

## 2026 IL Beef Expo Team Fitting Contest

Friday, February 20, 2026

Start time: 3:30 pm

Location: Coliseum

1. Registration Options
  - a. Online via:  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScmL2EWImiVqZEJvQ2-vj-fKisregkaKaXXQ7dzMzB1rUJBpw/viewform?usp=publish-editor>
    - i. *Can be found on the Illinois Beef Expo Facebook page.*
  - b. In-person during Junior Show Check-In:
    - i. Thursday: 4:00–6:00 PM
    - ii. Friday: 9:00 AM–1:00 PM
  - c. Participants must be registered as a complete team of four (4) by 1:00 pm on Friday, Feb. 20
2. Each team must be comprised of **four (4) members**, with a minimum of **two (2) members age 13 or younger**
  - a. Must be 13 years of age or under as of January 1, 2026
  - b. Team members are not required to be participating in the 2026 Illinois Beef Expo Junior Show
3. Each team will be allowed, **30** minutes
4. Each team will be responsible for providing 1 heifer or steer to use in the contest. Cattle are not to be groomed, but should be washed and dried, and will be checked before competition begins.
5. Each team must supply their own fitting equipment (including extension cords for access to provided power outlets.)
6. Once the fitting area is designated for each team by the contest committee, teams may set up their chutes and supplies. These must be in place 10 minutes prior to the announced starting time. (3:30 pm)
7. All fitting and grooming techniques must be within the accepted practices of the Illinois Beef Expo.
8. Grand and Reserve Teams will be selected
9. No outside assistance will be allowed
10. A designated team member will present the final animal

11. Points will be awarded as follows:
  - a. Ability to fit (Quality of workmanship) - 25 points
  - b. Organization of supplies and equipment - 5 points
  - c. Participation of each team member - 10 points
  - d. Overall effect - 5 points
  - e. Knowledge & Response to Questions - 5 points
  
12. Judging will be by a 2 - 5 judge panel. Based on a **50** points maximum from each judge.  
(Highest score first, lowest score last)
  
13. Looking for a team or team members? There will be a sign-up sheet available on the Illinois Beef Expo Facebook Page and during in-person registration. This is available for individuals who want to participate but don't yet have a team, as well as teams looking to add members. Providing your information allows others to reach out to you to form a new team or complete an existing one. Please note: This does **not** mean you are registered or guaranteed a team. This list is simply a tool for participants to connect with one another. The committee does not organize, assign, or guarantee teams formed through this sign-up.