

Texas City Independent School District
Jr FFA/FFA Project Contract
Agriculture Science Facility Rules and Fees
School Year 2024-25

The Texas City ISD Agriculture Science facility is located at 3301 25th Avenue North in Texas City, Texas. The purpose of this facility is to provide an extension to classroom instruction, to maximize learning, and to allow FFA/Junior FFA members a space to house their Supervised Agriculture Experience Program (SAE) animal projects.

In order for all parties to best utilize the Agriculture Science Facility, there are rules and regulations which must be observed and followed. To ensure compliance, TCISD employees, including agriculture teachers, maintenance personnel and administrators, will monitor and manage the facility both physically and via security cameras.

A. Eligibility

1. Only approved Junior FFA members and TCHS FFA students in good standing may utilize the agriculture facility.
2. All animals that are raised at the TCISD Ag facility must be entered and exhibited under the TCFFA Chapter.
3. All students must follow **No Pass/No Play and no substitutions if a student has failed during an eligibility period for a show. Students must also follow the TCISD attendance policy.**
4. Students must complete the following steps 1 week prior to bringing any animal onto agriculture facility grounds;
 - a. Obtain **prior approval** from an agriculture teacher and get an assigned pen.
 - b. Understand and sign the rules agreement and attached forms.
 - c. Pay all relevant barn fees.
5. All students are subject to the TCISD Code of Conduct and if they are found in violation are subject to immediate removal dependent upon the situation.

B. Facilities

- a. **Fees:** Students are subject to barn fees which are required for each project entered into the facilities. Rates are non-negotiable, non-refundable and are due prior to any animal's arrival at the facility. The following fees are only good for the current school year.
 - i. Beef: \$100 per head
 - ii. Swine: \$75 per head
 - iii. Goats: \$50 per head
 - iv. Lambs: \$50 per head
 - v. Broilers: \$20 per pen
- b. **Pens:** Students are not allowed to move pens without prior teacher approval. Pens should not be locked with personal locks for any reason. If a student removes an animal from the facility to be housed at another facility though the school year/summer, they will forfeit their stall to be used as the Ag teacher's digression.
- c. **Hours:** The agriculture facility hours are from 3:00 am to 10:00 pm. Gates are to remain closed and locked at all times.

- Please note, agriculture science teachers may not always be available during the facility hours to answer questions. If there is an emergency, please contact a local veterinarian and leave a message for the student's Ag science teacher. Veterinarian numbers are posted at the barn.
- d. **Feed & Tack Storage:** Students will be assigned one feed box. This feed box must be labeled with the student's name. The student is responsible for purchasing their own lock for the feed box. If the student has multiple animals' additional lockers will be assigned as space allows.
- e. **Guests:** *One* guest, under 18, is allowed per student. Additional guests are only permitted at the facility when a parent or legal guardian accompanies student and guest. Parents, guardians, or guests who cause a disturbance will lose their privileges to enter the agriculture facilities. Guest privileges may be revoked at any time.
- f. **Duties:** Students will be assigned duties through the school year, which must be completed daily. Each day when the duty is completed the student must sign the duty log.
- g. **Barn Clean Up:** The appearance of the agriculture facility is a priority. There will be two barn clean ups throughout the school year, **which are mandatory** for the students who house their animals in the facility. If the students are unable to attend for any reason, they must contact their Ag teacher prior to missing the clean-up and set up a make-up clean up date. If the student missed both dates, **they will be charged a \$50 penalty**. If the student fails to complete clean ups and or pay the fee they will be placed on the obligation list.
- h. **Eviction:** Any student evicted from the facility will not be able to utilize the facility.
- i. **Pets:** Pets are not allowed on agriculture facility grounds.
- j. **Substances:** No tobacco, drug, or alcohol use on the TCISD FFA barn premises.
- k. **Equipment Use:** Be courteous to your fellow FFA members. Make sure you use the equipment in a fair and timely manner so others around you can use it also.

C. Care of Projects

- a. **Animal Care:** Students are responsible for proper care of his/her animal(s). This includes adequate nutrition and hydration for proper growth, the development of the animal project, and cleaning the pen and surrounding area. When owners are unable to be contacted, the TCISD agriculture teachers reserve the right to seek treatment for any animal found to be in need of immediate emergency care. The owner will be responsible for all costs incurred.
- b. **Cost:** Students are responsible for all costs associated with the raising of a livestock project; including but not limited to the purchase, feeding, general upkeep and veterinarian care during their SAEP project period.
- c. **Medicating:** If medication is prescribed for an animal from the veterinarian, the student, parents/guardian, or the student's Ag teacher (with consent from the parent/guardians or student) can give the shot(s) as prescribed from the veterinarian. Please see Animal Health Care Guidelines.
- d. **Other animals:** Students/parents may not feed, move, water or provide any care to another student's project without prior permission from the animal's owner or Ag science teacher.
- e. **Stall Care:** The pen is to be maintained with adequate sand/shaving/pellets. The pen must be cleaned a minimum of once a day to ensure the health and wellbeing of the animal project. All soiled bedding must be properly disposed of in the designated area.
- f. **Wheelbarrows:** Must be emptied into designated area and returned to their place of storage.
- g. **Animal Death:** It is the parent/student responsibility to remove an animal that dies within 2 hours of being notified. If the carcass is not removed within the 2 hours, it will be removed by TCISD and the parent/student will be billed.

