



4-H Independent Membership

Member Agreement

For youth in grades 6 and up—Due upon enrollment

The Minnesota Youth Development Program is an opportunity for Minnesota 4-H to provide an educational environment for positive development of diverse youth to enable them to reach their full potential. The 4-H club is the foundation for this environment, and potential members are strongly encouraged to use all of their resources to find a club compatible with their educational needs, life-skill development and family situation. However, this may not always be possible.

Minnesota 4-H recognizes that small groups (clubs) are not the optimal learning environment for every youth. Nor may a club be available to every youth because of meeting times, travel, expectations, etc. Minnesota 4-H recognizes independent 4-H member(s) as a form of program membership/delivery. Individuals sixth grade and older who have had at least two years of club experience are eligible for independent membership. Procedures are in place to guide independent membership to ensure there is a quality learning experience for the young person.

I, _____, desiring Independent Membership in the
_____ County 4-H Program, agree to:

1. Complete yearly this Independent Member Agreement and the Progress Form.
2. Submit to the local Extension office, upon enrollment, a completed plan/calendar outlining my goals and objectives for the upcoming 4-H year.
3. Meet with a mentor a minimum of six times throughout the year to discuss progress toward my goals and celebrate my achievements.
4. Complete one or more community service learning projects during the year.
5. Publicly demonstrate my learning by giving a presentation before a group and/or exhibiting at county fair.
6. Reflect on your learning experiences with my mentor.
7. Abide by all county, state and national 4-H policies and recognize the authority of University of Minnesota Extension Center for Youth Development staff.
8. Participation in county, regional, state and national events is encouraged and supported.
9. Contribute to the larger 4-H program by participating in county and state fundraising efforts; volunteering to lead or assist with 4-H committees, programs and activities; reading and responding to Extension Office correspondence; and remaining informed and current on 4-H opportunities, procedures and guidelines.

Member signature _____ Date _____

Parent/guardian signature _____ Date _____

Mentor signature _____ Date _____