Iowa 4-H Addendum to Guidance and Expectations for In-Person Education and Business

May 14, 2021

Iowa 4-H is providing program specific expectations and recommendations that are meant to strengthen and complement ISU and ISU Extension and Outreach expectations and guidance. Please refer to the Open for Iowa resources. Be knowledgeable of local ordinances and directives (county, city, venue) that may impact your planning and program delivery.

In-Person Club Meetings, Programs, and Events:

1. Face coverings are encouraged indoors for unvaccinated individuals.
2. Remind participants to stay home if they are sick and follow safety guidelines.
3. Evaluate facilities and venues. Work with facility and event management to coordinate protocols. Continue to consider spacing to reduce crowding. Allow for extra ventilation when possible.
4. Continue to implement hygiene practices and other reasonable safety measures consistent with Open for Iowa guidance for all gatherings.
5. It is expected that facilities/venues have adequate facilities and/or equipment for handwashing/hand sanitizers.
6. Strongly consider pre-registration for all meetings and events.
7. Limit use of shared objects/supplies when possible, especially for objects difficult to clean.
8. Educational activities including food preparation must follow Open for Iowa recommendations.
9. Food at meetings must follow guidance on Open for Iowa page.
10. Review CDC Guidance for Operating Youth and Summer Camps (updated April 24, 2021) for other suggested practices. (Includes suggestions for day camps.)
11. The willingness of 4-H youth and families to participate in an in-person event may vary. Continue to provide online educational program and event participation options when appropriate/possible.
County Fairs:
1. Follow In-person guidance above.
2. Work with facility and event management to coordinate protocols. Evaluate local conditions and be knowledgeable of local ordinances and directives.
3. Continue to space check-in stations and judging stations to reduce crowding when possible. Provide extra ventilation at indoor venues when possible.
4. Continue to implement hygiene practices and other reasonable safety measures including handwashing/hand sanitizers.
5. Apply lessons learned in managing 2020 fairs to 2021 fair planning.

Field Trips & Overnight Events:
1. Clubs and counties may engage in learning opportunities that include a field trip.
2. Overnight activities/field trips are permitted for educational purposes. This includes overnight/residential camping programs.
3. Trips will be reviewed and approved on a case-by-case basis considering the educational value, risk management, and safety protocols.
4. Follow Open for Iowa for general ISU Extension and Outreach travel recommendations. See also Transportation and Travel section below.
5. Participants should continue to follow In-person club meeting guidance. Please submit field trip plans to your county Extension Office for approval. Be aware of local ordinances at trip location.
6. Plans for overnight activities/trips will be reviewed for approval by the Youth Program Specialist serving the county.
7. Out of State travel is allowed if trip meets field trip and overnight guidance listed.
8. See also ISU guidance for Safety Protocols for Overnight Trips and Student Organization Trips and Overnight Accommodations.

Note: Plan alternatives and contingencies for all trips as policy, guidance, and travel restrictions may change with little or no advance notice.
Transportation and Travel:

1. Best practice is to follow the Transportation and Travel guidance from ISU.
   a. Transportation Services
   b. Safety Protocols for Overnight Field Trips
   c. Student Organization Trips and Overnight Accommodations
2. Face coverings are encouraged in vehicles.
3. Personal (family) vehicles – Parents may decide who can travel together. Do not exceed rated capacity of vehicle.

Overnight Accommodations – Residential Camps:

1. Follow protocols of the camping facility.
2. Clean and disinfect common areas frequently.
3. Keep activities outdoors as much as possible.
4. Modify camper drop-off and pickup procedures.
5. Use the resources in the American Camping Association Field Guide for Camps on Implementation of CDC Guidance and the CDC Suggestions for Youth and Summer Camps.”

Overnight Accommodations – Hotels:

1. Minimum requirement is that everyone has their own bed.
2. Minimize use of common areas (lounges, game rooms, pools).

Food Service during Travel:

1. Continue to pick up food at drive-throughs, curbside restaurant service, delivery service, or stores when possible.
2. If you dine at a restaurant:
   • Follow any local face covering protocols.
   • When possible, dine outside at tables.
FAQ:

**How can we support youth who are unable to join or lack technology to join or participate in a virtual meeting?**

Have a phone in option available, either using the Zoom/Webex phone option or by phone/speaker phone at the meeting. Be sure to follow-up (phone, email) with members who were not present to inform them of information discussed and group decision that were made.

**What if there are club members or volunteers who cannot meet in person?**

Continue to offer a virtual attendance option. This is an opportunity to facilitate a conversation among club members and families about how to create an inclusive and belonging meeting environment that allows ALL members to participate in the manner they choose. Remind members and families to live out the spirit of the 4-H Pledge. That the pledge is not just words, but a way to show through actions they truly pledge their health to better living – for their club and community.

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