



4-H 101: Tips for a Successful Year



1. Join 4-H, pick a club, and decide which project/projects you would like to take. 5-7 years old would be Cloverbuds (a non-competitive/non-specific program). 8-18 years old (would be traditional 4-H).
 - 8-10 Junior
 - 11-13 Intermediate
 - 14 and Up Senior
2. Come to the Extension office and pick up any materials needed (forms, project books and resources) , learn how to enroll on 4-H Online, and pay your enrollment fees. \$30 for the 1st project and \$15 for each additional. \$15 for Cloverbuds.
3. Enroll for the 4-H year Oct 1st-July 31st, on 4-H Online. www.4honline.com
 - Fill out necessary forms, such as: COOL forms, animal care and housing, the code of conduct, and health forms (needed for traveling to events).
4. Complete all the requirements for the year:
 - Attend 6 Club meetings
 - Complete a demonstration
 - Participate in a Leadership opportunity (become an officer, join Council, help lead the younger children, stand out and make a difference.) To record in your record book.
 - Be familiar with the Colorado 4-H Policy Handbook:
<http://www.colorado4h.org/policy/2014-2015-4H-Policy-Handbook.pdf>
 - Complete your project work and record book for Fair.
 - A good plan is to work on your record book throughout the year and enter data frequently so you don't have to go back and remember all you have done at the end.
 - Use the 4-H tracker online tools to keep track of your expenses.
<http://co4htracker.colostate.edu/>
 - Attend necessary training for your project (MQA, Officer workshops, weigh-ins, etc.)
5. Stay up to date on events, projects, and new information:
 - Check our website at www.extension.colostate.edu/sanmiguel/
 - Visit the State 4-H website at www.colorado4h.org
 - Visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/pages/Colorado-State-University-Extension-San-Miguel-Basin-4-H/
 - Read the emails we send out and respond accordingly

- Call or email anytime with questions or concerns: maryw@sanmiguelcounty.org, cally.anderson@colostate.edu, yvette.henson@colostate.edu
6. Attend County, State, and National Events when the opportunity entices you to learn and grow in 4-H. check the local and state websites for the calendar of events.
7. Keys to success:
- 4-H Stands for: Head, Heart, Hands, and Health
 - 4-H Mission: To empower youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults.
 - 4-H Pledge: I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking, my HEART to greater loyalty, my HANDS to larger service and my HEALTH to better living for my Club, my Community, my Country, and my world.
 - 4-H Vision: A world in which youth and adults learn, grow, and work together as catalysts for positive change.
 - 4-H Motto: To make the Best Better.
8. And last but not least:
Remember to have fun, learn something new, and be a positive role model.

**4-H is a community of young people, across America, learning Leadership,
Citizenship and Life Skills.**

Leaders 101- Tips for Success:

1. Join 4-H as a Volunteer Leader; share a skill, hobby, or passion with the youth in our communities.
2. Come by the Extension Office and fill out the volunteer enrollment and application forms. <http://www.colorado4h.org/volunteer-resources>
3. Go through the background check process.
4. Have at least 2 positive references.
5. Enroll on 4-H online as a leader: www.4honline.com, set up an appointment with the extension office for training and questions.
6. Fill out all the necessary chartering forms. <http://www.colorado4h.org/club-resources>
7. Apply for an EIN number and set up a Club bank account.
8. Complete the online leader training course:
 - ◆ <http://www.colorado4h.org/volunteers/elearning>
 - Password: volunteer
9. Attend Leader training. Look to the Leads for Leaders guides as an important tool.
 - <http://www.colorado4h.org/volunteers/leads/leadsindex>
10. Read over and share with your club, members, and parents the Colorado 4-H Policy Handbook: <http://www.colorado4h.org/policy/2014-2015-4H-Policy-Handbook.pdf>
11. Look to Extension emails for newsletters and updates, our website: www.extension.colostate.edu/sanmiguel/, the state 4-H website: www.colorado4h.org, and our local Facebook page for the latest news.
12. Attend Achievement Night and other county 4-H events. Think about being an advisor to council. Promote state and national 4-h events as well.
13. Lead your club in positive youth development, fun and educational programs, and guidance for youth success in project work and life skills.

Did you know.....

That any 4-H member in any 4-H club can enroll in more than one project without needing to join several clubs? This doesn't mean that the leader(s) of any club must be the one who mentors or teaches every project that anyone in their club is interested in.

The Extension Office Staff is here to provide resources, mentors, training, etc. For every project.

Here's an example: We can have community clubs, with an organizational leader, to handle paperwork, planning, and club meetings/activities. Then they could have project leaders for the individual projects in their club. They could meet during business meetings, break into project groups, work together or separately, or do project work at different times outside of the 6 business meetings.

For example, a member of the SMB archery club could enroll in archery but also entomology or photography, etc. Or a member of any one of our 3 livestock clubs could also enroll in wildlife or leadership or cooking for example. There are many, many options!

The idea is that members can enroll in more than one project they are interested in (and feel they can do) without needing to join more than one club and do more than one community service project or more than 6 meetings, etc.

You could call this a Community Club or a Project Club. It doesn't matter.

Call the Extension Office or ask your leader for more information.