

2026 South Carolina State Fair Equine Scholarship *sponsored by the S.C. Farm Bureau Federation*

The S.C. Farm Bureau Federation will provide a \$2.500 scholarship to the top scoring individual. The Contest will be held on Friday, October 16 and Saturday, October 17, 2026.

1. Open to South Carolina residents only.
2. Applicant must be an exhibitor in at least one class at the South Carolina State Fair Youth Horse Show the year of application. Entries for this show must be received by August 21, 2026 Deadlines are strictly enforced.
3. Applicant must be a high school student in grades 11, or 12, or enrolled in a college four-year program or a recognized technical college program; applicant must be **nineteen (19) years of age** or younger on January 1st of the current year.
4. Applicant must at some future date pursue a four-year degree program or a recognized technical college program. The scholarship monies will be paid to the college or recognized technical college program upon entry.
5. Previous winners are ineligible. An individual may be awarded this scholarship only one (1) time.
6. Applicant must submit an **Official 2026 S.C. Equine Industry Scholarship entry form**, a resume`, and cover letter by mail to Brenda Baldwin, 7313 Fontana Drive, Columbia, SC 29209 or email bjb1440@aol.com by **Monday, August 31, 2026**.

The resume` should be outlined as follows:

- Personal Information – name; address; phone number; email address
- Career Objective – This should also include how you wish to continue your involvement in the equine industry in the future.
- Education. Don't forget to include GPA.
- Equine Industry Involvement & Awards – includes association memberships
- School Leadership Activities & Awards
- Community Leadership Activities & Awards
- Other accomplishments
- Employment

8. Scholarships will be awarded to the applicants with the highest and second and third highest combined scores in the following areas:

- a. 100 points -- Resume & Cover letter** (submit to Brenda Baldwin by Aug.31, 2026)
- b. 100 points – Knowledge Assessment:** written test covering various aspects of equine husbandry and the equine industry. It will consist of fifty (50) questions.
- c. 200 points – Skills Assessment:** participation in two contest events - showmanship and horsemanship. Applicant is to provide the horse. The same horse must be used for both events
- d. 100 points - Interview** by a selected committee of three (3) industry professionals. *(Depending upon the number of applicants, this may be limited to the Top Ten finalists.).*

500 Total Points.

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Contest Timeline

Contest will be held on Friday, Oct. 16 & Saturday, Oct. 17, 2026

**Application, Resume &
Cover Letter**

Must be mailed to Brenda Baldwin and postmarked by August 31, 2026

**Knowledge
Assessment**

Test will be administered beginning at **5:30 p.m., Friday, Oct. 16.** Please report to the Horse Show Office. One hour will be allowed for completion of the test.

Interview

The interviews will begin after the testing on **Friday evening.**

Skills Assessment

The showmanship class will begin at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 17th and will be judged by the official Youth Horse Show judge. The horsemanship class will follow, after allowing time for tacking and warming up the horses. Either legal English or Western tack and attire are acceptable.

**Awards
Announcement**

The scholarships will be awarded after the scoring has been completed on Saturday.