Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards
Knowledge Level 1 (K-1)

4-H Member:________________________ County:___________

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>KEY: ES = Exceeds Standard</th>
<th>MS = Meets Standard</th>
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Horse Handling
• Know at least 2 things you should consider to safely approach a horse that is turned out in a pasture and in a stall

  ES_____  
  MS_____  
  DNMS_____

Horse Breeds, Conformation and Movement
• Describe and be able to recognize bay, black, and chestnut coat colors

  ES_____  
  MS_____  
  DNMS_____

Grooming and Bandaging
• Know how to pick out a horse’s hoof, and explain why it is important
• Discuss two reasons why daily grooming is important

  ES_____  
  MS_____  
  DNMS_____

Health Care and Veterinary Knowledge
• Discuss who a veterinarian is and what they do

  ES_____  
  MS_____  
  DNMS_____

Tack and Equipment
• Know at least 2 reasons for cleaning tack

  ES_____  
  MS_____  
  DNMS_____
Stable Management and Safety
- List two things that are not safe to do or have in a barn

Transportation and Travel Safety
- Discuss one way a horse can be made safer or more comfortable in a trailer

Knowledge Level 1 Written Test
- Comments:

PASS______  RETEST______

Comments/Suggestions:

Examiner Name  Examiner Signature  Date

Sections Requiring Retesting:

A candidate may be retested as follows:
- Retest to cover not more than 1 or 2 sections of the test. Retest must take place within 3 months but no sooner than 1 month.
- Not meeting standards of any section on that day will require retaking entire test.
- Retest must be conducted by original Examiner.

ES______ MS______ DNMS______
Signature_____________________________
Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards
Knowledge Level 2 (K-2)

4-H Member:________________________ County:___________

KEY: ES = Exceeds Standard  MS = Meets Standard  DNMS = Does not Meet Standard

Horse Handling
• Name at least 2 places to safely tie a horse
• Name at least 2 things to be considered when safely leading a horse

ES____  MS____  DNMS____

Horse Breeds, Conformation and Movement
• Recognize the following colors and patterns: grey, appaloosa, palomino, buckskin, and pinto

ES____  MS____  DNMS____

Grooming and Bandaging
• Explain the proper procedure for daily grooming. Be sure to include body, mane and tail, and hoof care in your explanation.

ES____  MS____  DNMS____

Health Care and Veterinary Knowledge
• Describe 5 basic symptoms that might indicate that your horse is in need of veterinary care
• Describe at least 2 ways you can tell a horse is properly cooled out after work
• Know 2 reasons for daily hoof care
• Describe 2 reasons why regular farrier visits are necessary

ES____  MS____  DNMS____
Transportation and Travel Safety
• Describe the purpose of the following things used to make your horse safe while traveling in a trailer: Break away halter, head bumper, blanket, tail guard, shipping boots or shipping bandages

Knowledge Level 2 Written Test
• Comments:

PASS______
RETEST______

Comments/Suggestions:

ES:______
MS:______
DNMS:______

Examiner Name________________________ Examiner Signature________________________ Date________________________

Sections Requiring Retesting:
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A candidate may be retested as follows:
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ES______ MS______ DNMS______
Signature________________________
Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards
Knowledge Level 3 (K-3)

4-H Member: __________________________ County: ___________

Horse Breeds, Conformation and Movement
• Know at least 2 different variations of the grey coat color

  ES
  MS
  DNMS

Grooming and Bandaging
• Give at least 2 reasons for clipping a horse
• Name at least 3 different types of body clips
• Give at least 2 safety measures to use when bathing a horse
• Give at least 2 reasons for wrapping a horse’s leg
• Name at least 2 types of protective boots and what they are used for

  ES
  MS
  DNMS

Health Care and Veterinary Knowledge
• Name and describe at least 1 type of wound that should be treated by a veterinarian
• Explain why a regular vaccination program is important to your horse and identify at least 3
disease that you should regularly vaccinate a horse against every year
• Know at least 2 signs of a hoof that needs trimming or shoeing

  ES
  MS
  DNMS

Nutrition
• Name at least 2 basic rules for feeding
• Explain a feeding schedule for a horse or pony (be sure to specify horse’s age and use),
including amounts of hay and grain

  ES
  MS
  DNMS
Stable Management and Barn Safety
• Know appropriate care of a horse after hard work, including 1 example for each of the following: cooling out, inspection of legs, watering, and feeding
• Know at least 2 safety concerns you should take into consideration when properly securing a hay net/hay bag

Tack and Equipment
• Name at least 2 areas on tack that you should check for safety
• Know at least 3 different types of bits
• Identify a tie-down, breast strap, martingale, and breast plate
• Identify at least 3 types of horse blankets and explain their purposes

Knowledge Level 3 Written Test
• Comments:

PASS______
RETEST______

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• Retest must be conducted by original Examiner.

Comments/Suggestions:

ES:______
MS:______
DNMS:______

Examiner Name ________________ Examiner Signature ________________ Date ________________

4-Her has paid required participation fee (examiner's initials) ________

Sections Requiring Retesting:
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________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________
________________________________________

ES_________MS_________DNMS_________ Signature_____________________________
Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards
Knowledge Level 4 (K-4)

4-H Member: ____________________________ County: __________

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Horse Breeds, Conformation and Movement
- Know the footfall patterns of the walk, trot (jog), canter (lope), gallop, and pace.

