

JACKSON COUNTY GENERAL 4-H POLICIES AND REQUIREMENTS

As a member/volunteer of the Jackson County 4-H Program I agree to abide by the following policies and requirements:

1. **Membership** – Eligibility for 4-H membership begins when a child is age 5 and is enrolled in kindergarten as of January 1 of the current year (Cloverbuds). Project membership to the 4-H club program begins when a child is at least age 8 and enrolled in 3rd grade as of January 1 of the current year. Ohio 4-H membership ends December 31 of the year in which an individual attains the age of 19. Membership begins when an eligible individual is enrolled in a club or group that is under the direction of a trained adult who has completed the OSUE volunteer selection process and within the scope of Ohio State University Extension.

2. **Enrollment Deadline** – Enrollments will be accepted anytime throughout the program year, but members must be enrolled by April 1st (returning members) or April 15th (new members) in order to receive a fair pass, to exhibit their 4-H projects in the current year's Jackson County Fair, to exhibit projects or participate in junior shows in the current year's Ohio State Fair, or to represent the Jackson County 4-H Program at state events such as Leadership Camp or Citizenship-Washington Focus. Enrollment begins when a completed and signed enrollment form is submitted to the Extension Office by a club advisor.

3. **Attendance Requirements** – 4-H clubs must have a minimum of 8 meetings during the year. 4-H members must attend at least five club meetings each program year to be considered active 4-H members.
 - A. Only active members in good standing will be eligible to participate in the current year's Jackson County Fair. Clubs are required to turn in an attendance roster prior to the fair to verify members have attended 5 meetings.

4. **Projects** – Projects are the teaching tools of 4-H. Through hands-on project work, members gain new knowledge and develop new skills. Project work encourages members to do something new, reflect on what they've learned from the experience, and apply what they've learned to other aspects of their daily lives. Record keeping is an important part of project work. Project books and resource materials should be ordered through the club advisor for all 4-H projects. Sales tax will be charged on books purchased by individuals; clubs are encouraged to purchase books on behalf of their members. Projects are described in detail in the *4-H Family Guide*, updated and printed annually or available on our website. Remember: A *project* consists of a series of educational activities and experiences over time culminating in an end *product* that can be exhibited at fair; it is NOT simply a fair entry.
 - A. Members must enroll in at least one project each year.
 - B. To exhibit at the Jackson County Fair, 4-H members with still projects must attend General Project Judging (or complete a makeup interview). All Members must have their completed project book graded by their 4-H club advisor and received a project completion grade.

5. **Completion Requirements to be a 4-H Member in Good Standing**
 - A. Members must complete at least one project each year in order to be a member in good standing.
 - B. Members must participate in pre-fair or fair judging and exhibit their project work or animals at the fair in order to receive a fair pass and fair premiums.
 - C. Only 4-H Members in Good Standing are eligible for exhibition during 4-H and Junior Fair judging or to receive a fair pass. In order to be a member in good standing a member must meet the county meeting requirements, fulfill any club/county financial obligations, fulfill project requirements for at least one project and attend any required trainings.

4-H Participant Signature _____ Parent/Guardian Signature _____

