



AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION

March 12, 2017

Dear AQHA Affiliate,

It's that time of year again! Please submit your state/provincial affiliate qualifying criteria for the 2018 AQHA Level 1 Championship show. Eligibility for exhibitors is January 1 - December 31, 2017. Please send your state/provincial affiliate qualifying information to the attention of [Melynda Ackley](#) by April 15, 2017.

The 2018 AQHA Level 1 Championship Show format will be the same as 2017. Three shows; East and West locations offer Level 1 and Rookie classes only and the Central location will offer Level 1, Rookie and cattle classes.

AQHA's guidelines for Affiliate qualification:

If an exhibitor/horse combination is not nationally qualified, an exhibitor may qualify as a state/provincial affiliate qualifier.

- **If the exhibitor's affiliate has a qualifying method, the exhibitor must qualify through their resident state/provincial affiliate.**
- **If the exhibitor's affiliate does not have a qualifying method, the exhibitor must nationally qualify or qualify through another affiliate.**
- **To qualify through another affiliate, the exhibitor must be a member in good standing with that affiliate (other than the state/province affiliate you reside in) and be selected by that affiliate as a qualifier.**

Each state or provincial affiliate is eligible to submit **three** state qualifiers per class to AQHA. If there are not **three** qualifiers in a particular class the affiliate may move that "slot" to another class; however, no more than **six** state qualifiers will be allowed in any particular class.

Level 1 Amateur and Level 1 Youth competitors may qualify for the Level 1 championships in the following classes:

Halter geldings and mares: 2-year-old, 3-year-old, aged; (yearling classes have no qualification criteria)
Performance halter geldings and mares (the horse must be performance halter eligible)

Showmanship	Hunter Hack	Reining
Horsemanship	Western Pleasure	Barrel Racing
Hunt Seat Equitation	Hunter Under Saddle	Pole Bending
Working Hunter	Trail	Stake Race
Equitation Over Fences	Western Riding	Ranch Riding

The Central Level 1 Championship will include the above listed classes as well as Level 1 cattle classes. The Level 1 Amateur and Level 1 Youth competitors do not have to qualify to participate in the cattle classes. As long as the exhibitor is Level 1 eligible in the cattle class they are entering, their entry will be accepted.

Cutting	Tie-Down Roping	Team Roping-Heeling &
Working Cow Horse	Breakaway Roping	Heading
Working Cow Horse Boxing		

Thank you for all that you do with and for AQHA!