



Chartered 4-H Clubs

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The 4-H National Office and the IRS have mandated a new requirement for 4-H Clubs. 4-H youth need to be enrolled in an official Chartered 4-H Club to participate in the Wasatch County Fair. Becoming a chartered 4-H club is easy. Here are some reminders about what 4-H Clubs need to do:

Enroll in 4-H. Fill out a 4-H Club Enrollment form each year and return it to the 4-H Office. This form is available at the 4-H Office or <http://extension.usu.edu/wasatch/htm/4-h>.

Complete the 4-H Volunteer Leader Packet. 4-H leaders need to fill out this packet one time. It is available at the 4-H Office or <http://extension.usu.edu/wasatch/htm/4-h>. Leaders are required to pass a background check. The 4-H Office will take care of this. Volunteer training is available from the 4-H Office or on line at <http://www.utah4h.org/htm/general-forms/volunteers>.

Don't Discriminate. Don't discriminate in your 4-H clubs based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age (40 and older), disability, or veteran's status.

Hold at least 6 4-H club meetings per year. Meetings do not have to be formal, but 4-H youth need to meet together as a club to learn or do some sort of activity. Feeding and watering livestock do not count as meetings. Try to plan at least one service project per year. Meetings can be recorded/summarized in the 4-H portfolio under "learning experiences." Example: Uncle comes over to show youth how to hold their sheep for showmanship.

Meetings can also include 4-H activities such as camps, retreats, conferences, contests, field trips, clinics, demonstrations, talks, exhibits, tours, workshops, etc.

Say the 4-H pledge at meetings. I pledge

My head to clearer thinking (point to temples with both hands),
My heart to greater loyalty (put hands across heart),
My hands to larger service (hold hands palm up near waist), and
My health to better living (keep arms to your side)
For my club, my community, my country, and my world.

Elect Club Officers. 4-H Club officers are elected or appointed from among the youth. Traditionally offices include president, vice president, secretary, treasurer, and recorder. This list can be adapted according to club needs. It is great to give an office to every youth involved. Be sure to assign duties to each office that youth carry out on a regular basis. Let youth be involved in planning club activities. Include this information in the 4-H portfolio under leadership.

Examples: The president conducts meetings and assigns someone to say the 4-H Pledge. The recorder records "What did we learn today?" after each meeting. Include this in portfolios under knowledge and skills.

Fundraising. There are two types of Chartered 4-H Clubs: family clubs, and community clubs. Family Clubs have less than 5 members from less than 3 families. Community Clubs have more than 5 members from more than 3 immediate families. Family clubs are not allowed to raise money for their club. Community clubs may raise money for their club, but when they do, they need to fill out IRS form SS-4. Contact the 4-H Office for help.