



**Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant Code of Conduct**

(PAGE RETAINED BY THE PARENT, GUARDIAN, OR ADULT PARTICIPANT)

All 4-H parents, guardians, or adult participants are subject to all of the requirements of the 4-H Policy Handbook. As well, all 4-H parents, guardians, or adult participants are subject to all other applicable University of California (UC) policies, and to all other relevant laws and regulations. The following requirements are critically important and, as such, constitute the California 4-H Youth Development Program (YDP) Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant Code of Conduct.

1. Respect all 4-H participants including youth members, adult volunteers, parents, guardians, other adult participants, 4-H YDP staff, and other UC personnel.
2. Comply with all requirements of the State 4-H Office, UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE) County Directors, 4-H YDP staff, and other UC personnel.
3. Recognize the responsibilities of the State 4-H Office, UCCE County Directors, 4-H YDP staff, and other UC personnel in setting program standards, priorities, and direction.
4. Support implementation of the 4-H YDP as administered by the State 4-H Office, UCCE County Directors, 4-H YDP staff, and other UC personnel.
5. Recognize, respect, and support 4-H adult volunteers in performing the duties and responsibilities afforded to them by virtue of their role.
6. Take personal responsibility for any interpersonal conflict that may arise, whether with parents, guardians, other participating adults, adult volunteers, 4-H YDP staff, and/or other UC personnel; thereby demonstrating positive conflict resolution skills for youth members.
7. Follow the *California 4-H Dress Guidelines* - <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/210170.pdf>

**PROHIBITED BEHAVIORS AND ACTIONS**

The following behaviors and actions are prohibited for all 4-H parents, guardians, or adult participants when engaged in any 4-H activity. The UCCE County Director\* may, if necessary in their sole judgment, immediately bar or censor involvement of any 4-H parent, guardian, or adult participant that does not comply. In such instances, the decision of the UCCE County Director\* is final.

1. Possession or use of alcohol, tobacco, smokeless tobacco products, e-cigarettes, unregulated nicotine products, illegal drugs, and/or any other inappropriate materials.
2. Participation while impaired in a manner that impedes making a constructive contribution to the 4-H program.
3. Driving any 4-H participant in any vehicle without a valid driver's license and proof of automobile liability insurance; and/or failure to ensure that all passengers use seat belts.
4. Use of abusive, obscene, and/or discriminatory language.
5. Attack or harassment; whether verbal, physical, written, or by the use of social media.
6. Engagement in discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, gender identity, pregnancy, physical or mental disability, medical condition (cancer-related or genetic characteristics), ancestry, marital status, age, sexual orientation, citizenship, or status as a covered veteran.
7. Be the subject of a criminal investigation or prosecution for a misdemeanor or felony offense.
8. Engagement in any other behavior that is illegal, unsafe, and/or does not support the 4-H mission.
9. Have private, one-on-one interactions with youth members, at *any time*, both during 4-H activities and outside of 4-H activities, (other than as approved by the youth member's parent/guardian), or an exceptional circumstance such as an emergency.
10. Engagement in any behavior that – in the sole judgment of the UCCE County Director\* – negatively impacts the 4-H program. This specifically includes, but is not limited to, conducting oneself in a manner that is uncooperative, uncivil, disrespectful, unproductive, disruptive, and/or insubordinate; as well as conducting oneself in a manner that requires undue supervision by UC ANR, UCCE personnel and/or 4-H YDP staff, such that time and effort is absorbed by activities that do not benefit youth members.

By receiving this document, I understand that I am expected to abide by the 4-H Parent, Guardian, or Adult Participant Code of Conduct. I understand that my involvement is contingent upon my compliance and that failure to comply may result in being barred or censored from 4-H activities.

\* When referring to regional (outside the authority of a single County Director) or state level infractions this authority extends to the Statewide Program Director.



## Member Code of Conduct

(PAGE RETAINED BY THE MEMBER)

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 other 4-H members; and to adult volunteers, youth leaders, 4-H staff, and other adults in charge.
2. Be honest, honor my commitments, and accept responsibility for my choices.
3. Use language that is respectful and kind. Not use curse words.
4. Not have or use alcohol, tobacco (like cigarettes, e-cigarettes, or chew) or other drugs (unless my doctor gives them to me).
5. Not bother or attack others, not carry or use a weapon; and not do anything else illegal or unsafe.
6. Know that adults can search my things (like my backpack) if they think I might have broken the 4-H rules.
7. Not touch anyone in a way that is too affectionate, and not engage in sexual behavior.
8. Follow the 4-H *Guidelines for Social Media* - <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/133821.docx>.
9. Not do things outside of 4-H that are harmful to anyone in 4-H or the 4-H program.
10. Follow the *California 4-H Dress Guidelines* - <http://4h.ucanr.edu/files/210170.pdf>

### 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. Only enter my own assigned sleeping area and will not invite any kids who aren't 4-H members into the sleeping areas.
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 guardian. Consequences for breaking the 4-H rules may include:

1. Sending the member home.
2. Having the member meet with 4-H adults, 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.
3. Charging the member (or their parents/guardians) for the cost of repairs to property that the member damaged.
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.

## Photograph and Information Release

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