

Area Fairs - Requirements

RCW 15.76.120

Categories of fairs -- Jurisdiction and organization.

For the purposes of this chapter all agricultural fairs in the state which may become eligible for state allocations shall be divided into categories, to wit:

- (1) "Area fairs"—those not under the jurisdiction of boards of county commissioners; organized to serve an area larger than one county, having both open and junior participation, and having an extensive diversification of classes, displays and exhibits;**
- (2) "County and district fairs".....
- (3) "Community fairs.....
- (4) "Youth shows and fairs.....

[1993 c 163 § 1; 1991 c 238 § 74; 1961 c 61 § 3.]

RCW 15.76.130

Application for state allocation -- Purposes -- Form.

For the purpose of encouraging agricultural fairs and training rural youth, the board of trustees of any fair or youth show may apply to the director of agriculture for state allocations as hereinafter set forth. Such application shall be in such form as the director may prescribe.

[1961 c 61 § 4.]

RCW 15.76.140

Eligibility requirements for state allocation.

- (1) Before any agricultural fair may become eligible for state allocations it must have conducted two successful consecutive annual fairs immediately preceding application for such allocations, and have its application therefor approved by the director.
- (2) Beginning January 1, 1994, the director may waive this requirement for an agricultural fair that through itself or its predecessor sponsoring organization has successfully operated at least two years as a county fair and that reorganizes as an **area** fair.

[2001 c 157 § 1; 1995 c 374 § 71; 1965 ex.s. c 32 § 1; 1961 c 61 § 5.]

RCW 15.76.150

Allocations from the fair fund -- Considerations.

The director shall have the authority to make allocations from the state fair fund, including interest income under RCW [43.79A.040](#), exclusively as follows: **Eighty-five percent to participating agricultural fairs, distributed according to the merit of such fairs measured by a merit rating to be set up by the director. This merit rating shall take into account such factors as area and population served, open and/or youth participation, attendance, gate receipts, number and type of exhibits, premiums and prizes paid, community support, evidence of successful achievement of the aims and purposes of the fair, extent of improvements made to grounds and facilities from year to year, and overall condition and appearance of grounds and facilities.** The remaining fifteen percent of money in the state fair fund may be used for special assistance to any participating fair or fairs and for administrative expenses incurred in the administration of this chapter only, including expenses incurred by the fair commission as may be approved by the director: PROVIDED, That not more than five percent of the state fair fund may be used for such expenses.

The division and payment of funds authorized in this section shall occur at such times as the director may prescribe.

[2002 c 313 § 113; 1965 ex.s. c 32 § 2; 1961 c 61 § 6.]

RCW 15.76.160

Purposes for which allocation made -- To whom made -- List of premiums to be submitted as part of application, form.

Any state allocations made under this chapter to fairs or youth shows, other than fairs or youth shows operated by or for and under the control of one or more counties or other agencies, as defined in subsection (4) of RCW [15.76.120](#), shall be made only as a reimbursement in whole or in part for the payment of premiums and prizes awarded to participants in such fairs or youth shows.

State allocations to fairs under the control of one or more counties shall be made to the county treasurer of the county in which the fair is held. State allocations to other publicly sponsored fairs or youth shows shall be made to such sponsor. The board of trustees of any private fair or youth show, as part of its application for any allocation under this chapter, and as a condition of such allocation, shall submit to the director a list of premiums and prizes awarded to participants in its last preceding fair or youth show. Such list shall contain the names of all premium and prize winners, a description of each prize or premium, including its amount or value, and the total values of all such awards. The list shall be in such form and contain such further information as the director may require, and shall be verified as to its accuracy by the oath of the president of the fair or youth show, together with that of the secretary or manager, subscribed thereon. [1961 c 61 § 7.]

WAC 16-700-002

Definition. Agricultural fair: A fair or exhibition which is intended to promote agriculture by including a balanced variety of exhibits of livestock and agricultural products, as well as related arts and manufactures; including products of the farm home, and educational contests, displays, and demonstrations designed to train youth and to promote the welfare of farm people and rural living.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [15.76](#) RCW. 80-01-019 (Order 1662), § 16-700-002, filed 12/14/79, effective 1/1/81.]

WAC 16-700-010

Activity reports required. Any **area** county fair desiring to apply for an allocation from the state fair fund under the provisions of chapter 61, Laws of 1961, must submit to the director annually, on or before February 15 of the following year, reports covering all of its activities on forms to be supplied by the director, and include a certified auditor's report of receipts and expenditures attributed to the fair. Any community fair or youth show must submit to the director annually, on or before December 1, the reports of its activities on forms to be supplied by the director.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [15.76.180](#), 97-04-078, § 16-700-010, filed 2/5/97, effective 3/8/97; Order 1279, § 16-700-010, filed 11/28/72, effective 1/1/73; Order 847, Regulation 1, effective 6/8/61.]

