

# Crawford County 4-H Membership & Project Guidelines

## Who Can Join 4-H?

All 4-H programs are co-ed in nature and are open to all youth, both boys and girls. Participation is open to ALL youth of appropriate ages, on a non-discriminatory basis.

Ohio 4-H membership is based on a child's age AND grade as of January 1 of the current calendar year. Membership requires enrollment in an authorized Ohio 4-H club or group.

**Eligibility for 4-H Cloverbud Program** begins when a child is in Kindergarten and is at least age 5 as of January 1 of the current year.

**Eligibility for the 4-H Project Member Program** Project members begin when a child is age 8 and in third grade. **Any youth age 9 or above is eligible for project membership, regardless of grade level.** A youth's 4-H eligibility ends December 31 the year he or she turns 19.

---

## Enrollment Deadline

**Advisor and Member ONLINE ENROLLMENT must be completed by April 1st**

<https://crawford.osu.edu/program-areas/4-h-youth-development/4-h-online-enrollment-resources>

Youth interested in joining 4-H after the April deadline will be **deemed non-competitive and are not eligible for awards (trophies, rosettes, certificates) at the 4-H pre-fair judging, the Crawford County Fair, or state fair.** Members may have projects evaluated (for A, B, or C ribbons), exhibit projects at the fair, and receive a premium.

**I Love 4-H**

## Member Fees

**County 4-H dues are \$9.00 for each 4-H member (including Cloverbuds).**

The 4-H Advisory Committee is providing this discounted rate again this year. This is made possible by all clubs working in the 4-H lunch stand each year.

Each club may add additional costs as needed.

---

## Member in Good Standing

Each club may have member in good standing policies. Please follow your club requirements. Minimum County guidelines are:

- Turn in enrolment by April 1st.
- Participate in required interview/ judging/ skillathon. Interviews with advisors will be acceptable only if unable to attend regular scheduled judging.
- No outstanding fee with Extension or 4-H Advisory Committee; yearly dues paid.
- Attend a minimum of 4 club meetings.
- Participation in club activities.
- Fulfill all club responsibilities (demonstration, committees, etc).

---

## Cross County Lines Member

Youth are required to join the 4-H program in their county of residence or receive approval of membership outside the county before enrollment.

- 4-H membership in two counties simultaneously is NOT PERMITTED.
- Cross county membership is not permitted for competitive reasons, such as higher livestock sale prices, less competitive classes, etc.
- In situations where a county of residence does not have a 4-H program, youth may not join in another county.
- In the case of multiple addresses, the county of residence is based on the address they use to determine school districts.

# Crawford County 4-H Membership & Project Guidelines

## Dual Membership

Youth are able to participate in both organizations however members may not take the same project in both 4-H and FFA. Separate or different projects must be taken in each organization.

Many members find it easiest to take two completely different projects (such as two different livestock species) however youth may take livestock of the same species if they are a breeding and a market project.

	4-H	FFA
<b>Allowable</b>	<b>Market Steer</b>	<b>Market Hog</b>
<b>Allowable</b>	<b>Market Steer</b>	<b>Beef Breeding</b>
<b>Not Allowable</b>	<b>Market Steer</b>	<b>Market Steer</b>
<b>Not Allowable</b>	<b>Market Steer</b>	<b>Beef Feeder</b>

## Project Books and Resources

Every 4-H project has a designated project book, which includes background information, activities, and instructions for completing your project.

The only project without books are the self-determined and masters projects which instead have outlines for youth, who then design their own project.

Some projects also require a resource manual, which is designed to be used for as many years as you take the project. These are most common for animal projects but are also available for a few non-animal projects. If the project has a required resource, it will be noted in the project description.

*Project books do not include county judging information or fair display requirements. You can find these in this handbook.*



## Livestock Book Options

Members taking livestock projects must complete a record book or a project book for **EACH PROJECT YEAR.**

Members have two options for keeping records and may choose the option that best fits their needs.

1. Ohio 4-H Project Books: These include areas for required records as well as additional practice areas. **Members must take this option their first year in a new species.**  
*Note: If you plan to attend state fair with your livestock project you must complete the Ohio 4-H livestock project book and not a county record book.*
2. County record books can now be used (except poultry and alpaca/ llama) which only include the required record pages. Members using the record option will be required to read sections of their resource book and write a short summary based on the readings. Members will also be required to answer 3 general livestock related questions.

*All returning project members will receive county record book unless they tell the OSUE office otherwise.*

## Project Level vs. Ages

The former age recommendations have been changed over the years to help advisors and county staff in assigning a level to each project instead of an age.

**Beginner Level** projects are designed for members of any age who have little to no experience in the project subject area.

**Intermediate Level** projects are designed for members who have previous experience in the project area, or have completed the beginner level project.

**Advanced Level** projects are designed for members who have extensive experience in the project area, or have completed the intermediate level project.

