

EquiSTEP (Equine Safety, Training, and Education Program)

EquiSTEP is an annual statewide requirement for all youth participating in Ohio 4-H Horse Program activities. EquiSTEP replaces the statewide requirement of reading the *Horses, Safety, and You* (191R) resource and viewing the *Every Time, Every Ride* and *Horses, Kids, and Ethics* videos for youth and their families who are new to the 4-H horse program.

The EquiSTEP curriculum focuses on helmet safety, equine safety & handling, equine health & nutrition, and sportsmanship and is designed to rotate topics every year. The topics for this year's EquiSTEP are highlighted in **bold** below.

- STEP 1: Head (Helmet Safety)
 - Helmet Safety Video (Every Year)**
- STEP 2: Hands (Equine Safety & Handling)
 - YR 1 Equine Behavior**
 - YR 2 Safety & Handling
 - YR 3 Tack & Equipment
- STEP 3: Health (Equine Health & Nutrition)
 - YR 1 Assessing Horse Health**
 - YR 2 Preventative Health
 - YR 3 Nutrition
- STEP 4: Heart (Sportsmanship)
 - YR 1 Winning & Losing**
 - YR 2 Discipline vs. Punishment
 - YR 3 Handling Adversity

EquiSTEP is designed to be completed online by each participant individually through Scarlet Canvas or administered in a group setting by a county 4-H educator to their participants, similar to QA for livestock market projects.

Here is the link to enroll in/access EquiSTEP: go.osu.edu/equistep2023

To complete EquiSTEP individually, a participant must enroll using **their own unique email address**. (Participants should not use their school email addresses as the course enrollment invitation will be blocked by the school's email system.) Participants must view all five videos (introduction and STEPS 1-4) which last approximately one hour in total. Once the videos are completed, participants will be able to access the 10-question quiz. Participants must complete the quiz associated with the training and achieve a minimum score of 7 (out of 10) to pass the training. Once the quiz is successfully completed, participants will need to complete the course survey to trigger a certificate of completion. The certificate will be emailed to the participant's email address as well as their county's 4-H email address. The participant must select their correct county to trigger the email to the correct email address and they must click on the submit button at the end of the survey to trigger the email.

To administer EquiSTEP in person to a group of participants, a 4-H educator must enroll in EquiSTEP using their OSU email address. Participants must view the helmet safety video (STEP 1). Educators may choose to have participants view the videos for STEPS 2-4 or they may choose to present the content in STEPS 2-4 in-person. To complete the in-person training, all participants must complete the online quiz associated with the training. The link to the online quiz is go.osu.edu/equistepquiz2023.

The online quiz is based in Qualtrics so 4-H professionals should email the state office if needed to confirm that participants achieved the minimum score of 7 out of 10. Certificates of completion will not be emailed to the participants or county 4-H office for in-person training.