Grooming and Bandaging
- Know at least 3 different ways a horse’s mane may be presented in specific disciplines or breeds
- Know how to bandage a wound located on the cannon and what materials would be needed

Health Care and Veterinary Knowledge
- Discuss cause, transmission, and symptoms of at least 2 diseases that may affect horses in Maryland
- Discuss 2 reasons for why dental care for horses is important
- Discuss 2 reasons for having a routine deworming program
- Explain what Equine Infectious Anemia is and what a Coggins test is used for. Be sure to indicate how often this test must be done and why you must have documentation of it.

Nutrition
- Name 2 types of feedstuffs
Tack and Equipment
• Know at least 3 things you can do to check if a blanket fits properly

ES______
MS______
DNMS______

Stable Management and Safety
• Know at least 2 good and bad characteristics of each of the following: feed, water, pasture, and hay
• Name at least 2 safety precautions to consider when storing hay and grain
• Know at least 3 stable vices, possible causes, and at least 1 way to try to correct each of them
• Name at least 4 ways to help prevent external and/or internal parasites

ES______
MS______
DNMS______

Transportation and Travel Safety
• Know at least 3 things to check each time before using a trailer
• List at least 5 items that should be included in a trailer safety kit

ES______
MS______
DNMS______

Knowledge Level 4 Written Test
• Comments:

PASS______
RETEST______

Comments/Suggestions:

ES:______
MS:______
DNMS:______

Examiner Name __________________________ Examiner Signature __________________________ Date __________________________

4-Her has paid required participation fee (examiner's initials) _______

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ES______ MS______ DNMS______
Signature __________________________
Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards
Knowledge Level 5 (K-5)

4-H Member: ______________________   County: __________

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**Horse Breeds, Color, Conformation and Movement**
- Name at least 2 signs that a horse may exhibit when they are lame
  - ES______
  - MS______
  - DNMS______

**Grooming and Bandaging**
- Explain how you would apply a leg bandage. Be sure to include important considerations that differentiate a properly applied bandage from an incorrectly applied bandage and how an incorrectly applied bandage might affect the horse.
  - ES______
  - MS______
  - DNMS______

**Healthcare and Veterinary Knowledge**
- Prepare and be able to discuss a 6-8 week outline for a conditioning program suitable for a discipline of the candidate’s choice
- Know the recommended vaccination schedule and health requirements for horses in Maryland
- Explain what a parasite is, why a regular deworming program is important to your horse’s health, and how you would select and administer deworming medications to your horse
- Know at least 2 types of shoes and specific uses
- Recognize and describe at least 3 characteristics of both good and bad shoeing
- Explain how to take a horse’s temperature, pulse, respiration, and capillary refill time and how to tell if the resulting vital signs represent a problem
- Explain how to recognize and respond to dehydration
  - ES______
  - MS______
  - DNMS______

**Nutrition**
- Describe a horse’s ration when developing fitness, maintaining fitness, taking a day off, or sick.
- Identify 8 of the following types of feed ingredients: molasses, sweet feed, pelleted feed, salt, wheat bran, rice bran, cracked corn, whole corn, beet pulp, barley, oats, and alfalfa meal
- Explain how points, waves, and hooks develop and how they affect your horse’s ability to chew
  - ES______
  - MS______
  - DNMS______
Stable Management and Safety
- Name at least 2 characteristics of an unsafe pasture
- Name at least 3 basic requirements of a safe barn layout

ES______  MS______  DNMS______

Transportation and Travel Safety
- Name at least 2 possible causes of loading and unloading problems

ES______  MS______  DNMS______

Knowledge Level 5 Written Test
- Comments:

PASS______  RETEST______

Comments/Suggestions:
ES:______  MS:______  DNMS:______

Examiner Name_________________________  Examiner Signature_________________________  Date_________________________

4-Her has paid required participation fee (examiner's initials) _______

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Signature________________________
Maryland 4-H Horsemanship Standards  
Knowledge Level 6 (K-6)

4-H Member:________________________ County:___________

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**Horse Breeds, Conformation and Movement**
- Know what conformation points might contribute to the following unsoundnesses: bowed tendon, curb, ringbone, sidebone, navicular, interfering, overreaching, forging, and splints

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**Grooming and Bandaging**
- Know at least 3 suitable materials for bandaging, including 1 advantage and 1 disadvantage of each

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**Health Care and Veterinary Knowledge**
- Know how a horse’s teeth grow, how baby teeth are replaced by permanent teeth, and how a horse can be aged by examining the teeth
- Know the importance of body condition scoring and be able to score an unfamiliar horse
- Know the importance of colostrum for a newborn foal

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**Nutrition**
- Know a feeding program for 2 of the following: an underweight horse, an overweight horse, a geriatric horse, and a horse in intense training
- Know availability, cost, and origin of hay and grain available in Maryland typically used to meet a horse’s nutritional requirements
- Know seasonal variations of feeding a horse

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Stable Management and Safety
- Know at least 5 toxic plants and/or weeds in your area, including what parts are most toxic, when they are most toxic, and the symptoms of poisoning
- Name at least 3 management decisions that would help to maintain a healthy pasture
- Know the importance of soil testing and why it is used in pasture management

Transportation and Travel Safety
- Know at least 2 techniques for loading and unloading difficult horses

Knowledge Level 6 Written Test
- Comments:

PASS_______
RETEST_______

Comments/Suggestions:

Examiner Name________________________ Examiner Signature________________________ Date________________________

4-Her has paid required participation fee (examiner's initials) _________

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ES_______ MS_______ DNMS_______
Signature_________________________