

EDGAR COUNTY 4-H POLICIES

Member Policy

Any youth that participates in a program, which is planned, organized, delivered, and evaluated by the University of Illinois Extension is referred to as a 4-H youth participant or 4-H member.

1. The 4-H year begins on September 1 and ends on August 31. Youth may enroll as 4-H members at any time during this period, however to participate in the 4-H fair and receive premiums, youth who were members the previous year must re-enroll by January 15 and new members must enroll by April 1.
2. Any person regardless of race, color, religion, gender, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability may participate in 4-H programs. If a reasonable accommodation is needed in order for any youth to participate in 4-H, contact the Edgar County Extension Office at 465-8585.
3. Youth who are eight years of age or in third grade and have not yet reached their nineteenth birthday on or before September 1 of the current year may enroll in a 4-H club.
4. Any girl or boy who is between the ages of 5-7 years of age on or before September 1 of the current 4-H year may enroll in 4-H Cloverbud groups. 4-H Cloverbuds may participate at the 4-H show as non-competitive exhibitors. Premium funds are not available for this age group.
5. Persons considered to be mentally challenged may participate fully in the 4-H program regardless of age.
6. A member may enroll in only one county and receive 4-H premium money in the county that is sponsoring the participant's club. Youth are eligible to enroll in Edgar County 4-H even if not residing in Edgar County. However, the member must meet the Edgar County Attendance Policy in order to participate in the fair and auctions.
7. Tenure of membership refers to the cumulative number of "4-H years" in which the member is enrolled regardless of the location of that membership. The number and kinds of projects or clubs do not affect the membership tenure. Years of 4-H Cloverbud participation do not count toward 4-H member tenure.
8. 4-H members must attend a minimum of five (5) club meetings and participate as part of their community club's responsibilities in at least two of the following activities each year:
 - a. Pork Chop BBQ Bash (BBQ Preparation)
 - b. Pork Chop BBQ
 - c. Fair Preparation (Individual or Club will work with Extension Staff to determine priorities)
 - d. Edgar County 4-H Association fundraising event

The attendance policy is based on a points system in which a 4-H member must obtain one third (1/3) of the points possible each for community club meetings and required 4-H activities to be a member in good standing.

See Attendance Policy for details

EDGAR COUNTY 4-H POLICIES (cont)

9. All youth who meet applicable qualifications may participate in state 4-H activities and events, including Citizenship Washington focus, state 4-H leadership convention, international travel, and other programs regardless of the intensity and duration of their local club/group or county participation. Attendance at 4-H meeting is not a requirement for participation in these events and activities.

10. 4-H membership may not be terminated during the 4-H year without that member's knowledge and due process. Termination of membership may not be based on attendance. Participation in activities may be restricted due to behavior or ethical misconduct. Members will be notified in advance, when possible, when such restrictions will be enforced.