



## 4-H Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. How old does my child have to be to join 4-H?

Youth are eligible to participate in 4-H as **primary** members if they are *5 years old or in kindergarten as of December 31st of the program year (July-June)*.

If youth are 9 years old or in the fourth grade by December 31st of the program year, they can enroll as regular members.

Please note that if youth are home schooled, the grade criterion does not apply.

Youth remain eligible for membership until December 31st of the year in which they turn 19 years old.

### 2. What do the “H”s stand for in 4-H?

Head, Heart, Hands, and Health.

### 3. What is the value of 4-H to a youth?

4-H helps to enable all youth to reach their fullest potential by developing their leadership, citizenship, and life skills.

### 4. Do 4-H members deal only with the raising of livestock and/or farm animals?

No! There are hundreds of projects 4-H Members work with including photography, crafts, cooking, digital media, camping, etc. For a complete list, call the [4-H office](#).

### 5. How often are the Community Club meetings?

Club meetings are held once a month but at the discretion of the leaders. Members who attend all of their Community Club meetings in person will receive a 100% Attendance Pin.

### 6. When can my child join 4-H?

Open enrollment starts July 1<sup>st</sup>.

### 7. How many projects can a member participate in?

There are no limits to the number of projects a member may join. To encourage success for first year members, it is recommended to join 1-2 projects.



**8. Once my child joins a 4-H club in our community, can he/she change his/her mind and transfer to another club?**

Yes, after the enrollment deadline, members changing clubs must notify in writing the leaders of both the club they are leaving and the club they are planning to join, as well as the [4-H office](#), within 30 days of the transfer.

**9. What are Countywide Projects?**

Countywide projects are similar to other projects, but are open to any member in the county, regardless of which 4-H club they are enrolled in. These projects can also be joined without having a primary club.

**10. Where can I go to find more information regarding 4-H?**

Go to the [UC 4-H Youth Development Program Website](#).

**11. How do I know what club to join?**

Choose a club with location and meeting times that are convenient for you. This information is found on the [Club and Groups page](#) of this website.

**12. Is there a handout that can be sent to me regarding 4-H?**

Yes! Come to or call the [Humboldt County 4-H office](#) during regular working hours for your copy.

**13. What is a 4-H Ambassador?**

4-H Ambassadors are the champions of the 4-H program in their county while they are developing their leadership skills. They are role models for their fellow 4-H members, their county, and their community. Ambassador teams plan their own year of activities to create meaningful learning and service opportunities for themselves and others in their community.

**14. What are Junior/Teen Leaders?**

Members 11-13 years old may be a Junior Leader and members 14 years of age or older may be Teen Leaders. These members may lead a project under the supervision of an adult leader. For more detailed information go to the [Junior and Teen Leader section](#) of the UC 4-H Youth Development Program Website

**15. What kinds of incentives and rewards are offered in 4-H?**

4-H promotes participation and excellence through rewarding members of all ages with ribbons, pins, patches, medallions, stars, and certificates. Primary members (5-8 years old) receive recognition only for participation. Reach out to the local 4-H Office for more information.



**16. Do 4-H members have to wear a uniform to meetings or when competing at the fair?**

There is no uniform requirement in the 4-H program, and the uniform cannot be required for participation in any 4-H sponsored activity, event, meeting or occasion. However, all California fairs and expositions require exhibitors that are 4-H members to wear their 4-H uniforms for identification purposes. [Uniform guidelines can be found on the 4-H State website.](#)

**17. What are the requirements to become a 4-H Adult Volunteer?**

Prior to appointment, all potential 4-H adult volunteers **must** be fingerprinted and cleared in a background check, complete 4-H orientation, submit an application on 4-H Online (including agreeing and to the Volunteer Code of Conduct), and complete an online training course. As appointed agents of the University of California, volunteers carry out their duties as educators under the policies set forth at the national, state, and county levels.