D. Safety and Discipline

1. The Agriculture Science Facility is a part of Texas City ISD. Therefore, all rules and regulations found in the student handbook and the student code of conduct apply. Any activities which endanger the health or physical wellbeing of students, parents, teachers, facilities, or animals will not be permitted.

Removal of Projects

- Upon eviction a written notice will be sent to student and parents with a maximum of seven calendar days to remove the animal from the facility. (If the animals are not removed within the 7 calendar days, the animal will be removed at the student's expense and sold at a local auction.)
- Major infractions of school, facility or student code of conduct rules that result in DAEP or expulsion will result in eviction. Student will have 7 calendar days from the date of the assignment, to remove their animal from the facility. Students may not enter the facility while serving an assignment in DAEP or suspension. If a student wishes to return to the facility after serving the disciplinary assignment, the student will maintain their previous point balance.
- The student is to remove all projects from the Agriculture facility within 7 calendar days after their last respective show unless otherwise directed by an agriculture teacher. This rule applies to all animals, including heifers.
- In addition to the above, the Agriculture Program reserves the right to remove any animal from the facilities if any one of the following conditions exist:
 - Animal Abuse or neglect in any form
 - Disease or infected animals
 - Animals that are unsafe to handle
 - Animals not being fed for show purposes
 - Student is no longer involved in the show program
 - Animals raised at the TCISD facility are entered in a show under any group other than TCISD FFA chapter will lose their facility privileges for one calendar year.

Other

- Neither TCISD, its employees, volunteers, nor the FFA are responsible for damage or loss to personal property, injury or members, animal projects, guests, or family of participants.
- **Disaster plan:** TCISD and/or its employees are not responsible for any evacuations or care of FFA projects through a disaster of any type (natural, chemical, national security, etc.) The movement or evacuation of any FFA animal project is the responsibility of each individual animal owner. In the event that an animal is left in the Ag Facility and dies, the remains will be removed at the expense of the owner. It is the recommendation of the TCISD Ag Teachers to turn animals out into pastures during a natural disaster such as a hurricane.
- Student projects may be used by agriculture teachers for livestock judging practices or to teach skills such as weighing, leading or vaccination.
- **Chain of Command:** When a problem or concern arises, the proper way to resolve it is by following a set chain of command. Chain of command is as follows:
 - Supervising Ag Science Teacher of your species
 - All Ag Science Teachers
 - Campus Assistant Principal
 - Campus Principal (Mr. Lincoln Hypolite)
- **FFA Students who house their animals at home or another property in Galveston County:** Any project entered by the Texas City FFA will be checked by the supervising Ag Teacher to ensure that the animal(s) are being properly cared for and housed within the county.
- **All Show Animals:** All animal projects that will be exhibited under Texas City FFA and Texas City Junior FFA must have prior approval from the supervising Ag Teacher to show that animal under the chapter. Prior to pickup of the show animal for the year if purchasing themselves, the student must first submit pictures/video of that animal

and then the Ag Teacher will give approval or denial of the project to be shown under the chapter. The student will need to submit the breeder's name as well. This is to ensure that the correct type of animal is being purchased for the livestock show.

- **No Pass/No Play/No Show:** The Texas City FFA Chapter does not allow substitutions at any livestock shows. If a student does not pass, they are not able to show their project under the Texas City FFA Chapter at any major shows or GCFR.
- **Breeding Heifer Projects in pastures:** It is the owner's responsibility to care for, feed, de-worm & medicate (when needed) any heifer/cow project in the pastures. Ag Teachers can ask that these animals be removed at any time if the animal(s) are not being properly cared for.
- **TCFFA trailer use:** Request to use a TCFFA trailer must be made to an agriculture teacher 24 hours in advance of use. Ag teachers retain the right to approve or deny any request for trailer usage. **Students are not allowed to pull any district trailer.** Only approved adults over the age of 18 years old are allowed to pull the trailers. Any damage must be reported immediately to an agriculture teacher. In the event of an accident, a police report must be filed and reported to an agriculture teacher. Once a trailer is hooked to a vehicle it becomes an extension of that vehicle and will be covered by the user's insurance. If damage occurs to a trailer and it is not reported to an agriculture teacher immediately, trailer privileges will be revoked.
- **Personal trailers:** TCFFA families are allowed to park livestock trailers at the TCISD Ag Barn with Ag Teacher approval. However, TCISD is in no way responsible for theft or damage of personal trailers. Trailers parked on this property are done at the owner's own risk.
- **Pond:** Students are not allowed in the pond area without adult supervision and agriculture teacher approval.
- **Heat lamps:** Under no circumstances are heat lamps to be used at the barn. Only approved heat bars can be used. If you have a problem with your district approved heat bar, reach out to your supervising Ag Teacher.
- **Social Media:** Any negative postings made by students and/or parents of TCFFA members towards the TCFFA program, TCFFA members, or agriculture science teachers will result in a conference with agriculture teachers and/or administration on the first offence. The second offense will result in removal from the agriculture program for one calendar year. Any TCFFA student posted on social media drinking alcohol or using illegal drugs will be dismissed with no refunds from the TCFFA program for one calendar year.
- **Supervising Ag Teachers:**
 - **Nikki Ashcraft:** Heifers, Steers & Poultry
 - **Morgan Richards:** Lambs, Goats and Shooting Team
 - **Brandi Westhoff:** Pigs, Rabbits, Cavies & Ag Mechanics

