

# AQHA Specialized Judges Applicant Fact Sheet

The following criteria must be met before becoming an AQHA-approved specialized judge:

1. Have individual, current-year AQHA membership, in good standing
2. Be at least 25 years of age.
3. Each applicant's name must be listed on the AQHA Website or appear in at least one issue of *The Quarter Horse Journal* prior to review by the Judges Committee.
4. Receive approval from AQHA State Selection Committee for judges.
5. Receive approval from AQHA Judges Committee.
6. Receive approval from AQHA Executive Committee.
7. If favorable approval is received, the applicant will be notified by AQHA that applicant must:
  - a. attend the next new judge orientation
  - b. complete mandatory testing (if applicable)
  - c. complete and return Judges Code of Ethics and Social Media Guidelines
8. Required to complete recertification as determined by the Judges and Executive Committee.
9. The Judges Committee will review specialized applications three times per year:
  - a. March – **Deadline for application is December 1.**
  - b. June – **Deadline for application is March 1**
  - c. September – **Deadline for application is June 1.**
10. An individual may not re-apply for AQHA Specialized judges credentials after being denied 2 times for any of the following:
  - a. Denial of permission to attend a qualifying examination by the Judges Committee;
  - b. Failure to pass the qualifying examination; or
  - c. Failure to obtain approval from the Judges Committee or AQHA Executive Committee, for any reason.

**\*\*\$175 non-refundable application fee must be submitted with application\*\***

# AQHA Level 1 Judges Applicant Fact Sheet

The following criteria must be met before becoming an AQHA-approved judge:

1. Have individual, current-year AQHA membership, in good standing
2. Be at least 21 years of age.
3. Submit application by designated deadline.
4. Receive approval from AQHA Judges Committee.
5. Receive approval from AQHA Executive Committee.
6. If favorable approval is received, must complete the required testing.
  - a. Rule Book Test (90% minimum score required).
  - b. Required to judge approximately 6-10 video classes (70% minimum score required).
  - c. Will be interviewed by Judges Committee Members, and evaluated for expertise in various classes as well as particular judging situations.
  - d. Only top scoring applicants will be approved.
7. Receive final review and approval by Judges Committee and Executive Committee. The Judges Committee will review Level 1 Testing Scores during their June Conference Call.
8. Required to complete recertification and/or a rulebook test each year via online testing.
9. An individual may not re-apply for a period of five years for AQHA judges credentials after being denied 2 times for any of the following:
  - a. Denial of permission to attend a qualifying examination by the Judges Committee;
  - b. Failure to pass the qualifying examination; or
  - c. Failure to obtain approval from the Judges Committee or AQHA Executive Committee, for any reason.

**\*\*\$175 non-refundable application fee must be submitted with application\*\***



**General Information**

Each application must be accompanied by a recent photograph of the applicant. The photograph should be 3 1/2" x 5" or larger and include only the head and shoulders of the applicant. The photo does not have to be professionally done; it can be a snapshot; however, it must be printed, no email photos or discs.

Applications and supporting materials become the property of AQHA and cannot be returned.

CHECK     MONEY ORDER    **IF PAYING BY CREDIT CARD, PLEASE COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING:**  
 AMERICAN EXPRESS     MASTERCARD     VISA  

CARD NUMBER																	
EXP. DATE (MMYY)				DAYTIME PHONE													
CARDHOLDER NAME																	
CARDHOLDER SIGNATURE																	

**DO NOT SEND CASH - U.S. FUNDS ONLY**

Applications and \$175 fee should be sent to

American Quarter Horse Association  
Attn: Judges Department  
P.O. Box 200  
Amarillo, TX 79168

If you have additional questions please email [judges@aqha.org](mailto:judges@aqha.org)

The undersigned does hereby waive any right he or she may have to require disclosure to him or her by AQHA of any information obtained to evaluate him or her as a prospective judge, agreeing that the accuracy of information concerning the undersigned's character, reputation and judging abilities is paramount to his or her disclosure rights, if any.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

An individual's conduct as a member, exhibitor and judge must be exemplary; is subject to continual Judges Committee review, with an automatic review after (5) five years of becoming an AQHA judge; and such designation is revocable by the Judges Committee with or without notice and formal hearing, subject only to ultimate review by the Executive Committee, with or without notice and formal hearing.

Signature of Applicant \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**American Quarter Horse Information**

Have you ever owned an American Quarter Horse, or do you own one now?  No  Yes

If so, list horse/s' names dates owned:

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Are you, or have you ever been, a breeder of American Quarter Horses?  No  Yes

If so, how long? \_\_\_\_\_

Have you ever shown an American Quarter Horse in the class you are applying for the specialized judge's card?  No  Yes

If so, list horse/s' names and dates shown:

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Horse Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please tell us *(on a separate sheet of paper, if needed)* why you consider yourself a specialist in the area for which you are applying.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Judging Information

What do you perceive as the role and responsibilities of an AQHA-approved judge?

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Have you ever been, or are you, an approved judge for any other equine association or group *(NRHA, NCHA, NSBA, NRCHA, WCHA, etc.)*?

No  Yes *If so, list:*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Have you judged any type of horse show not requiring a judge's card? *(i.e. Open shows, 4-H, etc.)*

No  Yes

Explain and list *(on a separate sheet, if needed)* the names and locations of shows you have judged in the previous year and the names and locations of the shows you plan to judge during the current year.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



Comments concerning applicant's character and professional standards:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Comments concerning applicant's expertise as a horse person and their judging ability:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---





Comments concerning applicant's character and professional standards:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

Comments concerning applicant's expertise as a horse person and their judging ability:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---



Comments concerning applicant's character and professional standards:

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---