

4-H Participation Opportunities

Youth may participate in 4-H in many ways...through 4-H clubs, 4-H special emphasis groups, school or afterschool programs, 4-H camping, individual family programs, 4-H internet programs, and through other 4-H experiences.

4-H Projects

Ohio 4-H members are involved in “learning by doing” through more than 200 projects. Projects help 4-Hers develop new knowledge, skills, and aspirations. Ohio 4-H projects include:

Archery	Beef
Cats	Child Care
Citizenship	Clothing
Creative Arts	Dairy
Electricity	Family Life
Fishing	Food/Nutrition
Forestry	Gardening
Genealogy	Health
Horses	Insects
Laundry	Lawn Care
Leadership	Money Management
Natural Resources	Pet Care
Photography	Plants & Soils
Poultry	Rabbits
Rocketry	Sheep
Small Engines	Swine
Welding	Woodworking

Beyond The Project

In addition to participating in 4-H groups and completing 4-H projects, 4-Hers have many leadership and citizenship experiences. Also, many take part in 4-H educational opportunities such as camps, conferences, educational trips, community service, scholarship and award programs, etc.

How To Join 4-H

To become a 4-H Member, to become a 4-H Advisor or other type of 4-H Volunteer, or to get involved in 4-H in other ways, simply contact the 4-H Educator at your local OSU Extension Office:

Adams 937-544-2339	Licking - 740-670-5315
Adv Central -937-278-2601	Logan - 937-599-4227
Allen - 419-222-9946	Lorain - 440-326-5851
Ashland - 419-281-8242	Madison - 740-852-0975
Ashtabula - 440-576-9008	Mahoning - 330-533-5538
Athens - 740-593-8555	Marion - 740-223-4040
Auglaize - 419-738-2219	Medina - 330-725-4911
Belmont - 740-695-1455	Meigs - 740-992-6696
Brown - 937-378-6716	Mercer - 419-586-2179
Butler - 513-887-3722	Miami - 937-440-3945
Carroll - 330-627-4310	Monroe - 740-472-0810
Clark - 937-328-4607	Montgomery 937-224-9654
Clermont - 513-732-7070	Morgan - 740-962-4854
Clinton - 937-382-0901	Morrow - 419-947-1070
Columbiana -330-424-7291	Muskingum -740-454-0144
Coshocton - 740-622-2265	Noble - 740-732-5681
Crawford - 419-562-8731	Ottawa - 419-898-3631
Cuyahoga - 216-429-8200	Paulding - 419-399-8225
Darke - 937-548-5215	Perry - 740-743-1602
Defiance - 419-782-4771	Pickaway - 740-474-7534
Delaware - 740-833-2030	Pike - 740-947-2121
Erie - 419-627-7631	Portage - 330-296-6432
Fairfield - 740-653-5419	Preble - 037-456-8174
Fayette - 740-335-1150	Putnam - 419-523-6294
Franklin - 614-866-6900	Richland - 419-747-8755
Fulton - 419-337-9210	Ross - 740-702-3200
Gallia - 740-446-7007	Sandusky - 419-334-6340
Geauga - 440-834-4656	Scioto - 740-354-7879
Greene - 937-372-9971	Seneca - 419-447-9722
Guernsey - 740-432-9300	Shelby - 937-498-7239
Hamilton - 513-946-8989	Stark - 330-830-7700
Hancock - 419-422-3851	Summit - 330-928-4769
Hardin - 419-674-2297	Trumbull - 330-638-6783
Harrison - 740-942-8823	Tuscarawas - 330-339-2337
Henry - 419-592-0806	Union - 937-644-8117
Highland - 937-393-1918	Van Wert - 419-238-1214
Hocking - 740-385-3222	Vinton - 740-596-5212
Holmes - 330-674-3015	Warren - 513-695-1311
Huron - 419-668-8219	Washington -740-376-7431
Jackson - 740-286-5044	Wayne - 330-264-8722
Jefferson - 740-264-2212	Williams - 419-636-5608
Knox - 740-397-0401	Wood - 419-354-9050
Lake - 440-350-2582	Wyandot - 419-294-4931
Lawrence - 740-533-4322	Youth Outdoors-216-206-1010



Ohio 4-H Youth Development

4-H is a community of young people across America who are learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills.



All educational programs and activities conducted by Ohio State University Extension are available to all potential clientele on a nondiscriminatory basis without regard to race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, handicap, age, disability, or Vietnam-era veteran status.

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The Ohio State University Extension

The Ohio State University Extension was established to educate; to interpret and encourage the practical use of knowledge that comes from scientific research. The name “Extension” comes from the mission “to extend knowledge to the public” from the land grant universities.

4-H’s Purpose

The purpose of 4-H is to help youth to acquire knowledge, develop life skills, and form attitudes that will enable them to become self-directing, productive, and contributing members of society.

4-H History

4-H was founded by A. B. Graham January 15, 1902 in Springfield, Ohio. This first group of boys and girls met in the court house basement and learned about growing corn, planting gardens, testing soil, knot tying, and identifying weeds and insects. 4-H has since grown to involve youth in more than 80 countries throughout the world in becoming responsible, productive citizens wherever they live.

4-H Motto

“To Make The Best Better”

The 4-H Pledge

The 4-H Pledge summarizes what 4-H is all about. Most 4-H members learn and try to live up to the promises they make in the 4-H pledge:

*I pledge
my **H**ead to clearer thinking,
my **H**ear to greater loyalty,
my **H**ands to larger service, and
my **H**ealth to better living,
for my club, my community, my country, and my world.*

The Four Leaf Clover

The green and white 4-H clover emblem is a symbol of growth for the billions of 4-H members and alumni in the United States and more than eighty countries throughout the world. The white H’s which appear on each of the four leaves represent the equal education of the head, heart, hands, and health of every child. The 4-H name and emblem are protected by Congress from commercial or unauthorized use.

4-H Leadership & Direction

4-H programs are conducted throughout Ohio under the leadership and direction of Ohio State University faculty and staff. They plan youth programs with input from 4-H advisory committees comprised of leaders from all sectors of society. Programs are based on local needs and interests. Since people’s needs vary, 4-H programs differ from county to county.

4-H Advisors and Volunteers

The success of the Ohio 4-H program depends to a great extent on the involvement of adult volunteers. Extension Educators provide training for 4-H advisors and other volunteers, and they, in turn, teach groups of youth. This way, the teaching skill and knowledge of a limited number of Extension professionals is multiplied and extended.

Ohio 4-H Membership Guidelines

4-H is a non-formal educational, youth development program offered to individuals age 5 and in Kindergarten to 19. All 4-H programs focus on active involvement and quality experiences which stimulate lifelong learning of values and skills. Membership begins upon enrollment in a club or group with a volunteer advisor, under the direction and within the scope of OSU Extension.

Ohio 4-H Statistical Profile

Ohio 4-H Enrollment 318,956

Where 4-H’ers Live

Farms	15%
Rural Areas/Towns<10,000	44%
Towns 10,000-50,000	24%
Suburbs	6%
Metro Areas / Cities>50,000	11%

Male-Female Ratios

Females	52%
Males	48%

Minority Racial/Ethnic Youth 12%

Adult Volunteer Advisors 24,143

4-H Alumni 1 out of 6 persons

Ohio ranks nationally among the top five states in the number of 4-H clubs, number of 4-H volunteers, and in many 4-H project areas. 15% the youth in the state of Ohio between the ages of 5 and 19 participate in 4-H programs.

