



What You Need To Know...

The PQA Plus program achieves its goals through:

- Individual training by a certified PQA Plus advisor which results in the individual receiving PQA Plus certification
- An objective assessment of on-farm animal well-being which, when combined with the education of the producer through PQA Plus certification, results in the farm receiving PQA Plus site status.
- A PQA Plus survey designed to evaluate the implementation of PQA Plus in the industry. Survey results are used to identify opportunities for improvement of the program's information and delivery.

How to obtain PQA Plus Certification for an individual:

- Contact a PQA Plus advisor
- Complete the PQA Plus education training.

How to obtain PQA Plus Site Status for a pork production operation:

- After PQA Plus certification has been obtained, arrange for a PQA Plus advisor to conduct an on-farm site assessment of animal well-being practices.
 - Or, after PQA Plus certification has been obtained, receive additional training from a PQA Plus advisor, successfully complete an examination and then conduct a self-assessment. This recognition is called endorsement.

How to locate a PQA Plus advisor:

- Call (800) 456-PORK.
- Use the locator found on the PQA Plus Web site at: <http://www.pork.org/Producers/PQA/PQAPlusLocateAdvisor.aspx>

Survey Component:

Production sites receiving PQA Plus site status will be entered into a pool from which a statistically valid sample of sites will be eligible for third-party surveys. Surveys are scheduled to begin in 2009.

Site status cannot be revoked as a result of the survey process. The purpose of the survey is not to certify each operation or to find production sites out of compliance. The survey is meant to assess the success of the PQA Plus program.

For more information regarding PQA Plus or other Pork Checkoff programs, please call (800) 456-PORK.

“I received PQA Plus certification because it is my responsibility as a pork producer. We work with people beyond our farm gate and PQA Plus is the one thing that my family, my employees and I can do to assure them that we are doing what we do, the best way that we can.”

Karen Richter, producer from Montgomery, Minn., and member of the National Pork Board



TQA

TRANSPORT QUALITY ASSURANCE®



Transport Quality Assurance® (TQA®) is a program that helps swine transporters, producers and handlers understand how to handle, move and transport pigs and the potential impacts of those actions on pig well-being and/or pork quality. Anyone who handles or transports pigs, or sets protocols for handling pigs, is a potential influencer of animal well-being and pork quality.

How to obtain TQA Certification:

- Contact a TQA advisor
- Complete the TQA education training
- Successfully complete a comprehensive exam.

How to locate a TQA Advisor:

- Call (800) 456-PORK.
- Use the locator found on the TQA Web site at: <http://www.pork.org/Producers/TQA/TQA.aspx>

How to become a TQA Advisor:

- Attend a one-day advisor training session conducted by the Pork Checkoff.
- Successfully complete and pass a comprehensive TQA examination.
- Advisor training information can be found on the TQA Web site at: <http://www.pork.org/Producers/TQA/TQA.aspx>

For more information regarding TQA or other Pork Checkoff programs, please call (800) 456-PORK.



“I think it’s important for me as a producer to work with a livestock transporter that is TQA certified. Our packer recommends it too. The training helps producers and transporters reduce the level of stress the pigs go through during loading and trucking. That translates into fewer losses on arrival at the plant and better quality meat. TQA is an excellent program.”

Tim Bierman, producer from Larrabee, Iowa and member of the National Pork Board.