



FRANKLIN COUNTY 4-H

NEW MEMBER GUIDE



IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY
Extension and Outreach





Steps to Join 4-H



Step 1: Pick a Project Area

Pick an area that you are interested in. Picking a project area doesn't mean you have to enter a static exhibit in that area it just means you are interested in that project and might consider exhibiting in that area sometime in the future.

Step 2: Pick a Club

Franklin County has seven 4-H clubs to join. Check out the highlights of each club on the following page to help you choose which one is best for your family. Remember to contact the 4-H leader of the club you are interested in so you can attend their next 4-H meeting!

Step 3: Enroll in Franklin County 4-H

- **New 4-H Families:**

Go to 4-H online and create a new account and complete the information and submit.

<http://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in> or Scan this QR code.



- **Current 4-H Families:**

If you have other kids already enrolled in 4-H

Please DO NOT create a new account.

Please add a child to your current 4-H family account

If you have forgotten your 4-H online password, you can reset your password from the home page.

Step 4: Learn more about 4-H

Step 1: Pick a Project Area

When you enroll in 4-H online you will be asked to select a few project areas.

A project is a topic or interest area youth engage in learning about for the next year.

When selecting project areas, this is not a commitment to that project area it just means you're interested in learning more. Sometimes emails are sent to members in specific project area when the information only pertains to that project. Example: Dog project would get emails about dog practice meetings.

AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCES

- ☐ **AGRONOMY** | Explore plant genetics, physiology, meteorology, and soil science.
- ☐ **ENTOMOLOGY** | Don't let it bug you! Get to know all about insects and how they impact our daily lives.
- ☐ **ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY** | Discover how the choices you make every day affect the whole world.
- ☐ **HORTICULTURE** | Plant it, dig it, grow it, and show it.
- ☐ **OUTDOOR ADVENTURES** | Go backpacking, hike a trail, build a campfire, ride a bike, reel in a big fish, or more.
- ☐ **SHOOTING SPORTS** | Hit your target while learning safe and responsible use of firearms and archery equipment.
- ☐ **WILDLIFE** | Go wild exploring plants and animals that live in and around your community. Learn how to use and wisely manage wildlife resources.

PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

- ☐ **CIVIC ENGAGEMENT** | Make your club, community, country, and world the best they can be.
- ☐ **COMMUNICATION** | Sing, dance, act, speak, and write.
- ☐ **DIGITAL STORYTELLING** | Tell a great story through animation, video production, editing, sound production, and image manipulation.
- ☐ **LEADERSHIP** | Build relationships, be a good role model, and help others.
- ☐ **SELF DETERMINED** | Set your own limits by choosing your passion, finding your information, and sharing what you learned.

FAMILY & CONSUMER SCIENCES

- ☐ **CHILD DEVELOPMENT** | Learn how children grow and develop and how you can be the best babysitter.
- ☐ **CLOTHING** | Now you're stylin'! Put it on and make a statement about who you are.
- ☐ **CONSUMER MANAGEMENT** | Learn how to be smart with your money so you can save for the things you want.
- ☐ **FOOD & NUTRITION** | Have fun choosing, cooking, and eating safe and healthy foods.
- ☐ **HEALTH** | Learn how to take care of yourself and others by learning First Aid and how to make healthy choices.
- ☐ **HOME IMPROVEMENT** | Room makeover! Discover simple and inexpensive ways to make your space your own.
- ☐ **SEWING & NEEDLE ARTS** | Make clothes, pillowcases, horse blankets, or anything else you can sew.