WAC 16-700-011

Fair reorganization. Beginning January 1, 1994, and until June 30, 1997, the director may waive applications requirements, as defined in WAC [16-700-010](#) and adjust the basic annual allocation as defined in WAC [16-700-021](#), when a county fair reorganizes and makes application for allocation from the fair fund as an **area** fair.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [15.76.180](#), 95-15-101, § 16-700-011, filed 7/19/95, effective 8/19/95.]

WAC 16-700-021

Qualifications.

(1) Any community fair.....(a).....and (b).....(c).....(d).....

(2) Such community fair.....(a) or (b).....(c).....(d).....(e)

(3) Any area fair may not receive an allocation in excess of the total reimbursement of premiums and prizes.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [15.76.180](#), 97-12-028, § 16-700-021, filed 5/30/97, effective 6/30/97; 97-04-078, § 16-700-021, filed 2/5/97, effective 3/8/97. Statutory Authority: Chapter [15.76](#) RCW. 80-01-019 (Order 1662), § 16-700-021, filed 12/14/79, effective 1/1/81.]

WAC 16-700-022

Requirements. All agricultural fairs shall:

- (1) Have a written statement of aims and purposes made public.
- (2) Provide special activities for youth development, such as judging contests, educational demonstrations, and displays designed to train youth.
- (3) Hold all activities to be considered as part of the fair on consecutive days: Provided, That a portion of these activities may be held up to seven days before the first day of the fair.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [15.76](#) RCW. 80-01-019 (Order 1662), § 16-700-022, filed 12/14/79, effective 1/1/81.]

WAC 16-700-027 Board of directors. Area and community fairs and youth shows shall have an organized governing board of directors, be nonprofit, and show evidence of community support.

[Statutory Authority: Chapter [15.76](#) RCW. 80-01-019 (Order 1662), § 16-700-027, filed 12/14/79, effective 1/1/81.]

WAC 16-700-030

Effect of donated labor, materials, and equipment. For the purpose of matching state fair fund allocations those fairs whose local resources are not sufficient to match dollar for dollar may in preparing their annual reports place a reasonable itemized monetary value upon donated labor, materials and equipment used in the construction, repairing and maintenance of fair grounds, buildings and facilities.

[Order 847, Regulation 3, effective 6/8/61.]

WAC 16-700-040

Consideration given to community support. Special consideration may be given to each of the several criteria by which fairs are to receive a merit rating. Special consideration may be given, however, to small and comparatively isolated fairs with limited local resources when such fairs have shown that a maximum community effort has been made in support of these fairs.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [15.76.180](#). 97-04-078, § 16-700-040, filed 2/5/97, effective 3/8/97; Order 847, Regulation 4, effective 6/8/61.]

WAC 16-700-050

Merit criteria. The merit of **area**, district, county and community fairs shall be determined on the basis of the following criteria:

- (1) **Aims and purposes:** For what reason or purposes is the show held and what is the evidence of successful achievement of these aims and purposes?
- (2) **Organization and management:** To what extent is the organization, its officers and management, and the physical facilities and financial resources geared to accomplish the objectives stated above?
- (3) **Area served:** What is the extent of the area from which exhibits and exhibitors are drawn and the extent of the area served?
- (4) **General attractiveness:** Are the agricultural, educational, commercial and recreational features wellbalanced, making the fair attractive to the fairgoing public?
- (5) **Exhibits:** What is the number, quality and diversity of exhibits and their general rating judged by recognized standards of excellence, as well as their neatness and orderliness in all departments, in open and junior classes?
- (6) **Community, county or area interest:** How is full participation and support of the area served indicated by (a) attendance, both paid and total, and (b) by active support of service clubs, farm organizations and other groups?
- (7) **Success of the fair:** How successful does the fair appear, measured by its accomplishment in relation to resources available?

[Statutory Authority: RCW [15.76.180](#), 97-04-078, § 16-700-050, filed 2/5/97, effective 3/8/97; Order 847, Regulation 5, effective 6/8/61.]

WAC 16-700-070

Reserve for disaster grants. Allocations to fairs from the special assistance portion of the state fair fund shall be made on a matching basis except that this requirement may be waived in the case of assistance due to disasters resulting from fire, flood, wind, snow, earthquake or other acts of God. A reserve of not less than \$5,000 shall be held for the purpose of making disaster grants.

[Order 847, Regulation 7, effective 6/8/61.]

WAC 16-700-075

Special assistance grant limits. The director may limit the grants from the special assistance portion of the state fair fund to disaster grants to county and **area** fairs, as defined in WAC [16-700-070](#).

[Statutory Authority: RCW [15.76.180](#), 93-02-028, § 16-700-075, filed 12/31/92, effective 2/1/93.]

WAC 16-700-080

Qualifying premiums and prizes. Premiums and prizes that qualify for listing for allocation purposes shall be those paid for exhibits and educational contests, displays, and demonstrations of an educational nature. This is not to include judges fees and expenses, livestock sale revenues, prizes or premiums for promotion or entertainment activities such as queen contests, parades, dances, rodeos, and races.

[Statutory Authority: RCW [15.76.180](#), 97-04-078, § 16-700-080, filed 2/5/97, effective 3/8/97; Order 1279, § 16-700-080, filed 11/28/72, effective 1/1/73.]