

Eligibility for 4-H Membership & Competitive Events

General Membership Guidelines

The Georgia 4-H program year is August 1-July 31. Decisions concerning most competitive events and eligibility are in regards to that program year.

- Any youth residing in or attending school in Georgia in 4th - 12th grades may enroll in Georgia 4-H.
 - Some county programs offer Cloverbud programming for kindergarten through 3rd graders. These youth must meet the grade requirements of that specific program.
 - For Non-graded and Home-School Youth and special circumstances, please see the Membership and Enrollment guide.
 - Also see Livestock Minimal Grade Eligibility Requirements.
- Grade level of the 4-H'er for the program year of August 1 - July 31 determines participation in competitive and non-competitive programs.
- 4-H'ers must complete an enrollment card in order to be a member of a 4-H program. This is the certification of 4-H membership and should be on file at the County Extension office. 4-H'ers should also be entered in the 4-H Enrollment online registration system. This includes 4-H'ers participating in activities and events for education, recreation or competition. For educational and recreational purposes, 4-H'ers may participate and enroll in more than one county's 4-H programs. Within a county, 4-H'ers may be members of more than one club or organized 4-H group.

Additional Guidelines for Competitive Events

- In order to participate in 4-H competitive events, 4-H'ers must have a 4-H enrollment card on file in the county office and be entered in 4-H Enrollment online.
- 4-H'ers who also compete in FFA competition must meet and follow all guidelines in the [4-H/FFA Statement of Relations](#). In most cases, when 4-H and FFA offer the same contests, youth may not represent both 4-H and FFA in that contest.
- By nature of the competition, competitive events may have additional eligibility rules and requirements. Refer to the specific guidelines for an event in order to insure all eligibility criteria are met
- 4-H'ers should compete as members of 4-H in the county where s/he attends school or lives full time (referred to as home county). In situations where 4-H'ers would like to enroll in 4-H in a county other than the home county, the request should be made for positive youth development principles and not for competitive advantage.

Change in Membership Forms and Instructions

[Change in Membership Form](#)

[Deactivation Form](#)

For more information, contact your local UGA Extension office at 1-800-ASK-UGA1.

The University of Georgia 4-H program is the largest youth leadership organization in the state.

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