

HAWAI‘I 4-H BEHAVIORAL EXPECTATIONS FOR YOUTH PARTICIPANTS

A goal of the Hawai‘i 4-H program is to provide opportunities for youth to build character. Hawai‘i 4-H supports the **CHARACTER COUNTS!** Six pillars of character are: **Trust-worthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.** In order to assure that Hawai‘i 4-H programs provide positive environments for all individuals to learn and grow, 4-H participants agree to abide by these expectations of behavior.

(CHARACTER COUNTS! is a service mark of the CHARACTER COUNTS! Coalition of the Josephson Institute of Ethics.)

I will be trustworthy.

I will be worthy of trust, honor and confidence. I will be a model of integrity by doing the right thing even when the cost is high. I will be honest in all my activities. I will keep my commitments by attending all sessions of the planned event. If I am not feeling well or have a schedule conflict, I will inform my chaperone or a person in charge. I will be in the assigned area (e.g., club meeting room, building, dorm) at all times. I understand that Hawai‘i 4-H does not permit dishonesty by lying, cheating, deception or omission.

I will be respectful.

I will show respect, courtesy and consideration to everyone, including myself, other program participants and those in authority. I will act and speak respectfully. I will treat program areas, lodging areas, and transportation vehicles with respect. I will not use vulgar or abusive language or cause physical harm. I will appreciate diversity in skill, gender, ethnicity and ability. I understand that Hawai‘i 4-H does not tolerate statements or acts of discrimination or prejudice of any kind.

I will be responsible.

I will be responsible, accountable and self-disciplined in the pursuit of excellence. I will live up to high expectations so I can be proud of my work and conduct. I will be on time to all program events. I will be accountable by accepting responsibility for my choices and actions. I will abide by the established program curfew. I will be responsible for any damage, theft or misconduct in which I participate.

I will be fair.

I will be just, fair, and open. I will participate in events fairly by following the rules, not taking advantage of others, and not asking for special exceptions.

I will be caring.

I will be caring in my relationships with others. I will be kind and show compassion for others. I will treat others the way I want to be treated. I will show appreciation for the efforts of others. I will help members in my group to have a good experience by striving to include all participants.

I will be a good citizen.

I will be a contributing and law-abiding citizen. I will be respectful of the environment. I will not use any illegal substances such as tobacco, alcohol and drugs.

Hawai'i 4-H Disciplinary Policies and Procedures

Hawai'i 4-H expects youth participating in programs to behave in an acceptable manner in accordance with Hawai'i 4-H Behavioral Expectations. Participants who engage in conduct which may jeopardize the health or safety of participants or the integrity of 4-H will be dismissed immediately from the meeting, activity, event, or other program (for example: remainder of the fair, camp, judging trip). Parent or guardian will be responsible for picking up a child if dismissed. The following behaviors are not acceptable:

1. Possession, use, or distribution of alcohol and/or illegal drugs.
2. Possession or use of weapons or dangerous materials.
3. Possession or use of tobacco products.
4. Misuse of prescription or nonprescription drugs.
5. Sexual activity.
6. Cheating or misrepresenting project work.
7. Unauthorized absence from program site.
8. Physical, verbal, emotional, or mental abuse of another person.
9. Theft, destruction, or abuse of property.

Following the program, the Extension staff in charge may take additional disciplinary action for unacceptable conduct. In such cases:

1. The 4-H participant and his/her parent or guardian will be notified in writing of the deviation from Hawai'i 4-H Behavioral Expectations.
2. The 4-H youth participant will have an opportunity to be heard prior to the imposition of sanctions. A parent or guardian will be permitted to be present.
3. The 4-H Extension faculty in charge may convene a review board to investigate the charges and to hear the 4-H member.
4. Sanctions, up to and including suspension from one or more 4-H meetings, activities, events and other programs for a period of up to 12 months, will be imposed based on the nature of misconduct.
5. The 4-H youth participant and his/her parent or guardian will be notified of the sanction in writing. Sanctions may be appealed in writing to the State 4-H Program Leader within seven days after receiving notice of the sanction. The decision of the State 4-H Program Leader will be final.

Signature of Participant

Date

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Volunteer Behavior Expectations

The 4-H program is the youth development program of the Cooperative Extension Service conducted in partnership with communities throughout the state. The primary purpose of these expectations is to insure the safety and well-being of all 4-H participants (i.e., members, their parents and families, staff and volunteers).

These expectations will guide volunteer behavior during involvement in the University of Hawaii 4-H Youth Development Program. Just as it is a privilege for University of Hawaii faculty and staff to work with individuals who volunteer their time and energies to 4-H, a volunteer's involvement in 4-H is a privilege and a responsibility, not a right.

4-H Volunteers will:

- **Treat others in a courteous, respectful manner and serve as a role model for youth.**
- **Accept supervision and work collaboratively with 4-H staff while involved in the program.**
- **Abide by policies and guidelines of Hawaii Extension state and county 4-H programs.**
- **Make all reasonable effort to assure that 4-H youth programs are accessible to youth without regard to race, color, gender, national origin, religion, disability or sexual orientation.**
- **Uphold an individual's right to dignity, self-development, and self-direction.**
- **Avoid physical or verbal abuse of any 4-H participant and report such abuse if observed.**
- **Inform county 4-H staff of any incidents that may violate 4-H policies or personal rights.**
- **Treat animals humanely and teach youth to properly care for animals.**
- **Operate machinery, vehicles and other equipment in a safe and responsible manner.**
- **Handle fundraising and finances in an ethical manner.**
- **NOT consume alcohol or illegal substances or be under the influence while responsible for 4- H programs and the youth involved in 4-H.**
- **NOT require 4-H participants to purchase materials, equipment, animals, or services from any specific places of business.**
- **NOT be involved with any gambling activity while responsible for 4-H programs & the youth involved in 4-H**

I have read, understand, and agree to the expectations of participation and behavior as outlined in this agreement. I understand that I may terminate this appointment without prior notice. I understand and agree that any action on my part that contradicts any portion of this agreement is grounds for the immediate suspension and/or termination of my volunteer status with the University of Hawaii Extension 4-H Youth Development Program.

Signature of 4-H Volunteer

Date

Welcome to 4-H leadership, a wonderful opportunity for personal growth and satisfaction.

Signature of Extension Staff responsible for Country 4-H Program