



## **Member Code of Conduct**

(PAGE RETAINED BY THE 4-H MEMBER AND PARENT/ LEGAL GUARDIAN)

The 4-H Policy Handbook tells me my rights as a 4-H member, and the rules I have to follow. 4-H calls the most important rules for members the "Code of Conduct". When members follow the Code of Conduct, it helps keep 4-H safe and fun for everyone.

### **I will follow the 4-H Code of Conduct (rules) and I will:**

1. Be nice, kind, helpful, and respectful to myself and everyone, including other 4-H members; and to adult volunteers, youth leaders, 4-H staff, and other adults in charge.
2. Understand that everyone is welcome in 4-H. Everyone is valuable and deserves kindness. I will not make fun of or hurt people because of who they are, how they look or what they believe. I will not mistreat others, not use hate speech or behave with prejudice related to race, ethnicity, gender identity or expression, sex, sexuality, disability (visible or hidden), religion, immigration status, or other real or perceived identities.
3. Be honest, honor my commitments, and accept responsibility for my choices.
4. Follow all health and safety requirements and guidelines related to 4-H activities, gatherings, projects, etc.
5. Use respectful and kind language, build others up, and not tear them down. I will not participate in spreading rumors. I will not use words that make fun of someone's identity, how they look, how they talk, their family or who they are. I will not use curse words or slurs, including racial slurs or discriminatory language.
6. Not have or use alcohol, tobacco (like cigarettes, e-cigarettes, vaping products, or chew), marijuana or other drugs (unless my doctor gives them to me).
7. Not bother or attack others, not carry or use a weapon; and not do anything else illegal or unsafe.
8. Know that two approved/authorized adults can search my things (like my backpack) if they believe and/or there is evidence I might have broken the 4-H rules.
9. Practice consent/agreement in all interactions. I will not touch anyone in a way that is too affectionate and will not engage in sexual behavior or use sexualized language.
10. Follow the 4-H *Guidelines for Social Media* - <https://ucdavis.box.com/s/ka2ugubysg967dgmm9w1ulfvtmmzhud6>
11. Not do things outside of 4-H that are harmful to anyone in 4-H or the 4-H program.
12. Follow the *California 4-H Dress Guidelines* -  
<https://ucdavis.box.com/s/0golrvsmai84h241w39h1fkojma84qnb>
13. Help create a sense of belonging for all 4-Hers. I will go to an adult for support first, if I need to interrupt harmful behavior, if I feel unsafe, if I have concerns about others, or if something comes up that an adult needs to know about.

### **While attending 4-H overnight events, I will:**

1. Be in my room when I'm supposed to be there.
2. Not leave the grounds unless an adult in charge gives me permission, and only if there are two adults with me.
3. Understand that during sleeping hours, I may only enter my own assigned sleeping area. Understand that I may not enter another person's sleeping area unless accompanied by two approved/authorized adults.
4. Be responsible for any damage caused by my actions.
5. Follow all the rules for that event.

### **Consequences:**

Anyone who sees someone break the Member Code of Conduct should tell the adult in charge right away. That adult will tell that member's parent or legal guardian. Consequences for breaking the 4-H rules may include:

1. Sending the member home at cost to the parent/legal guardian.

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2. Having the member (and member's parent/legal guardian, if possible) meet with 4-H adults in charge, talk about how the member can learn from what they've done, and decide what the member should do to make up for any harm done. Reflect on what happened, accept responsibility, take accountability for the member's role in the situation and work towards repair, including making sure it doesn't happen again, with the help of 4-H adults.
3. Charging the member (or their parents/legal guardians) for the cost of repairs or replacement of any property that the member damaged or lost.
4. Giving the member a warning, barring them from future events, suspending their membership, or terminating their membership.
5. Taking the member to the nearest law enforcement agency or other proper authority.

The youth participant and the parent/legal guardian have read, understand and agree to the 4-H Member Code of Conduct:

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Participant Name (print)

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Signature of Participant

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Date

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Parent/Legal Guardian Name (print)

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Signature of Parent/Legal Guardian

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Date