



2026 State Fair Cupcake War

September 19, 2026

REGISTRATION OPEN: August 1 – 31, 2026
(Registration is limited to 30 teams –
8 team minimum for contest to take place)



Group 1: Arrive at 9:10 a.m. and contest to begin at 10:00 a.m.

Group 2: Arrive no later than 12:10 p.m. and contest to begin at 1:00 p.m.

Group 3: Arrive no later than 2:40 p.m. and contest to begin at 3:30 p.m.

Limited to the first 30 teams.

PLEASE NOTE: All teams members must be bonafide members of 4-H. 4-H members and educators should plan membership registration accordingly. Teams will be assigned a check-in time one week prior to the contest and will be sent to Educators and posted on the State 4-H website. 4-H Team members will receive a pass to the fair. All others must pay admission to the fair.

RULES OF PLAY

Teams will consist of 2-3 team members.

- Each team will display three cupcakes.
- Each team will bring “naked” cupcakes. The cupcakes should have no frosting and be in the paper wrappers only.
- Frosting can be either store bought or homemade. Icing may be tinted in piping bags or bowls prior to the contest.
- If teams are using fondant, they can use either homemade or purchased fondant. Teams are allowed to purchase tinted (colored) fondant to use or may tint fondant off site. Fondant cannot be precut.
- Teams are allowed to use purchased edible decorating items. Only edible items can be used on the cupcakes.

1. Teams will report to the Capitol City Auditorium building for check-in. There will be three team divisions. The age and grade will be as of September 1, 2026:

Junior Division: minimum age 8 years old and in 3rd grade, grades 3, 4 and 5

Intermediate Division: grades 6, 7 and 8

Senior Division: grades 9, 10, 11 and 12

Counties are limited to three teams.

2. An orientation will be provided for all participants. Once all teams are set up and ready, the contest will begin.

3. Each team will be directed to a preparation station.

4. Each team will have thirty minutes to prepare the dish and clean up the preparation area. The contest official will remind contestants of time at 10 minutes, 5 minutes, and 1 minute remaining

5. Teams are allowed to bring their presentation scripts with them. Teams are allowed one picture no bigger than 8 x 10 of the item they are creating. It must not have any writing or directions on the picture.

6. Each team must provide their own equipment. Washing facilities will not be available for teams to wash and share equipment. NO preparation dishes or serving dishes are to be cleaned on the fairground premises. Electricity will not be available at the contest. Teams should select their recipe with this in mind.

7. Food safety: Teams should practice proper food safety and be prepared to discuss food safety practice used by their team in their presentation to the judges. Judges will observe preparation to assist in determining the score.

8. Presentation: When time is called, each team will present their dish and provide the following information:

- Introduction including county and all team members names
- Steps in creating their cupcake display
- Safety when decorating
- How they worked together as a team to finish their display.
 - a. All team members must participate in the presentation; all team members must have a speaking role.
 - b. Judging time will include:
Four minutes for the presentation (THERE WILL BE NO TASTING)
One minute for judges to score (No comments will be given)
 - c. No talking and no writing allowed among any team members while waiting to give the team presentation.
 - d. The judges will ask questions during the presentation time.

9. Clean-up: Teams must clean up their preparation areas. Clean-up time is included in the 30-minute preparation allotment. Teams should not plan to have access to a kitchen facility; therefore, dirty dishes should be placed in a plastic container, bag, or box to be cleaned at home. Leftover food should be disposed of properly.

10. Placings will be based on rankings of teams by judges. Judges' decisions are final. 1st, 2nd and 3rd placings will be awarded.

11. An awards program will be held at the conclusion of the judging process for each group.

12. There will be an 8-team minimum for the contest to take place.

13. Registration is open August 1 – 31, 2026. *Registration is limited to thirty teams.* There is a fee of \$20 per team.

All checks (agency only) should be made payable to **4-H Conferences**. Mail check and copy of the Microsoft Form to:

Oklahoma State 4-H Office
Attn: Bethany Effinger
293 Agriculture Hall
Stillwater, OK 74078