4-H Across-county and Across-state Line Participation

Youth may only be a 4-H member in one U.S. county during a given 4-H year. Youth may not be a member in two counties or two states simultaneously. Youth will generally enroll in the county/state in which they reside, and only in that county/state. However, some youth due to personal circumstances may choose to apply for across county line membership. It is strongly suggested that an entire family select the county they will participate in rather than having family members enrolled in two or more counties.

Exceptions in which a youth member wishes to enroll in a county/state other than that of primary residence are handled on a case by case basis by the agents in the affected counties/states. Exceptions may be made when: A positive educational experience will result; Competition or sale advantage is not the motive; and an unresolved controversial issue is not pending.

Agreement must be reached by the agents in all affected counties/states. County fair regulations may stipulate that exhibitors must reside within county boundaries. Such county fair rules should be investigated prior to enrollment. Under no circumstances is an agent to feel obligated to accept an enrollment from an individual with a primary residence in another county/state.

Youth who wish to enroll in a county other than their county of residence must, complete the Across County Line 4-H Membership Form before actually enrolling and submit to the 4-H Youth Development Agent(s) in the county of request (where membership is being requested). 4-H Youth Development Agents from both counties will review and respond to the family in writing. Members only need to complete once, unless special circumstances warrant a future request.

When exceptions are made the following criteria must be met:

- A member cannot enroll in the same 4-H project area in more than one county or state in the same year. (Example: beef [feeder calf, market beef and breeding beef are among those listed within the beef project area], clothing, horse, foods, etc.)

- A member may not duplicate specific 4-H experiences by enrolling in more than one county or state in the same year. (Example: public speaking, demonstration, scholarship eligibility, record books.)

- A member may exhibit market animals in only one county fair and participate in only one 4-H related county fair auction during a 4-H year.

- 4-H members may apply for county level awards and scholarships in the unit where they are enrolled, as long as they are not applying for similar awards or scholarships in another county.

- 4-H members represent the county in which they are enrolled when competing for state/national awards and scholarships. If they are selected in two or more situations for the above, they must choose which award they will accept. A member cannot receive two or more trips, awards, etc., for the same activity.

February 3, 2012
Request for 4-H Membership Across County Lines

This form is to be submitted by all youth who wish to belong in any county other than the county where they live.

Steps to follow:

1. Fully complete the form.
2. Send to the Extension Office in which 4-H membership is being requested (County of Request).
3. The 4-H Agents in your “County of Residence” and the “County of Request” will review the request. Please be aware that “any change motivated by perceived competitive or sale advantage, any change due to controversial issues, or other similar motivations will be automatically rejected”.
4. The 4-H Agent in the “County of Residence” will respond to you with the joint decision.

__________________________________________________________
Date of Request

__________________________________________________________
School District Attended

County/State of Request ____________________________ County/State of Residence ____________________________

Name ____________________________ Age ______ Phone __________________

Address __________________________________________________ Zip __________________

E-Mail Address ___________________________________________ Date of Birth __________________

PREVIOUS MEMBERS ONLY:

Years in 4-H ______ What Counties _____________ Projects Taken ________________

ALL APPLICANTS:

Will market animals, other livestock, horses or dogs be taken as projects? (YES or NO)

If yes, which projects specifically?

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

Why are you seeking 4-H membership outside your county of residence?

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________________________________________________

Signature of Applicant________________________________________ Date: ________________

Signature of Parent/Guardian____________________________________ Date: ________________

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

_____ Approved with restrictions as follows: Membership for _____________ County ONLY

_____ Not approved

Signature of 4-H Agent (County of Residence) __________________________ Date ____________

Signature of 4-H Agent (County of Request) __________________________ Date _____________