

**California 4-H Youth Development Program**  
**Code of Conduct**  
**University of California Cooperative Extension**

The following guidelines are designed to make everyone's experience at 4-H events satisfying to all attending. This means that all participants, members, volunteers, and 4-H YDP staff, shall adhere to the core values of the University of California 4-H Youth Development Program, respect the individual rights, safety, and property of others.

**While attending all 4-H meetings, projects, programs, and events, the following apply:**

1. Everyone is expected to attend all planned sessions, workshops, field trips, and meetings of the event, and be appropriately dressed. Chaperones and project volunteers are responsible for ensuring that members participate in all aspects of the planned program activities.
2. The possession and use of alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, and drugs (other than prescription medication) is prohibited.
3. Setting off fire alarms or tampering with fire extinguishing equipment or other emergency equipment is prohibited.
4. Gambling and betting by adults and youth representing 4-H is prohibited.
5. Obscene and discriminatory language, roughhousing, and insubordination will not be tolerated at any time.
6. Youth members and volunteers will demonstrate respect for one another at all times.
7. Display of overly affectionate attention between participants is prohibited.

**While attending overnight events, the following also apply:**

8. All participants must be in their assigned area at curfew and will comply with the quiet hours and lights out.
9. No member or volunteer may leave the grounds unless permission is secured from the adult in charge. 4-H members must be accompanied by an adult.
10. Only 4-H participants may be in dormitory areas. No one will be in the sleeping areas of members of the opposite gender. Lounges may be used for working committees and social activities.
11. Youth must comply with other rules of the event.

**PENALTIES FOR INFRACTIONS**

Infractions of the 4-H Code of Conduct must be reported promptly by anyone observing them to the adult in charge of the delegation/project and to the person in charge of the event who will bear final responsibility for disciplinary action. The parent/guardian and the County 4-H Office will be notified of action taken. Penalties may include any or all of the following:

- Sending the participant home
- Barring the participant from future 4-H events
- Assessing the participant the cost of damages and repairs for damage or destruction of property
- Releasing the participant to the nearest law enforcement agency and/or the proper authorities
- Termination of 4-H membership

I have read the Code of Conduct and agree to abide by its rules. I understand that infraction of this Code will result in any or all of the penalties listed above.

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Member: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Parent/Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_