

2026 Pig Pals Volunteers Application



Pig Pals is an annual program hosted by the South Dakota Pork Producers Council! This event is intended to provide a unique opportunity for individuals with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities and give them the chance to show a pig at the Sioux Empire Fair. Below you will find additional information and a form for those interested. We have limited spots for the event, which we will fill on a first come, first served basis.

Details:

- WHO:** 4-H and FFA Members who will be partnered with a person with an intellectual and/or developmental disability to teach them how to show a pig. Adult volunteers will assist as ring help and other duties as assigned by the South Dakota Pork Producers Staff.
- WHAT:** Pig Pals participants will have the opportunity to experience showing a pig. All volunteers will receive a thank you gift and a complimentary meal.
- 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 Fair Livestock Show Arena, Sioux Falls, SD

REGISTRATION DEADLINE: July 1, 2026

EXPECTATIONS:

- All 4-H/FFA youth mentor must be age 12 or older and be enrolled in 4-H or FFA swine project
- Arrive on time and dressed in closed toe shoes and long pants.
- Exhibitors will exhibit pigs during the event and youth mentor will help assist and help when necessary
- Exhibitor and Mentor pairings will be assigned by South Dakota Pork Producers Staff
- Stay for the entire Pig Pals event and show

QUESTIONS? Please contact Abbey Riemenschneider

Email: abbeyr@sdppc.org

Phone: 712-539-8169

Please see the next pages for the required registration form for youth mentors of this year's Pig Pals event.

2026 Pig Pals Volunteer Registration Form

Volunteer Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Cell Phone: _____ Age _____

Parent/Guardian Name(s) if under 18: _____

Emergency Contact Name: _____

Cell Number: _____

LIVESTOCK EXPERIENCE:

Do you have experience with exhibiting swine? (circle): Yes No

Do you have a swine project to volunteer for this event? (circle): Yes No

VOLUNTEER AGREEMENT:

Please read carefully, then initial next to each.

_____ I will assist and support my participant to make their swine showing experience the best it can be and be respectful, kind, and courteous to all participants, exhibitors and volunteers.

_____ I will wear appropriate show ring attire including my Pig Pals T-shirt.

_____ I will demonstrate high morals and integrity both in and out of the show ring.

_____ I will be of good spirit, enthusiastic, and have a kind attitude towards all exhibitors, mentors and other volunteers.

_____ I agree to images and videos of me being utilized in promotional materials.

_____ I agree to the conditions of this agreement, including requirements of my time.

Youth Mentor Signature

Date

Parent/Guardian Signature (if volunteer is under 18 yrs)

Date

2026 Pig Pals Youth Mentor Liability & Photography Waiver

I understand the nature of the Pig Pals show. I fully accept and assume all risks and responsibilities for losses, costs, and/or damages I/my child and/or my swine may incur because of his/her/its participation. If I, or the Pig Pals show management, feel my /my child's participation is unsafe at any time, I agree I/my child will discontinue participation immediately.



As a Pig Pals volunteer, I hereby acknowledge photographs and/or videos 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 and/or video may be released. This photograph and/or video 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.

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 VOLUNTEER

SIGNATURE OF VOLUNTEER

DATE

PRINTED NAME OF PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN (if volunteer is under the age of 18)

SIGNATURE OF PARENT/LEGAL GUARDIAN

DATE

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 registration form postmarked or emailed by July 1, 2026!