

Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership

The following information is intended to provide an overview of the Ohio 4-H teen programs. Refer to the “Ohio 4-H Older Youth Opportunities Chart” (updated annually) for specific opportunities offered within the Ohio 4-H program.

Mission

Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership provides opportunities to develop life skills through active engagement in leadership, citizenship and service.

Vision

Ohio 4-H teens, adults and communities learning and working together to provide leadership for positive change.

Goals

Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership will provide:

- Diverse teen leadership opportunities
- Authentic youth/adult partnerships
- Increased service to community
- Development of workforce prep/21st century skills
- Engagement of teens in citizenship
- Enhance social skills and interactions with diverse groups
- Increase visibility of 4-H
- Fun, educational opportunities

Desired Outcomes

Ohio 4-H strives to improve the 21st century skills youth need to succeed in the workforce and in life. These skills include:

- Thinking skills
- Communication
- Teamwork and leadership
- Lifelong learning and self-direction
- Technology adoption and application
- Professionalism and ethics

Leadership Program Evaluation

Individual evaluation is encouraged at the completion of each program. Opportunities may exist for aggregated statewide evaluation efforts. 4-H Professionals should check with state specialists and/or design teams.

Ohio 4-H Teen Leadership Opportunities

Ohio offers opportunities for teens to serve in leadership positions at the club, county, state and national levels. Opportunities may vary by county, but many opportunities are similar in scope. The requirements to be involved in these programs differ from county to county, as well. Please contact your county OSU Extension office to get information about any of the programs in which you are interested.



Local and County Level Opportunities

Club

A 4-H Club is a group of at least 5 members from three different families who meet throughout the year under the direction of trained 4-H volunteers. Club members complete activities, keep records, and participate in the meetings. Club business meetings are led by elected youth officers. Teens may serve in leadership roles in the club setting by serving as officers, committee chairs/members, or as junior club leaders, under the guidance of the club advisor.

Teen Leaders or Junior Leaders

Teen Leaders or Junior Leaders clubs or groups provide an opportunity for teens to improve leadership skills while working together in a social environment. Teens increase their skills in leadership, citizenship and community service and also develop social skills through interaction with their peers and adult leaders.