

2026 Pig Pals Participant Registration

Pig Pals is an annual program hosted by the South Dakota Pork Producers Council! This event is intended to provide the unique opportunity of showing a pig to individuals with disabilities at the Sioux Empire Fair! Below you will find additional information and a form for those interested. We have limited space for this event and will fill on a first-come, first served basis.



Details:

WHO: Individuals with an intellectual and/or developmental disability age of 10 years and older. Each participant will be paired with a youth mentor and a pig.

WHAT: Pig Pals participants will have the opportunity to experience showing a pig. All participants will receive a ribbon, trinket bag, and up to 3 meal tickets per participant.

WHEN: Thursday, August 6, 2026 @ 11:00am

Arrival: 10:00am

Timeline: 10:15am – 10:50am mentors, participants, and pig meet and greet

11:00am – 12:30pm Pig Pals Swine Show

12:30pm – Group Photo

WHERE: Sioux Empire Livestock Show Arena, Sioux Falls, SD

SHOW ATTIRE: Closed toe shoes and long pants

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 1, 2026

PLEASE NOTE: There are a variety of activities, lights and sounds at the Sioux Empire Fair and in the Swine Barn. Please bring any calming or auditory devices necessary to enhance this opportunity for your participant. Parents/guardians and/or guests are encouraged to watch the show from the bleachers but will not be allowed in the show ring during the Show.

QUESTIONS? Please contact Abbey Riemenschneider

Email: abbeyr@sdppc.org

Phone: 712-539-8169

Please see the next pages for required consent and registration form for participants of this year's Pig Pals event. Parent/guardian is also required to complete liability waiver given.

2026 Pig Pals Registration Form

Participant Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____

Gender (circle): Female Male Age: _____

Special Needs Information:

Nature of Disability: _____

Does participant use a walker, wheelchair, or crutches? YES NO

If YES, which one: _____

Parent/Legal Guardian Name(s): _____

Address (If different from Show person): _____

Emergency Contact Name and Cell Number: _____

Relationship to Show person: _____

Submit registration form and release to:

Abbey Riemenschneider

Email: abbeyr@sdppc.org

Address: 4615 West Homefield Drive, Sioux Falls, SD 57106

Please send in the consent and registration form postmarked or emailed by July 1, 2026

2026 Pig Pals Parent/Guardian Liability & Photography Waiver

WAIVER TO BE COMPLETED BY PARENT OR GUARDIAN

I am the parent/legal guardian of _____ (participant's first and last name) I verify my child meets the participation requirements (10 years of age or older and has an intellectual and/or developmental disability) and has my permission to participate in the Pig Pals Swine Show Program.



I understand the nature of the Pig Pals show and believe my child is qualified, in good health, and is mentally and physically able to participate. I fully accept and assume all risks and responsibilities for losses, costs, and/or damages my child may incur because of his/her participation. If I, or the Pig Pals show management, feel my child's participation is unsafe at any time, I agree my child will discontinue participation immediately.

As a Pig Pals exhibitor, I hereby acknowledge that my child's photograph may be taken for use by the South Dakota Pork Producers Council, Sioux Empire Fair, and other approved agencies/companies and agree to release and hold harmless all parties to whom this or any photograph may be released. This photograph was taken for artistic reasons or newsworthiness, and I agree that it may be released to any medium and may be used in any manner for any purpose whatsoever without compensation.

I fully understand the animal project my child is working with is not my child's animal and he/she is expected to care for the animal with the utmost respect.

It is understood and agreed that neither the South Dakota Pork Producers Council, the Sioux Empire Fair, or any persons/company associated with the Pig Pals event shall be liable for damages.

PRINTED NAME OF PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

DATE

Do you consent to having your child photographed?

YES

NO