



4-H Shooting Sports

Learn By Doing

Policies and Procedures

Policies for Leader Certification

Instructor Certification Policies

All Shooting Sports volunteers must conform to the established policy and procedures for application and acceptance established for any volunteer leader by the Iowa 4-H Youth Development Program. For further information on the application process, contact the extension office in your county (<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Counties/state.html>).

Volunteer application approved, disapproved, or approved with modifications.

Iowa 4-H recognizes one level of leadership in the 4-H SESS Program.

1. Certified Instructor
 - a. 21 years of age or older.
 - b. Successfully completed the 4-H Shooting Sports [Leader Certification workshop](#) conducted by the Iowa SESS Sports Training Team.
 - c. No convictions for game and fish law violations within the past two years.
 - d. Approved through the child protection and safety policy screening process.

Instructor Renewal Policy

- To keep certification valid, an instructor must teach or assist in teaching the shooting sports discipline course at least every two years.
- Once certification lapses, (not teaching for two years) an instructor must repeat a State Leader's Certification Workshop.
- Renewal will be required of all instructors when a program change requires an update or is deemed necessary by the state coordinator.
- Completion of state required trainings (2 times per year).

Certification/Qualification

4-H Certification, achieved only by successful participation in a 4-H leader workshop, is an absolute requirement for an instructor in the shooting disciplines. No other certifications or qualifications are accepted as a substitute. Just because you are an expert marksman does not mean you know how to work with kids. And just because you are firearms instructor certified by another person does not mean you know about 4-H philosophy and procedure. Each 4-H leader workshop includes youth development principles and concepts, risk management practices, and program management in addition to shooting discipline training.