ANIMALS

- ☐ **BEEF** | Pick out a calf, feed it, groom it and watch it grow.
- ☐ **DAIRY CATTLE** | Take good care of your cows and make your own milk, cheese and ice cream.
- ☐ **DAIRY GOATS** | Learn to care for your dairy goats and you'll be rewarded with milk and cheese.
- ☐ **MEAT GOATS** | Select, feed, and care for your own goats.
- ☐ **DOGS** | Learn to feed and care for your furry friend and teach it some new tricks.
- ☐ **HORSE & PONY** | Jump in the saddle and discover all the aspects about raising and riding horses. You don't even need your own horse!
- ☐ **PETS** | Is your pet a hamster, hedgehog, hippo, or a Himalayan cat? Maybe it's not one of the four H's, but it still needs food, water, shelter, and love.
- ☐ **POULTRY** | Don't chicken out. Learn how to care for cheepers, peepers, quackers and gobblers.
- ☐ **RABBIT** | Hop on over and find out about raising bunnies.
- ☐ **SHEEP** | Lead the flock by choosing, feeding, and caring for your own breeding or market sheep.
- ☐ **SWINE** | Find out where a pork chop on a stick comes from while you choose, feed, and care for your own pigs.
- ☐ **VETERINARY SCIENCE** | Learn everything you need to know about keeping animals healthy, and maybe find your true calling as a veterinarian.

CREATIVE ARTS

- ☐ **MUSIC** | Write a song, join a band or play an instrument.
- ☐ **PHOTOGRAPHY** | Compose a photograph, frame a picture, and make detailed edits on your computer.
- ☐ **VISUAL ART** | Make a masterpiece with paint, chalk, clay, metal or wood.

SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH

- ☐ **AEROSPACE** | Use your investigation skills to discover the principles of flight, rocketry, and astronomy.
- ☐ **COMPUTER SCIENCE** | Study the theory of computation and the design of computational systems.
- ☐ **MECHANICS** | Develop knowledge and skills related to the design, construction, and repair of structural and mechanical technologies.
- ☐ **ROBOTICS** | Interact with robots and figure out how they work.
- ☐ **SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY AND MATH (STEM)** | Challenge your mind by exploring the world around you with hands-on experiments. The sky's the limit.
- ☐ **TRACTOR** | Dig in and develop your skills related to tractor safety, maintenance and repair, driving skills, or tractor restoration.
- ☐ **WOODWORKING** | Learn about types of wood and their uses, safety tips, and common tools.

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects-list>



Step 2: Pick a 4-H Club

New members are encouraged to visit a club meeting or even a few different clubs to find the club that fits your family the best. Contact Laela Ragsdale(641-373-3874) to find out when their next club meeting is.

Cultural Tréboles

La Luz Cultural Center, Hampton
Thelma Riviera

Northwest Franklin

H-D/CAL School Area
Val Plagge, Kristin Borcharding

Osceola Raiders

AGWSR School Area
Lori Hardman, Val Sailer, Tara
Struck

Reeve Hampton Hustlers

H-D/CAL School Area
Kari Subbert

Tri-L

Iowa Falls/Alden School Area
Dawn England

Washington Winners

H-D/CAL School Area
Kate Hindin, Joslyn Stock

West Fork Winners

West Fork School Area
Sara Harms, Daren Meints

Franklin County 4-H Website:

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/franklin/4h>



Iowa 4-H Website:

<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/>



National 4-H Website:

<https://4-h.org/>





Member Information

What is expected of a 4-H member?

- Attend monthly club meetings.
- Demonstrate skills you have learned for a group.
- Participate in a community service project.
- Record what you've done and learned through the year.
- Beyond local club participation, 4-H families can participate in a variety of workshops, camps, county fair, and more!
- Exhibiting at the county fair is a highlight of the year for many 4-H members. Youth are encouraged, **but not required**, to showcase what they are learning in their 4-H project work at the county fair.
- Read 4-H county newsletter. Newsletter is emailed every month to alert families on upcoming events.

What does a 4-H Club do?

- Most Clubs meet monthly with a year-long plan for their programs.
- Each club elects its own officers and conducts its own business.
- Meetings might also include presentations by leaders, parents, or a resource person, recreation/games, a family night, or a field trip.
- 4-H clubs do a variety of community service projects.

What happens at a 4-H Club Meeting?

