

Qualifications

1. Qualification period is the previous year plus the current year up to the close of entries. (Placings in year 2021 count towards next year's qualification period – if your placing was not previously recorded, you will need to qualify in year 2022 under the participation system)
2. Compete in any qualifying AHA Recognized show in any region (which includes Concurrent, Pre-Show, Value Show).
3. An Amateur must qualify the horse to participate in an Amateur or Amateur Owner class.
4. Compete in a recognized section, i.e., HA/AA Western Pleasure, Arabian Country English Pleasure, Arabian Hunter Pleasure, etc.
5. Compete in any recognized class within that section. (Note: for Dressage, each level is considered its own section).
Exception: Performance Halter / Ranch Horse Conformation classes do NOT require competing in the Performance Halter Section or Ranch Horse Conformation Section. The horse must be qualified, entered and adjudicated in a performance class at that show. This is the only qualification required including Regional and National Shows.
6. Participate in that one recognized class in that section now qualifies you to compete in as many classes within that section at any one Regional Championship Show of your choice.
 - a. Example: Participate at a qualifying show in HA/AA Western Pleasure ATR qualifies for any and as many classes in HA/AA Western Pleasure as long as you meet the definition for an Amateur, Amateur Owner, Leveling, Jr. Horse, etc. The qualification could have been earned in Region 8 but was used for the Region 6 Championship Show.
7. Participate at two (2) AHA Qualifying Shows and compete at any and as many Regional Championships in that section.
8. Equitation is based on the rider and the rider must participate in their qualifying section.
 - A. Youth - National Championship Show, a rider must win:
 1. A Medal, in a class of three or more entries; or
 2. obtain participation qualifications in AHA Medal classes (see current chart); or
 3. a Top Five or better from corresponding classes in Regional Championship Shows, East Coast Championship or Pacific Slope Championship, or a Top Six or better from corresponding classes in Eastern or Western Canadian Breeders Championship Classes.
 - B. Adult - National Championship Show, a rider must win:
 1. obtain participation qualifications in classes requiring a pattern; or
 2. a Top Five or better from corresponding classes in Regional Championship Shows, East Coast Championship or Pacific Slope Championship, or a Top Six or better from corresponding classes in Eastern or Western Canadian Breeders Championship Classes.
9. Participation can also be used to qualify in Specialty classes and can be obtained through Open Shows (and placings for Working Western/Dressage/Western Dressage).
10. A National Show Commission has the right to place restrictions on cross entry into classes.
11. The USEF/EC family definition and two distinct non-family owner definition must be adhered to.
12. East Coast and Pacific Slope (Top Five), Eastern and Western Canadian Breeders (Top Six) all count as Regional Placings.
13. Participation definition:
 - a. In a class where horses compete together, participated means a horse/rider/driver/handler must have been entered, shown, and judged (must attempt to perform at all required gaits both ways of the ring and remain in the ring until excused by the judge). In other words, finishing the class.
 - b. In a class where horses compete individually, participated means a horse/rider must have completed the individual requirements of the class and be eligible to receive a score.
 - c. Horses which are excused/disqualified/eliminated/received a "no score" are not considered "adjudicated".

Category I – Main Ring Including Equitation/Horsemanship/Showmanship
see point 8.A. above for Youth Medal classes)

Regional Qualifications:

Participate at one (1) AHA Qualifying Show in order to compete at one Regional Championship of your choice
Participate at two (2) AHA Qualifying Shows in order to compete at any and as many Regional Championships

National Qualifications:

Regional Top 5 or better or
Participate at three (3) AHA Approved Shows (one of which may be a Regional Championship)

Category II – Main Ring Exceptions/Sport Horse/Working Western (cannot receive a “no score”)

See Category IV for Youth cattle classes

Driving - Pleasure & Country Pleasure
Park Horse
Junior Horses (unless affected by another category below)
Cutting
Herd Work
Ranch Cutting
Ranch Horse Conformation
Ranch Horse Cow Work Ranch Rail
Ranch Reining
Ranch Riding
Ranch Trail
Ranch Working Cow
Versatility Ranch Riding

Reining
Limited Reined Cow (Boxing) Horse
Reined Cow Horse
Working Cow Horse
Trail
Sport Horse In-Hand
Sport Horse Show Hack
Sport Horse Under Saddle
Yearling - **Non Sweepstakes**
Walk Trot - 10 and Under/11 & Over (Pleasure, Equitation and other)

Regional Qualifications:

Participate at one (1) AHA Qualifying Show or “Open Qualifying Show” (for Working Western) in order to compete at any and as many Regional Championships

National Qualifications:

Regional Top 5 or better or
Participate at two (2) AHA Approved Shows or “Open Qualifying Show” (for Working Western) (one of which may be a participation from a Regional Championship)

Category III – Program Enrollment

Breeding/In-Hand Futurity – program enrollment
Performance Futurity/Maturity/Derby – program enrollment
ABS Yearling Classes USN (Arabian Filly/Colt/Gelding & HA/AA Filly/Gelding)
Breeding Entry only and received a Top 10 from Regional ABS Yearling class
ABS Canadian Yearling Classes – Breeding Entry only
ABS Sport Horse Yearling Classes – Breeding Entry only
ABS AAOTR Jackpots (Arabian and HA/AA Western PI, County PI, Hunter PI, English PI, Reining) – Breeding or Original Entry
ABS AAOTH Performance Halter – Breeding Entry or Original Entry – must be adjudicated at Nationals in a Performance Class
ABS Sport Horse Under Saddle AOTR Jackpot – Breeding or Original Entry
Sport Horse 3-Year-Old In-Hand Jackpot – pay to play
ABS Dressage Prospect Incentive – Breeding or Original Entry
ABS Green Working Hunter Derby – Breeding or Original Entry

Category IV - Other

Carriage Pleasure Driving (all)
Dressage Seat Equitation – Adults only
Green Working Hunter
Hunter Hack (all)
Hunter Seat Equitation Over Fences – Adults only

Jumpers
Working Hunter
Youth Herd Work
Youth Reined Cow Horse and Limited Reined Cow Horse

Regional and Nationals - No Qualifications

Category V – Dressage/Western Dressage - Horse/Rider must not be eliminated

Freestyle – Must have a Minimum Score of 63% in Fourth Level and below, and 60% for FEI Levels, in highest test in level or higher level

Regional Qualifications:

Participate at one (1) AHA Qualifying Show or “Open Qualifying Show” in order to compete at any and as many Regional Championships Qualifying Shows”

National Qualifications:

Regional Top 5 or better or
Participate at two (2) AHA Approved Shows or “Open Qualifying Show”(one of which may be a participation from a Regional Championship)