

Appendix C

4-H Membership Across County Lines

*(to be implemented September 1, 1994;
approved by Administrative Cabinet 12/93)*

Ohio State University Extension administers the 4-H youth development education program whose mission is to develop youth to reach their fullest potential as capable, competent, caring, and contributing citizens. Each county in Ohio conducts the 4-H youth development program to accomplish this goal.

In order to affirm Ohio Extension's position concerning cross county (and/or cross state line) 4-H membership and to establish guidelines in this area to fulfill the above mission, the following philosophy and process statements are provided.

- a. Youth are expected to affiliate with the program in their county of residence.
- b. Four-H membership in two counties simultaneously is not possible.
- c. Cross state line membership will be considered the same as for cross county participation.
- d. It is recognized that limited situations may occur where membership in a county other than the county of residence might be positive. The agents in both counties must be in agreement that the change should occur. This agreement should be based on their professional judgment in accord with the opening paragraph of this policy.
- e. Consideration for membership in a county other than the county of residence should be given only in situations where a positive educational experience will result. Any change motivated by perceived competitive or sale advantage, any change due to controversial issues, or other similar motivations will not be seen as justified reasons for consideration for membership in a county other than the county of residence, and should be automatically rejected by the agents involved.
- f. Any consideration for membership in a county other than the county of residence, within the limits of this policy and not addressed by the above statements should be brought to the attention of the county chair, district 4-H specialist and/or district director by county 4-H agent. This support team will then provide leadership for decisions in these special situations.