



## FRANKLIN COUNTY 4-H RULES

*Keep this copy for your family records.*

The minimum county participation requirements are listed below. If a club requires more than the minimum county requirements, the club requirements must be met for a member to complete the project year, or to be in good standing. Members who complete the project year will receive a year pin at the completion of each year. Teens must complete the year to be eligible to be a camp counselor in the following year.

### **COUNTY REQUIREMENTS FOR COMPLETING THE PROJECT YEAR:**

1. A member must be enrolled in 4-H Online, and enrollment fee must be paid, either to the state 4-H office with a credit/debit card, or by cash or check submitted to the Franklin County MU Extension Office, and a signed copy of the Franklin County rules with all the appropriate signatures must be turned into the 4-H Club Leader. Members are not enrolled until the Club Leader has a copy of the Franklin County 4-H Rules signed by all members and at least one parent. It is recommended that members re-enroll by November 1, so that they receive information about fall opportunities. Members may enroll in Franklin County 4-H at any time during the year, but those enrolling after the club's March meeting may not be able to meet the required meeting attendance to be a member in good standing for the year, and thus will not be able to participate in activities requiring that a member be in good standing. Members who enroll late may be limited in which clubs, projects, activities and events that they can participate in.

2. A member must attend 6 club meetings, or the simple majority (one over half) of club meetings if the club holds less than 12 monthly meetings. A club meeting is defined as a meeting where business is conducted and minutes are kept. When a club holds a social activity in place of a club meeting, the secretary should make note of how many were present and what the activity was. This will be considered as minutes for the meeting. Social activities will substitute for meetings no more than two times each year, and only if a club meeting is not held in the same month. The Club Leader will have final say as to whether a social activity is substituted for a club meeting in situations where there is doubt. The Club Leader will determine if a member has attended the meeting. A 4-H member can be credited with attending a meeting if the meeting is missed so the member can participate in another county, state, or national 4-H activity or event.

**Members who are unable to attend the required number of meetings due to reasons beyond their control, may request special consideration to complete the 4-H year. Special consideration requests must be supported by the Club Leader, and will be determined on a case by case basis. Contact the Franklin County University of Missouri Extension Center for a copy of the special consideration request procedure.**

. A member must complete at least one project under the direction of a recognized volunteer leader. A member will have completed a project if they attend the simple majority of project meetings (one over half), and complete either a *Franklin County 4-H Member Participation and Project Record Form* **or** a *Franklin County 4-H Report Form* for the project. Members who take an animal project must also complete the *Animal Project Record Add-on Page* and turn it in with either form. Clover Kids will not be required to complete any paperwork. Instead the Clover Kids leader will submit a list of Clover Kids who attended the minimum number of meetings, to the Club Leader.

**If a member is unable to complete a project at no fault of their own, the Club Leader can allow the member to complete the year, but only if the member has been in good standing with the club.**

### **MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING:**

A member in good standing is a member who is in the process of completing the project year. Members in good standing are attending meetings and participating in club activities. The 4-H Club Leader determines whether a member is in good standing with the club.

## **TO BE ELIGIBLE TO EXHIBIT AT THE FRANKLIN COUNTY FAIR:**

To be eligible to exhibit at the Franklin County Fair as a 4-H member, a member must be in good standing as defined above. In May of the 4-H year, the Club Leader will send a list of members who are eligible to exhibit at the Franklin County Fair to the University of Missouri Extension Center.

## **TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN A STATE CONTEST:**

Members who wish to participate in state contests must participate in qualifying contests if they are held, or meet whatever criteria is established by the 4-H Youth Specialist if no qualifying contest is held. Members in good standing will receive priority if participation is limited.

## **TO BE ELIGIBLE TO PARTICIPATE IN 4-H COUNCIL SPONSORED TRIPS:**

4-H members must be in good standing and must complete the necessary application forms to be eligible to receive 4-H Council sponsorship for a 4-H Trip. In cases where Camp Counselor applications are equal, teens who have completed the previous year will be chosen first.

In addition to the application form, the Club Leader will be required to recommend acceptance of a member for the Citizenship Washington Focus trip.

## **IMPLEMENTATION:**

A copy of the rules will be sent out in the August or September 4-H Newsletter with a space for families to sign to indicate that they have read and understand the rules. This sheet must be turned in to the club leader. A member will not be considered to be enrolled until the signed rules sheet is returned to the club leader. In January or later, the Club Leader will determine if any member is in danger of not completing the club year. At that point the leader is encouraged to contact the family and make them aware that they must begin participating in order to complete the club year. **However, the Club Leader is not required to give a member any warning.** Each new family that joins 4-H after that time will receive a copy of the county rules from the Extension Center.

## **DRUG, ALCOHOL, & TOBACCO POLICY**

A 4-H member who is in possession of, or uses alcohol, tobacco, or other illegal substances at a 4-H event, or when they are representing 4-H (such as exhibiting livestock at a fair, on an interstate exchange, etc.) will lose their good standing and may not be allowed to complete the year.

## **TEEN OPTION (Details on Teen Option Form)**

The teen option allows members age 14 and older on December 31 of the club year to complete the year while attending only 4 club meetings. The member must provide special leadership on the club and county level, attend at least 4 club meetings, and complete at least one project. Those who wish to exercise this option must request a Teen Option Contract Form from the Extension Center no later than February 15 of the 4-H Year.

## **COLLEGE OPTION (Details on College Option Form)**

A member who is enrolled full time in a college or technical school may take the college option. **It is the responsibility of the member to approach the Club Leader** if they wish to take the College Option. The Club Leader and member should then work out an agreement outlining the level of participation and leadership at the club and county level that is expected. This agreement should be recorded on the College Option Form, and signed by the member and Club Leader. The agreed upon level of participation must be met to the Club Leader's satisfaction in order for the member to remain in good standing.