

Part I

General Information



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL,
AND ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



Ohio4h.org

CFAES provides research and related educational programs to clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis. For more information: go.osu.edu/cfaesdiversity.

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MISSION OF THE OHIO 4-H PROGRAM

4-H youth development education creates positive environments for diverse youth and adults to reach their fullest potential as capable, competent, caring and contributing citizens. In support of this mission we will:

- provide formal and non-formal community-focused experiential learning;
- develop skills and values that benefit youth throughout life;
- enhance career exploration and decision making;
- foster leadership and volunteerism in youth and adults;
- build internal and external partnerships for programming and funding;
- strengthen families and communities; and
- apply research-based knowledge and land grant university resources.

4-H MEMBERSHIP AND PROGRAM

Ohio 4-H membership guidelines:

Ohio 4-H membership is based on a child's age and grade as of January 1 of the current project year. Eligibility for Cloverbud participation begins when a child is enrolled in kindergarten and is five years old. Eligibility for participation in 4-H projects and competitive events begins when a child is age 8 and in the 3rd grade. Any youth aged 9 or above is eligible for project membership, regardless of grade level. Membership requires enrollment in an authorized Ohio 4-H club or group under the direction of an OSU Extension professional or an approved adult volunteer. A youth's 4-H eligibility ends December 31 the year they turn 19. Joining Ohio 4-H is a privilege and responsibility for individuals and is subject to the Ohio 4-H Code of Conduct and applicable policies of The Ohio State University.

4-H members live in urban, suburban and rural areas. They participate in a wide variety of informal educational projects and activities dealing with areas such as agriculture, home economics, natural resources, science, and related subjects. The main requirements are a willingness to "learn by doing" and a desire "to make the best better", the 4-H motto.

The program is under the direct supervision of Ohio State University Extension, The Ohio State University, and the United States Department of Agriculture. Over 15,000 local volunteers serve as mentors and advisors to more than 250,000 youth in Ohio.

4-H ACTIVITY PARTICIPATION RULES

1. Each person exhibiting or participating in the 4-H Department must be a 4-H member in 2024 and be enrolled in the project in which they are exhibiting or participating, except demonstrations, and livestock judging contests. All projects must have been developed, produced, or made in the current 4-H year.
2. **All 4-H members entered and/or exhibiting at The Ohio State Fair must also have met eligibility requirements for exhibiting at their County or Independent Fair as certified by the County Extension 4-H Educator's signature.**
3. **A member who has been a winner of any one class in 2023 is not eligible to participate in the same class in 2024.**
4. Unless specifically outlined in the project book, members are permitted to take a 4-H project more than one year. They are expected to expand on their project learning each year by completing different activities, challenging themselves and demonstrating what additional knowledge they gained.
5. **No participant should wear royalty sashes, crowns, nametags, etc into the judging ring during project interviews.**
6. Please encourage your state fair delegates to dress appropriately for judging, it is an interview. Dress accordingly. Appearance should be neat, clean, and respectful.
7. **No participant should leave a token, reminder or gift with the judge at the completion of the interview.**
8. The State 4-H Office will provide a participation schedule for the counties prior to the Ohio State Fair.
9. The Special Rules of the Junior Division are applicable to all 4-H participants.
10. These rules and regulations have been reviewed and approved by the Ohio State Fair management and shall apply in all cases.

PLEDGE:

I pledge

My HEAD to clearer thinking
My HEART to greater loyalty
My HANDS to larger service and
My HEALTH to better living
For My club, My Community, My
Country, and My World.

MOTTO:

To Make the Best Better

SPECIAL RULES – JUNIOR DIVISION

1. Entrance in all classes is subject to the requirements printed under department headings.
2. In all JUNIOR DIVISION competitions, the rules of the Ohio State Fair and the special rules of the Jr. Division will take precedence over all other organizational rules including Ohio State Fair Livestock and/or FFA/4-H rules.
3. The Ohio State Fair Management reserves the final and absolute right to interpret these rules and regulations and to arbitrarily settle and determine all matters, questions, or differences in regard thereto, or otherwise arising out of, connected with, or incident to the Ohio State Fair. It further reserves the right to determine unforeseen matters not covered by these rules, to amend or add to these rules as in its judgment it may determine and to withdraw all premium offerings in all departments should any emergency exist, and circumstances demand it.

RULE VIOLATIONS

In the question of a rule violation the following due process will be used: The exhibitor and/or parties involved will be questioned by Fair officials. If it is felt a violation has occurred Fair officials will make recommendations to the committee members of the Ohio Exposition commission that are appointed to that department.

After the committee hears the case, and recommendations are presented by the Fair officials, they will decide if the case should be brought before the full Commission.

In the decision of a case being brought before the Commission, all parties involved will be notified of a hearing date with all parties having the right to present their case.

Upon hearing the case the Ohio Expositions Commission will make a ruling.

When satisfactory evidence has been obtained by the Ohio State Fair Management that any of the rules have violated, the exhibitor and/or exhibitor's family may be barred from showing in any future Ohio State Fairs. The minimum number of years for a barment is three (3) years before the right to a review. In case any premium shall have been awarded to the exhibitor in violation of this rule, the Ohio State Fair Management will require the exhibitor to refund all premiums, trophies, awards, ribbons, and sale money under such violation. Unless fraud and/or deception are involved, all championship placings stand.

All requests for reinstatement must be submitted in writing to the Fair General Manager no later than May 15 of the year reinstatement is possible.

ATTENTION

For a member to achieve the progression of goals needed for development, 4-H projects must be separate and different from those carried in other organizations, such as FFA, Scouts, Camp Fire, Grange, Church, School (including technology education class, science fairs, but not including 4-H school enrichment projects), etc.