbits                            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 13. Other animals (emu, ostrich, etc.) |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Animal Products

|            |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 14. Cheese |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 15. Eggs   |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 16. Honey  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 17. Meats  |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Horticulture

|                                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-----------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 18. Youth field crops, vegetables       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 19. Adult field crops, vegetables       |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 20. Flowers, plants, arrangements. etc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Domestic Arts/Activities

|                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 21. Youth domestic arts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| 22. Adult domestic arts |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                         |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Youth Educational Exhibits (table top, free-standing)

|                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 23. FFA, 4-H, FHA/HERO, etc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                              |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## Adult Educational Exhibits (table top, free-standing)

|                                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 24. Community Club, FCE Clubs, etc. |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|                                     |  |  |  |  |  |  |

## TOTAL Agricultural Exhibits

|                               |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| TOTAL Agricultural Exhibitors |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|--|

| Departments                                                                              | No. of Exhibits (entries) |      |      | No. of Exhibitors (individuals) |      |      |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|------|------|---------------------------------|------|------|
|                                                                                          | 2024                      | 2025 | 2026 | 2024                            | 2025 | 2026 |
| 1. Adult Art                                                                             |                           |      |      |                                 |      |      |
| 2. Youth Art                                                                             |                           |      |      |                                 |      |      |
| 3. Adult Crafts                                                                          |                           |      |      |                                 |      |      |
| 4. Youth Crafts                                                                          |                           |      |      |                                 |      |      |
| 5. Adult Photography                                                                     |                           |      |      |                                 |      |      |
| 6. Youth Photography                                                                     |                           |      |      |                                 |      |      |
| 7. Vocational School Exhibits                                                            |                           |      |      |                                 |      |      |
| 8. Motorized Entries (demolition derby, tractor pull, etc.)                              |                           |      |      |                                 |      |      |
| 9. Animal Entries (horse shows, etc.)                                                    |                           |      |      |                                 |      |      |
| 10. All other competitions (pageants, cook- offs, corn hole tournaments, contests, etc.) |                           |      |      |                                 |      |      |
| TOTAL Competitive Exhibits                                                               |                           |      |      |                                 |      |      |
| TOTAL Competitive Exhibitors                                                             |                           |      |      |                                 |      |      |

FAIR FACILITIES/ACTIVITIES

1. What type of grounds do you have? (fairgrounds, school, park, ag complex, etc.)
- 
- 
2. Ownership of grounds: County Government\_\_\_\_\_ City Government\_\_\_\_\_
- School\_\_\_\_\_ Privately owned\_\_\_\_\_ Other\_\_\_\_\_
- If other, describe\_\_\_\_\_
- Number of acres\_\_\_\_\_
3. Are permanent buildings available? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_
- If yes, please list\_\_\_\_\_
- 
- 
-

**For Pages 5- 7, please use additional sheets if necessary to describe your fair:**

**Fair**\_\_\_\_\_ **5**

**4. List new features, events, or other activities introduced at your 2026 fair.**

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

**5. List and describe live demonstrations:**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**6. Describe in brief narrative what your fair is doing to encourage the following:**

## Agriculture and Industry

### Better Rural & Urban Relationships

## Youth Involvement Attendance

## Leadership Development Participation

[illegible]

**7. Did your fair participate in the recognition of Century Farms in your county? If so, please describe.**

---

---

---

---

---

---

**8. Describe ways your fair has addressed the areas of concern regarding reducing disease risks to visitors and promotion of hand-washing. Did your fair display hand-washing posters and signage? Handwashing stations? Describe actions taken. Be specific and quantitative.**

[illegible]

9. Describe improvements made to your fair and fairgrounds during 2026. Include pictures, etc.

This image shows a blank sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

**10. Give reasons you feel your fair should be considered for an award for 2026.**

[illegible]