

SECTION 1: WELCOME TO FULTON COUNTY 4-H

4-H is a voluntary educational program designed to meet the needs and interests of all youth 8 to 19 years of age. The 4-H program in Ohio is under the guidance of The Ohio State University Extension and is open to all youth regardless of race, color, creed, religion, sexual orientation, national origin, gender, or disability. 4-H is not an organization for exclusively "farm" or "rural" youth. 4-H members can be urban, suburban, or rural residents.

The main purpose of 4-H is to provide learning experiences and opportunities to boys and girls that will help them develop to their fullest potential. 4-H projects, along with club programs and activities, are the tools used to develop leadership, citizenship and character in 4-H members. The 4-H project, which is based on real life experiences, provides 4-Hers the opportunity to learn by doing. Ohio 4-Hers may choose from over 200 projects. Examples include fine arts, natural resources, first aid, photography, woodworking, veterinary science, horses, electricity, food and nutrition, companion animals, sewing clothing, rockets, livestock, and much more!

Youth enjoy 4-H because they have fun with their friends at 4-H meetings, social activities, conferences, tours, camps, and fairs. They join 4-H because they want to belong, to do things that have action, and to succeed at something. A mini democracy in action, 4-H members organize and run their club, elect their own officers, and select projects they wish to work on. Older 4-H members serve as Teen Leaders and assist younger members with their projects.

Adult advisors volunteer their time and talents to guide 4-H members in the development of Head, Heart, Hands, and Health - the four H's of 4-H work. 4-H programs are built around the enthusiasm, interest, and ambition of the 4-H members and adult leaders.

The Fulton County 4-H Program invites you to be an active, enthusiastic, and motivated member or volunteer. We are excited about the abundance of learning opportunities we can offer the young people in our community and hope you will join! If you have questions or would like to discuss how you can get involved, please contact the Fulton County OSU Extension Office at 419-337-9210.

Yours in 4-H,




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4-H Youth Development

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SECTION 1: LETTER OF LATE ENROLLMENT

Dear Parents and Members who enroll after the official deadline of April 1 of the current year:

Fulton County Junior Fair Rules state that each county must have an official enrollment deadline for 4-H and FFA members to be fully eligible for all awards and competition. The date the Fulton County Extension Office of The Ohio State University has set is April 1 of the current year. Youth enrollment is not accepted after June 1st.

Members who enroll **after the official deadline are not eligible for championship, showmanship, breed, market, or other Junior Fair class awards and are not eligible to sell an animal in the donation livestock sale (receive market support price only)**. Youth who enroll after the deadline of April 1 are also not eligible for state fair participation or competition either with livestock or with any of the other numerous projects for which there is state fair competition. Youth who enroll after the deadline of April 1 are also not eligible to participate in Older Youth Opportunities during the season.

Members who enroll after April 1st can still come to judging at the Extension office for book judging, if taking a still project.

The reason for the aforementioned enrollment deadline of April 1 is simply so there is an established starting date in Fulton County and so that youth who join late do not gain unfair advantage over the 1,000 members who join on time.

Having stated the previous three paragraphs, the Fulton County OSU Extension Office also recognizes that youth can learn and grow at any time of the year and at any stage of their life. Youth may enroll after April 1 to exhibit at the fair for a premium. For example, a boy who wasn't aware of the deadline wants to join 4-H/FFA on April 20 to take his market lamb to the fair or a girl receives a horse for her birthday on May 2 and now wants to join a 4-H or FFA club. Our policy is if the member has the animal in their possession by the same date that all other members are required (June 1 in the case of most animals, check the handbook calendar for details) and the boy or girl and their parents are willing to agree that their child is joining only for the educational experience and not for competition, then it is okay for the child to join and **exhibit at the fair for an exhibition premium**.

If parents and their child are willing to accept the above restrictions about **not being eligible for competition or donation sale**, then that member's enrollment is accepted and NEFC (Not Eligible For Competition) is encoded into the computer.

All parents and 4-H/FFA members who are not properly enrolled by April 1 are required to sign below that they understand and agree to abide by the above restrictions.

Signed by Parent _____

Signed by 4-H/FFA Member _____

Signed by 4-H Educator _____

Date _____