



Kansas 4-H- Positive Youth Development

4-H focuses on meeting needs of young people through positive youth development.



Positive Youth Development

Positive youth development is an intentional, pro-social approach that engages youth within their communities, schools, organizations, peer groups, and families in a manner that is productive and constructive; recognizes, utilizes, and enhances young people's strengths; and promotes positive outcomes for young people by providing opportunities, fostering positive relationships, and furnishing the support needed to build on their leadership strengths

Kansas 4-H Policy

 https://www.kansas4-h.org/resources/policy-guide/Kansas%204-H%20Policy%20Handbook%20October%202021.pdf



County Fairs

 4-H Youth Development at the county fair is a community partnership between the local Extension Council and the local fair governing body.



Governance for Community Partnerships

- •The Extension program is legally responsible for the quality and resource allocation for programs under their jurisdiction (of which 4-H is a program).
- •Extension programs are encouraged to facilitate engagement in program delivery with community partners but are not required.
- •If you engage in program delivery with a community partner, setting up an agreement for how you will deliver, resource, and make joint decisions around that program is essential for program success.



County Fair Partnership

- •K-State Research and Extension holds responsibility in cooperation with the 4-H Council and/or fair board for developing 4-H rules at all 4-H county fairs and 4-H events. These rules must be consistent with the 4-H mission and 4-H policies including site-based risk management planning.
- •K-State Research and Extension professionals are in charge of the 4-H program is responsible for communicating with and upholding State and National 4-H policy to the 4-H Council and the Fair Board, including fundraising efforts utilizing the name and emblem of 4-H
- •Local 4-H fair rules must be in compliance with and will not supersede State and National 4-H policy; however, fairs may design local classes and events that enhance the educational mission of the 4-H program.



County Fair Policy Authority

- •Local Extension Board is the policy-making authority for the 4-H Youth Development division of the fair.
- •Fairboards may not establish rules and regulations for participation of 4-H members in the 4-H division. Extension Boards, in partnership with fairboards may propose eligibility requirements, such as club meeting attendance policies for participating in a livestock or project sale, auction or similar event for 4-H exhibitors. If eligibility rules are established, they should be communicated with 4-H families by October 1 of the current 4-H year.
- •Local KSRE offices have the right to determine the official fair/showcase opportunity for project learning in the local unit and to determine which 4-H exhibits advance to the state fair.



Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- •Local KSRE units should demonstrate their partnership with local fairboards through an MOU.
- •Outline roles and responsibilities of each party and improve communication.
- •The local 4-H Youth Development program is administered by the extension board in partnership with the K-State Research and Extension regional director, within the policies and guidelines set forth by the Director of the Kansas State University Agricultural Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension Service
 - Usage of 4-H name and emblem
 - Any policies related to 4-H program participation
- Review every 3 years



