



2026 KANSAS CITY ZOO RUN

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026

8:30 a.m. – 4 Mile Walk/Run

9:45 a.m. – 1 mile Walk/Run

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2026	
10:00am – 7:00pm	Registration & Packet Pickup The Running Well Store Mission, KS 6009 Johnson Drive, Mission, KS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To avoid long lines on race morning, we highly recommend registering and picking up packets on Friday.
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2026	
4mi: 7:00am – 8:00am	Late Registration & Packet Pickup Kansas City Zoo Main Entrance 6800 Zoo Drive, Kansas City, MO 64132 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Race day registration lines can be long. We highly recommend arriving early – allow extra time to park.
1mi: 7:00am – 9:20am	
8:30am	4 Mile Run/Walk Start THE START IS AT STARLIGHT ROAD AND MALL DRIVE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The start line is approximately .5 miles from the main entrance. Please allow extra time to arrive. Waved start. Due to narrow pathways, please note your pace time to line up in the appropriate wave. Strollers must line up with the walkers and will not be allowed to run. ★ Be on the lookout for plush animals and Saucony boxes hidden within the Zoo to win fun prizes, sponsored by Saucony. Bring any found to the Saucony booth at the expo.
9:45am	1 Mile Run/Walk Start Elephant Exhibit inside the zoo - enter through the main entrance <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 mile runners should arrive at the starting line no later than 9:30 to avoid congestions with walkers/strollers. Follow the 1 mile flags from the front entrance to the 1 mile start by the elephants. Strollers must line up with the walkers and will not be allowed to run. 4 mile runners are welcome to join their families for the 1 mile event. Your bib is your entry.
	Post-Race Expo Green Parking Lot <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saucony demo shoes available for try on Enjoy dj-joekc.com for fun music Our expo sponsors! <i>Please visit the expo and support our sponsors!</i>
10:30am	Awards & Artwork Contest Ceremony Green Parking Lot
11:05am	Course time limit: <u>Participants need to cross the finish line by 11:00am.</u>

GENERAL INFORMATION

DIRECTIONS/PARKING (see back)

- From I-435, take the 63rd Street exit into Swope Park. The 63rd Street entrance will be open all morning.
- From 71 Hwy, take the Meyer Blvd exit into Swope Park.
- THE MEYER ENTRANCE WILL CLOSE AT 8:15am.**
- Enter from 63rd Street if arriving after 8:15am.**
- THE GREGORY ENTRANCE WILL CLOSE AT 8:00am.**
- ★ **Enter from 63rd Street if arriving after 8:00am.**
- All Volunteers should enter from 63rd Street and proceed to the volunteer check in at the front entrance of the Zoo.
- Parking is also available in two Zoo lots and lots behind Starlight. Parking attendants will be on hand to direct participants and spectators to the correct location.

BIBS

- Your timing chip is on the back of your bib. You do not need to return your bib after the race.
- Please wear your bib on your front side for photos.
- Make sure you keep your bib with you if you re-enter the Zoo after the race.

SPECTATORS

- Spectator Rates from 8-10am (tickets are good for all-day admission): \$12.50 for ages 12-54; \$11 for ages 3-11 & 55+; 2 and under are free.
- Spectators can enter at 8:00am and special pricing is only available until 10:00am. All spectators must enter through the main Zoo entrance. **No spectators will be allowed to enter through any other gates.**
- The Beastro Concessions inside the park opens at 8:00am.
- ★ **The Zoo opens to the public at 11:00am.**

AWARDS

- Use your QR code on your bib to check your results. Awards Ceremony will include the Overall, 2nd, 3rd and Master awards ONLY. **Age group awards will not be called** – winners may pick up their awards at the results table and enjoy the expo.

SAFETY

- Course** – The Zoo Run course is like a trail run and has narrow pathways and irregular pavement. Please make sure you stay to your right at all times, and please yield to runners who will be coming from behind.
 - Please finish the event and go back into the Zoo after you finish, using your bib to re-enter.
- If it has rained or there is dew from the night before, wooden bridges and walkways could be slippery, so please use caution.**
- For the safety of all participants, roller skates, roller blades, and bicycles are NOT allowed on the course. If first aid is needed, contact Zoo personnel. **No dogs are allowed in the Zoo.**
- Strollers and joggers are NOT allowed to run in either event. Strollers are allowed for WALKERS ONLY** due to the narrow pathways.
- Aid Stations** – Water and Nuun hydration drink will be provided at two aid stations throughout the course. See map for specific locations. Please supplement with bringing your own water. It may be a warm day.

ARTWORK CONTEST

- The artist will be recognized at the awards ceremony after the race. You may order any artwork contest apparel at the expo. All orders will be mailed after the event.

RACE RESULTS

- Race results are available on-line at www.kansascityzoorun.org/results. Use the QR code on your bib to see the results.