



4-H CLUB MEMBER & PARENT EXPECTATIONS

Exceptions to any of the following requirements will only be granted with joint approval of the member's project leader, club leader and 4-H staff. All requests for exceptions must be presented in writing to the Lake County 4-H Council. Lake County 4-H Council Executive Committee will serve as the appeal board.

Membership Information:

Membership in the Lake County 4-H Club Program is available to all youth 5 years old or in Kindergarten through 19 years of age as of December 31 of the current program year, without regard to race, religion, sex or physical handicap.

- ❖ Youth 5 years of age or Kindergarten through third grade enroll as “Clover Buds” or “Primary Members.” (*See Lake County Clover Buds Policy for complete details.*)
- ❖ Youth 9 years of age or in the 4th grade are eligible to participate in large animal projects and animal projects related to the Lake County Fair.
- ❖ Home-schooled children are to enroll by their chronological age, as of December 31.

Please note - there is a higher level of participation and commitment required for all members enrolling in an animal project with the intent of participating in the Lake County Fair (See Additional Requirements for Lake County Fair for details).

All re-enrolling members' enrollment forms must be completed and on file at the 4-H office by October 31. Members re-enrolling after this date may not be eligible for animal projects related to the Lake County Fair.

All new members enrolling after November 30 may not be able to meet minimum project requirements and therefore may not be eligible for animal projects related to the Lake County Fair.

After January 1st, only 4-H members transferring into Lake County will be eligible to participate in projects related to the Lake County Fair.

A complete enrollment packet and enrollment fees must be on file at the 4-H office

Fees to enroll in the Lake County 4-H Program:

Member: \$17.00 Leader: \$6.00. Some projects may require a fee for participation. All expenses related to projects are the responsibility of the member.

Completing the 4-H Year and Receiving Awards:

To insure that 4-H members are actively learning life skills through a variety of 4-H experiences, the Lake County 4-H Council requires each member complete the following requirements by August 31 to count the 4-H year as complete and receive a year pin and stripe:

- ❖ Have up-to-date and complete enrollment and enrollment fees on file at the 4-H office, and *Member & Parent Expectations* signature page returned to the club leader, by December 1.
- ❖ Attend 80% of club and project meetings. Excused absences can count toward meetings attended, but are not to exceed 25% of meetings held. Excused absences must be reported to the Club Leader prior to the meeting.
- ❖ A complete Annual Project Report form sign by the project leader is required if a member wants to earn a year pin and stripe. To receive a star rank award, members must also provide a Personal Development Report and project records to the club leader for rank verification.
- ❖ Complete one or more projects during the program year under the supervision of a 4-H Volunteer. For a project to be considered complete, members must attend a minimum of 6 hours of instruction.

For members to qualify for county medal honors, proficiency awards, fair participation, or star rank awards they must complete all the above requirements and give a 4-H presentation during the 4-H year.

4-H Presentation Requirements

All presentations must follow the guidelines of the State 4-H Presentation Manual.

Clover Buds and first year members may give a presentation at the project level. To qualify at the project level, at least 3 4-H members must be present.

Second year and above members must give a presentation at the club level or above.

If a presentation is given at a service organization or school, to receive credit the member must have a *Presentation Verification Form* completed by the supervising adult.

Members in 8th grade and above who have completed a minimum of 2 presentations at County Presentation Day, and received a minimum of one gold award, have the option of serving as an Area Chair (All Share the Fun Skit awards are excluded).

To receive credit as an Area Chair, you must participate in the entire day's activities and have your job performance evaluated by the judges in your area. Credit as an Area Chair will complete the presentation requirement.

Additional Requirements for Lake County Fair:

Please note, all members must complete all the following requirements by July 30 if they are planning to participate in the Lake County Fair animal show or auction:

- ❖ Attend 100% of fair animal project meetings, and 80% of club meetings. Excused absences are not to exceed 25% of meetings held and must be reported to the club or project leader prior to the meeting.
- ❖ Complete a 4-H Presentation.
- ❖ Have an up-to-date *Project Report Form*- with project leader's signature, *Presentation Verification* form and a complete fair entry form for your leader to review.
- ❖ Members participating in market classes must also submit 2 buyer contacts per animal intended for sale.

All the above requirements must be met before your fair entry form will be signed.

Parent Responsibilities:

The 4-H club program is a family program; your active support, cooperation and involvement increases the benefits that your 4-H member will receive from the Lake County 4-H Program.

- ❖ Provide transportation and financial support for members' project work.
- ❖ Verify with the UCCE 4-H Office the adult overseeing the 4-H Project work is a 4-H Volunteer.
- ❖ Assist with at least one project or club activity. Attend as many meetings as possible with your child.
- ❖ Read the monthly 4-H newsletter, *The 4-H 411*, to stay aware of what is happening.
- ❖ Supervise your member's work...but do not do the work!
- ❖ Please have your child contact the 4-H Volunteer if they are unable to participate in club or project meetings. Note: Excused absences must be reported to the club or project leader prior to the meeting. No more than 25% of meetings as excused absences are allowed.
- ❖ If you need additional information on up coming events or the Lake County 4-H Program, contact your Club President, Community Leader or the 4-H office.

Adopted and Approved by the Lake County 4-H Council, Amended, 1998, 1/99, 6/03, 7/28/04, 8/22/05, 10/6/08.