



Iowa 4-H Youth Development Volunteer Roles and Expectations

ALL 4-H adult volunteers will:

- Foster and promote the needs of youth and the outcomes of the 4-H experience as identified in Iowa's 4-H Equation.
- Promote positive youth development environments for youth that emphasize youth strengths.
- Provide appropriate supervision of activities/meetings/field trips, etc.
- Develop working relationships with parents, extension staff, and community partners.
- Follow [ISUEO screening policy](#) and [FAQ](#).

Club/Group/Clover Kids Volunteer

- Leads or assists in leading a club or group
- Includes those adults who are the main contacts with the County Extension Office as well as those adults who assist them.
- A caring adult whose work with youth results in establishment of a long-term relationship.
- Risk Management and New Volunteer Training required.
- Annual volunteer training required.

Project Volunteer

- Meets with youth on a regular basis to help youth learn skills and information about a specific project.
- A caring adult whose work with youth results in establishment of a long-term relationship.
- Risk management and New Volunteer Training required.
- Annual volunteer training required.

Activity Volunteer

- Plans and/or conducts county, area, or state events involving 4-H members and/or adult 4-H volunteers.
- May need Risk Management training
- If event planning involves establishing long-term youth/adult partnerships, Positive Youth Development training recommended.
- Youth committee members who are not already classified as either Club Volunteer or Project Volunteer would fall under this definition.
- ****Staff or volunteers managing the activity should make sure volunteers understand their role and any risk management issues they need to be aware of.**

Resource Volunteer

- Episodic volunteer who participates in a club, special interest, school enrichment, after school, or camping activity.
- Work is short term, usually a single event or learning experience in a public or group setting and is under the administration of trained volunteer or staff.
- ****Staff or volunteers managing the activity should make sure episodic volunteers understand their role and any risk management issues they need to be aware of.**

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Iowa 4-H Youth Development Volunteer Roles and Expectations Worksheet

Situation	Volunteer type	ISUEO screening policy	Training to be completed				Rationale
			County Based Orientation & Training	Risk Management	New Volunteer Training	Annual training	
George and Irene work with the county council to plan the county's annual basketball tournament.	Activity volunteer	X	X	X			Depends on nature of work & contact with county council. Recommend youth/adult partnership training.
Sarah and Angie manage the county fair 4-H Exhibit Building.	Activity volunteer	X		X			Low if no long-term contact with youth *county discretion, may depend on duties and interaction with youth
Sally assists with the dog project club that meets monthly.	Club volunteer	X	X	X	X	X	Assistant club leader
Jeff and Geneva are adult volunteers on the State Leaders' Retreat planning team.	Activity volunteer	No*		suggested			*State activity volunteers screened as per Iowa State University volunteer policy (assuming this is their only volunteer role) *National Sex Offender Registry checked Limited contact with youth – unless youth serving on the planning team, then youth/adult partnership training recommended

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			County Based Orientation & Training	Risk Management	New Volunteer Training	Annual training	
Paul runs the scale at the beef weigh-in.	Resource volunteer	X		**			Limited contact with youth, public setting – no one on one interaction
On a yearly basis, Amy and Ruth facilitate four one-week nutrition sessions with youth enrolled in the 4-H Afterschool Wellness & Fitness Program.	Project volunteer	X	X	X	X	X	Long term contact with youth
Paula and Tim facilitate a onetime reading and writing workshop with youth in the New 4-H Adventures Afterschool Program.	Resource volunteer	*	*	**			Contact your YPS to assess role and determine training and screening needs. (Volunteer or guest speaker?). Is contact time with youth limited and more than one adult present? *Check National Sex Offender registry.
Mary volunteers as an environmentalist for multiple state sponsored camps.	Activity volunteer	No*		*			State activity volunteers screened as per Iowa State University volunteer policy (assuming this is their only volunteer role). If Mary comes to camp as a volunteer for county organized camps she is trained as per ISUEO screening policy. *Risk management and camp policy training provided by the Iowa 4-H Camping Specialist

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Barb and Al coach the county livestock judging team.	Project volunteer	X	X	X	X	X	Long term contact with youth
Sam organizes the area livestock judging contest.	Activity volunteer	X		X			No long term contact with youth
Ed presents one workshop at the photography camp.	Guest speaker	*					*Guest speakers are not considered volunteers. Best practice is to check National Sex Offender registry Extension staff or other approved volunteers are present
Bob coordinates a 4-H Afterschool program's summer informational sports fishing and camping fair for youth and parents.	Activity volunteer	X		**			Coordinating onetime event for youth and parents **For risk management purposes coordinate best practices with staff *Best practice is to check National Sex Offender registry
Ralph is the swine superintendent at the county fair.	?	X*		**			?Is he a 4-H volunteer or Fair volunteer? How much interaction does he have with youth? Contact your YPS to assess role and determine training needs *Best practice is to check National Sex Offender registry
Phyllis has a Safety and Education in Shooting Sports (SESS) club.	Club volunteer	X	X	X		X	NVT training is provided at SESS training.

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Gary presents one workshop on swine fitting and showmanship for county youth prior to the fair.	Guest Speaker	*					*Guest speakers are not considered volunteers. Best practice is to check National Sex Offender registry Extension staff or other approved volunteers are present
Phil meets with the 4-H members who are in the woodworking project area every month before the Tipton Trailblazers club meeting starts.	Project volunteer	X	X	X	X	X	
Coordinator of the fair queen contest	?						? Is this an Extension event or fair board or community event? Contact your YPS to assess role and determine training and screening needs
Susan manages the 4-H food stand at the county fair.	Activity volunteer	X		X			
Albert is a Lego League volunteer.	Club volunteer	X	X	X	X	X	

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Mikayla is a member of the Youth Committee who meets closely with youth on committees and planning fair events.	Activity volunteer	X	X	X	Recommended		Long term relationship with youth Needs youth/adult partnership training
Michael is the adult leader of the 4-H Afterschool Computer Club that meets twice a month.	Club volunteer	X	X	X	X	X	
Keli leads a Clover Kids group.	Club volunteer	X	X	X	X	X	

****Staff or volunteers managing the activity should make sure volunteers receive orientation and understand their role and any risk management issues they need to be aware of.**

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