COVID-19: All FFA activities are subject to change per TCISD Administration. Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic we must take all safety precautions in the barn and at shows.

The undersigned certifies that both the student (exhibitor) and the Parent/Guardian are agreeing to following by all the aforementioned rules and fees for the Texas City ISD Agriculture Science Facility. Any violation of this contract is subject to the consequences laid out within.

Student Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Date: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____

Signature: _____

Texas City Independent School District
Agriculture Science Facilities Usage Agreement 2024-2025

By signing this document, I agree to the following terms:

Student **Parent/Guardian**
Initials: **Initials:**

_____ All communication with agriculture science staff, in person, phone, text, email, etc... shall be conducted in a professional manner. Preferred communication form is via school email unless there is an emergency. Please realize that every effort will be made to assist, but Ag teachers may not always be available.

_____ I give permission for Ag Teachers to post my child's picture and project picture on the TCCFA Facebook Social Media page.

_____ In the event of an emergency, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian and student to contact a veterinarian.

_____ At no time should anyone but an Ag teacher enforce barn rules.

_____ Any presumed violations of barn rules should be reported to the student's teacher(s) in the form of email.

_____ Follow the chain of command as set forth in the Agriculture Science Facility Rules.

_____ Bullying/Harassment in any form will not be tolerated.

_____ No alcohol or tobacco use permitted on TCISD property.

_____ We understand that due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic shows and competitions can be cancelled.

_____ I understand that if I fail and become ineligible, I will not be able to exhibit my animal project at any livestock show and will be responsible for removing my project from the Ag Facility by the deadline.

_____ I agree to abide by the rules and criteria set forth in the Texas City ISD Facility Rules. I have received, read, understood, and signed. I agree to pay all relevant fees associated with the expense and upkeep of my student's animal project(s). I agree to indemnify Texas City ISD employees and volunteers of liability for any injury that my child, my guests or I may sustain by participating in activities at the Texas City ISD agriculture facility, and I agree to monitor myself/my student for compliance with the above stated rules.

This document is binding and non-negotiable.

Student Signature **Date** **Student Printed Name**

Parent/Guardian Signature **Date** **Parent Printed Name**

Driver/Vehicle Information

Name of Vehicle owner/driver _____ Over 18 years of age Yes/No
Vehicle Make _____ Model _____ Year _____

Vehicle Owner/Driver Waiver of Liability and Responsibility

I recognize & acknowledge that I am voluntarily driving my private owned vehicle and utilizing a district owned trailer/transport cage for the purpose of providing transportation for myself, my property and/or my student to an event/activity. I certify that I am 18 years old or older- I agree to absolve, exonerate and hold harmless Texas City FFA/Texas City ISD and/or its institutions and employees from liability for risks associated with travel. The risks include, but are not limited to, all liability associated with the operation of a motor vehicle, pulling a trailer, hauling a transport cage, and all injuries and any and all property damage. I understand that the driver is not an agent of the school district and is not authorized or required by the district to provide transportation. I hereby certify that the vehicle which I voluntarily provide is properly licensed and that the required level of automobile insurance is in place. I hereby certify that I am a licensed driver and agree to obey all traffic laws and to drive directly to and from the event/activity. I agree to cover any damages to district owned trailer/transport cage while in my care and possession.

Name of insurance company _____

Name of Vehicle Driver/Owner _____

Signature of Vehicle Driver/Owner _____

Trailer Cleaning/Maintenance

I understand it is my responsibility to check the condition of the trailer before I load/haul and hook up to a vehicle: It is my responsibility to report any damages immediately to a TCISD Ag Teacher. After each use the trailer must be clean and parked at the TCISD Ag Facility.

Initials of Driver _____

District Use Only

AST Accepting this Form _____ Date _____