Here are some things that may occur at a 4-H club meeting:

- Games or fun activities
- Call the meeting to order.
- The 4-H pledge and the Pledge of Allegiance
- Roll call and minutes of the last meeting
- Treasurer report
- Committees update members on what they've planned or done.
- Old Business (things that have been talked about before)
- New Business (new ideas, activities and plans)
- Adjourn the business meeting.
- Educational presentations are given.
- Refreshments and fun!

4-H Vocabulary

Every organization has a vocabulary that seems familiar only to its members and 4-H is no different. Here are a few of those words:

4-H Enrollment: Annually sign up for 4-H. This includes your name, address, phone, health information, parent contacts, and project areas you have chosen for the year.

4-H Online: Internet based databased used to enroll/sign up in the 4-H Program.
<https://v2.4honline.com/#/user/sign-in>



Code of Ethics: This form asks members to be responsible and behave in an ethical manner. Signed electronically in 4-H Online.

YQCA: Youth for the Quality Care of Animals (YQCA), which addresses quality in many different species, is a requirement for all 4-H livestock members. Any Iowa youth wishing to exhibit an animal at a county or state fair must complete a YQCA Certification Program annually.
<http://yqcaprogram.org>



Communication Events:

- **Educational Presentations** are talks or demonstrations, given in front of an audience, about a topic the 4-H member is interested in.
- **Working Exhibits** are less formal. They involve a one-on-one type of demonstration technique, teaching others how to do something for about 30 minutes.
- **Share-the-Fun** includes entertainment acts, like music, dance, interpretive speech, or skits. They can involve any number of youth - from one 4-H member to a whole club.
- **Extemporaneous Speaking** is an event where the participant draws 3 topics and chooses 1 topic to prepare a speech and answer questions to with a limited amount of preparation time.

Conference Judging: This method of judging is used for static exhibits at county fair. A 4-H member discusses their project work with a judge.

Exhibits: Is an item resulting from project work the 4-H member has chosen to bring to the fair and be evaluated by a judge. For example: a 4-H member may enroll in the woodworking project area and choose to bring a birdhouse as their exhibit to the fair they constructed.

Static Exhibits refer to non-livestock project area items. These exhibits are typically all judged on one day at the beginning of a county fair week.

Fair Entry: Online program used to register your exhibits for the Fair.
<https://fairentree.com>



Clover Kids: Clover Kids is a fun 4-H program specifically designed for children in kindergarten through third grade.



Livestock Identification (ID): All animals part of a 4-H project must be identified. Market animals will have ID forms completed at their respective weigh-ins. All other animals are identified in 4-H online. All animals must be identified in 4-H online by May 15 every year to be eligible to be taken to a fair.

Projects: A 4-H project is an area of emphasis in which a 4-H member enrolls, studies, learns, and keeps records
<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/projects-list>

2023-2024 Important Dates

September 1, 2023

Enrollment opens in
4-H online.

September 1, 2023

Record Books Due
2022-2023 4-H year

November 12, 12:30 pm

Annual Awards Program

Franklin County Fair Grounds, Hampton

December 9, 8:00 am 2024

Beef Weigh In

Iowa Falls

April 20, 8:00am 2024

Sheep and Goat Weigh In

Swine Tag and Check IN

Franklin County Fairgrounds,
Hampton

February 1, 11:50 pm
Market Beef Identification
Deadline

All market beef animals must be
identified in 4-H Online.

May 15, 11:59 pm 2024

YQCA Certification Due.

All 4-H members planning to exhibit
livestock including beef, sheep, rabbits,
swine and poultry must be YQCA Certified.

Certificates must be emailed to
xfranklin@iastate.edu by 11:59 pm May 15.

May 15 11:59 pm
Animal Identification Deadline

All animals going to the County or
State Fair must be identified in 4-H
Online.

June 24 11:59pm 2024

Fair Entries Deadline

All livestock, communications & clothing
entries due into FairEntry.

