



University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
4-H Youth Development Program  
**Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant Code of Conduct**

The 4-H Policy Handbook details the rights and responsibilities of 4-H parents, guardians, or adult participants and should be consulted for complete information on involvement in the program. All 4-H parents, guardians, or adult participants are subject to all of the requirements of the 4-H Policy Handbook. As well, all 4-H parents, guardians, or adult participants are subject to all other applicable University of California (UC) policies, and to all other relevant laws and regulations. The following requirements are critically important and, as such, constitute the California 4-H Youth Development Program (YDP) Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant Code of Conduct.

1. Respect all 4-H participants including youth members, adult volunteers, parents, guardians, other adult participants, 4-H YDP staff, and other UC personnel.
2. Comply with all requirements of the State 4-H Office, UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE) County Directors, 4-H YDP staff, and other UC personnel.
3. Recognize the responsibilities of the State 4-H Office, UCCE County Directors, 4-H YDP staff, and other UC personnel in setting program standards, priorities, and direction.
4. Support implementation of the 4-H YDP as administered by the State 4-H Office, UCCE County Directors, 4-H YDP staff, and other UC personnel.
5. Recognize, respect, and support 4-H adult volunteers in performing the duties and responsibilities afforded to them by virtue of their role.
6. Take personal responsibility for any interpersonal conflict that may arise, whether with parents, guardians, other participating adults, adult volunteers, 4-H YDP staff, and/or other UC personnel; thereby demonstrating positive conflict resolution skills for youth members.

**PROHIBITED BEHAVIORS AND ACTIONS**

The following behaviors and actions are prohibited for all 4-H parents, guardians, or adult participants when engaged in any 4-H activity. The UCCE County Director may, if necessary in their sole judgment, immediately bar or censor involvement of any 4-H parent, guardian, or adult participant that does not comply. In such instances, the decision of the UCCE County Director is final.

1. Possession or use of alcohol, tobacco, illegal drugs, and/or any other inappropriate materials.
2. Participation while impaired in a manner that impedes making a constructive contribution to the 4-H program.
3. Driving any 4-H participant in any vehicle without a valid driver's license and proof of automobile liability insurance; and/or failure to ensure that all passengers use seat belts.
4. Use of abusive, obscene, and/or discriminatory language.
5. Attack or harassment; whether verbal, physical, written, or by the use of social media.
6. Engagement in discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a covered veteran.
7. Be the subject of a criminal investigation or prosecution for a misdemeanor or felony offense.
8. Engagement in any other behavior that is illegal, unsafe, and/or does not support the 4-H mission.
9. Engagement in any behavior that – in the sole judgment of the UCCE County Director – negatively impacts the 4-H program. This specifically includes, but is not limited to, conducting oneself in a manner that is uncooperative, uncivil, disrespectful, unproductive, disruptive, and/or insubordinate; as well as conducting oneself in a manner that requires undue supervision by UCCE personnel and/or 4-H YDP staff, such that time and effort is absorbed by activities that do not benefit youth members.

By receiving this document, I understand that I am expected to abide by the 4-H Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant Code of Conduct. I understand that my involvement is contingent upon my compliance and that failure to comply may result in being barred or censored from 4-H activities.

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