

California 4-H Youth Development Program
4-H Member Code of Conduct
University of California Cooperative Extension

The following behavior guidelines and expectations are designed to make everyone's experience at 4-H events satisfying to all attending. This means that all participants, members, adult volunteers, and 4-H YDP staff, shall adhere to the core values of the University of California 4-H Youth Development Program, respect the individual rights, safety, and property of others. Youth are expected to demonstrate the character traits of trustworthiness, respect, responsibility, fairness, caring and citizenship.

While attending all 4-H meetings, projects, programs, and events as a 4-H member I will:

1. Be courteous and respect others.
2. Obey all rules established by the California 4-H YDP, the local club/group and all local, state and federal laws.
3. Respect the authority of adult volunteers, youth leaders, 4-H YDP staff, and others in leadership roles.
4. Use appropriate language and wear acceptable clothing at 4-H activities and events.
5. Show kindness to others and give assistance when needed.
6. Be honest and honor commitments.
7. Not use tobacco products, alcohol or drugs (except those prescribed by a doctor).
8. Not carry a weapon or threaten another person with a weapon, bodily force or language.
9. Accept responsibility for personal choices.
10. Acknowledge that searches of personal property may take place when there is reasonable suspicion of violations of law or University policy in accordance with 4-H YDP policy.
11. Not display overly affectionate or sexual behavior.

While attending overnight events as a 4-H member, I will:

1. Be in my room when attending overnight events by the established hours.
2. Not leave the grounds unless permission is secured from the adult in charge and I am accompanied by two adults.
3. Not be in the sleeping areas of members of the opposite gender nor will I invite non 4-H participants to the sleeping areas.
4. Will be responsible for any damage caused by my actions.
5. Will comply with other rules of the event.

PENALTIES FOR INFRACTIONS

Infractions of the 4-H Code of Conduct must be reported promptly by anyone observing them to the adult in charge of the delegation/project and to the person in charge of the event who will bear final responsibility for disciplinary action. The parent/guardian and the County 4-H Office will be notified of action taken. Penalties may include any or all of the following:

- Notification of parents and appropriate staff members.
- Sending the participant home
- Barring the participant from future 4-H events
- Assessing the participant the cost of damages and repairs for damage or destruction of property
- Releasing the participant to the nearest law enforcement agency and/or the proper authorities
- Termination of 4-H membership

I have read the Code of Conduct and agree to abide by its rules. I understand that infraction of this Code will result in any or all of the penalties listed above.

County: _____

Signature of Member: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____

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California 4-H Youth Development Program
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By signature on the enrollment form, the parent/guardian of said minor consents and agrees, individually and as parent or guardian of the minor, to the foregoing terms and provisions.