July 9, 2024

Static Judging Day at the
Franklin County Fair

July 10-14, 2024
Franklin County Fair

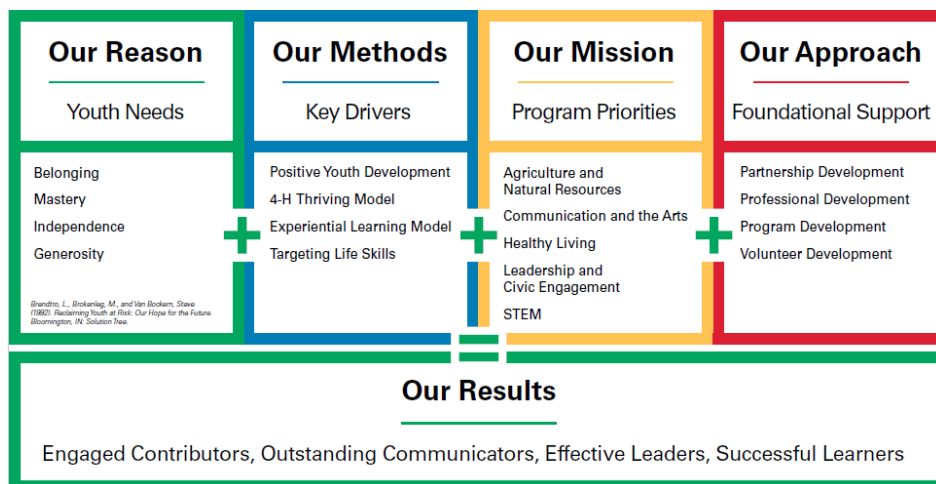
August 8-18, 2024

Iowa State Fair



The 4-H Colors

The official colors of 4-H are green and white. Green is nature's most common color and stands for springtime, life, youth, and growth. White symbolizes purity and high ideals.



Levels of 4-H Members

Clover Kids: K-3

Juniors: 4th-6th grade

Intermediate: 7th-8th grade

Senior: 9th-12 grade

The Four Hs in Iowa today:

Head – To use the science, research and critical thinking to make positive choices

Heart – To be welcoming, inclusive, compassionate and kind

Hands – To be generous and give back their community, their country and their world

Health - To take care of themselves and their community by making positive choices

4-H Moto
To make the best better!

4-H Pledge

I pledge my **HEAD** to clearer thinking,
 My **HEART** to greater loyalty,
 My **HANDS** to larger service,
 My **HEALTH** to better living,
 For my club, my community,
 my country, and my world.



Iowa 4-H History

The History of the 4-H Emblem. One sunny June morning in 1906 at a one-room country school near Clarion, Iowa, 11 pupils spent their recess outside searching for four-leaf clovers. They had plucked seven clovers when a visitor drove up, the superintendent of schools. At the teacher's suggestion, the children surrendered their good-luck charms and placed the seven clovers into the hands of the superintendent. He said, "I've been looking for an emblem for the agricultural clubs and the schools of the county, and you have just given me that emblem, the four-leaf clover; it will help explain to young and old the message of a four-square education." (In those early days, 4-H was known as "four-square education," which was based upon educational, physical, moral, and fellowship development.)

The clover was officially adopted as the national emblem in 1911.

Story from: <https://www.extension.iastate.edu/4h/explore>

Franklin County Extension Staff

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Contact with any
question related
to 4-H



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To find 4-H Information

Check out the monthly 4-H newsletter (emailed through RegMax monthly, also posted on our website, and social media).

Look at our calendar on our website!

Check out our Facebook or Instagram

Contact the Extension office or a club leader.

Franklin County Extension
Facebook

Instagram
isuextfranklin

Website
<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/franklin/>.

**Iowa State University
Extension and Outreach
Franklin County
6 2nd Street NW
641-456-4811
xfranklin@iastate.edu**

Hours:
Monday - Thursday
8:00 am--4:30 pm
Friday
8:00 am-12:00 pm



4-H Club Information

My 4-H Club: _____

Club Meeting location: _____

Club Meets: _____

Club Leaders: _____

Club Leaders Contact Information: _____

Project Areas I am interested in: _____

Notes

This institution is an equal opportunity provider. For the full non-discrimination statement or accommodation, go to www.extension.iastate.edu/diversity/ext.



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