

Illinois 4-H

Participant and Family Code of Conduct



The opportunity to participate in or attend 4-H activities is a privilege and not a right. All 4-H participants – youth and families who participate in or attend any activity or event sponsored by the University of Illinois 4-H Youth Development program – are expected to uphold the values of the Illinois 4-H program and conduct themselves according to the following standards. These standards also apply to online 4-H activity, including social media and internet presence.

As a 4-H Youth Development program participant and family, I agree I will:

1. Represent University of Illinois 4-H program with dignity and pride and be a positive role model.
2. Conduct myself in a manner that reflects honesty, integrity, self-control, and self-direction. Accept the results and outcomes of Extension contests with grace and empathy for other participants. Accept the final opinions of judges and evaluators. Be open to innovative ideas, suggestions, and opinions of others.
3. Create a welcoming environment for all. Encourage everyone to fully participate in 4-H program. Recognize that all people have skills and talents that can help others and improve the community. Though we will not always agree, we must disagree respectfully. When we disagree, try to understand why. Our first priority is to create a safe, inclusive space for learning, sharing and collaboration that is welcoming to people from diverse backgrounds, cultures, and perspectives. Diversity includes, but is not limited to: race, color, religion, political beliefs, national or ethnic origin, immigration or citizenship status, sex, gender identity and expression, transgender status, sexual orientation, age, marital or family status, educational level, learning style, pregnancy, physical appearance, body size, and individuals with disabilities.
4. Comply with University of Illinois equal opportunity and antidiscrimination policies, as well as all federal, state, and local laws.
5. Honor diversity. Respect the privacy of persons involved with Extension programs and hold in confidence sensitive, private, and personal information.
6. Create a safe environment. Not carelessly or intentionally harm or intimidate anyone in any way (verbally, mentally, physically, or emotionally). Not engage in romantic displays or sexual activities in either public or private situations at any Extension sponsored activity or event. Be kind and compassionate toward others. Not insult, harass, or bully others or engage in other hostile behaviors. Be considerate and courteous of all persons and their property.
7. Be a team player. Work cooperatively with all individuals involved in Extension programs and activities. Be responsive to the reasonable requests of the person in charge. Respect the integrity of the group and the group's decisions.
8. Be a positive role model. Act in a mature, responsible manner, recognizing I am a role model for others and that I am representing both myself and the University of Illinois 4-H programs. Be responsible for my behavior, use positive and affirming language, and uphold exemplary standards of conduct at all 4-H activities.
9. Participate fully. Participate in and contribute to planned programs, be on time and follow through on assigned tasks/responsibilities in a manner that fosters the safety, well-being, and quality of the educational experience for myself and others. Have fun!
10. Obey the law. Obey the laws of the locality, state and nation, University of Illinois and University of Illinois Extension policies and guidelines. Commit no illegal acts.

11. Will not possess, offer to others, or use alcohol, illegal drugs, marijuana, or tobacco products, which include e-pens, e-pipes, e-hookah, e-cigars, JUULs, vapes, vape pens or other electronic nicotine delivery systems at 4-H activities or events. Will not attend Extension activities under the influence of alcohol, illegal substances, or marijuana.
12. Will not possess or use weapons or firearms except as expressly permitted as part of supervised 4-H shooting sports programming
13. Not retaliate against individuals, including minors, families, parents, guardians, University of Illinois Extension staff members or other volunteers, who report allegations of inappropriate conduct (including but not limited to abuse; neglect; assault; harassment; sexual assault, abuse, or harassment; possessing child pornography or providing it to a minor; furnishing alcohol, drugs, or sexual materials to a minor; and violations of the University of Illinois antidiscrimination policy).
14. Uphold and support the responsible use of social media. In so doing, I will not create or post social media content about Illinois Extension that is abusive, threatening, defamatory, obscene, harassing, or creates a hostile environment.
15. Recognize University of Illinois Extension has the responsibility and authority to remove individuals who are disruptive to the University of Illinois Extension programs, violate the University of Illinois 4-H Code of Conduct, state, or local laws, or for any other reason the University of Illinois Extension deems appropriate.
16. Humane treatment of animals. Treat animals humanely and teach 4-H youth to provide appropriate animal care.
17. Watch What You Wear. Use good judgment. Wear clothing suited for the activity in which you will participate. Dress in a manner that is respectful to yourself and others. Clothing that displays or promotes violence, obscenity, illegal activities, discrimination, or intimidation is prohibited. Do not wear revealing clothing, such as short skirts or shorts, midriff-baring tops, or anything showing undergarments.

Consequences

Any of the following may be used, depending on severity of the situation:

1. Participant will receive a verbal warning.
2. Participant may remain at the event/activity, but may be barred from future events.
3. Participant may be asked to leave the event/activity. If the participant is a youth, the parent(s) will be called and the youth will be sent home at family's expense.

I have read and I understand and agree to comply **with the above University of Illinois Extension 4-H Youth Development Code of Conduct.**

Printed Name _____

Signature of Volunteer _____

_____ Date



Illinois Extension
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences.
University of Illinois, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Local Extension Councils Cooperating.
University of Illinois Extension provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.