



2025-2026

YOUTH CODE OF CONDUCT

During my 4-H involvement, I WILL...

1. **ATTEND ALL SESSIONS** that are part of the planned program for all activities. I understand that I do not feel well or have a schedule conflict it is my responsibility to inform the 4-H staff.
2. **DRESS APPROPRIATELY** to the occasion and adhere to any attire requirements stipulated for the event/project I am attending or participating in. As a 4-H member I understand I should be courteous, clean, and possess good manners. I understand that if I do not comply with the dress code I will be excused from the event/project to either change into appropriate clothing or dismissed completely.
3. **CONTROL MY LANGUAGE AND USE ONLY 4-H MEMBER APPROPRIATE LANGUAGE** - I will not use language that is socially offensive.
4. **NOT LEAVE AN ACTIVITY FACILITY** any time without permission of the chaperons and/or staff responsible for the event, except for event planned tours and outings. This includes the use/hiring of any ride share company.
5. **NOT SMOKE, VAPE OR USE TOBACCO PRODUCTS**, or be in possession of such equipment/products, at any 4-H program event.
6. **NOT ENGAGE IN UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A VEHICLE** during a 4-H event.
7. **NOT ENGAGE IN ILLEGAL, UNETHICALLY, OR INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOR** related to any 4-H project, activity, and/or opportunity.
8. **NOT BE IN POSSESSION OF, USE ALCOHOL OR DRUGS** (except those directed by a doctor), or be associated with or remain in the presence of others when they are being used.
9. **NOT BE IN POSSESSION OF, USE, THREATEN OR INTIMIDATE ANOTHER PERSON WITH A WEAPON, BODILY FORCE OR LANGUAGE.**
10. **TREAT ALL PEOPLE AND PROPERTY WITH RESPECT, COURTESY, CONSIDERATION AND COMPASSION.** Avoid and prevent put-downs, insults, name calling, swearing and other language or nonverbal conduct likely to offend, hurt or set a bad example.
11. **NOT ENGAGE IN ANY SEXUAL ACTIVITY OR INAPPROPRIATE DISPLAYS OF AFFECTION** during a 4-H activity or event.
12. **OBSERVE HOURS ESTABLISHED BY THE STAFF AND BE IN MY ROOM.** No youth allowed in sleeping/hotel rooms of different genders of myself.
13. **AVOID UNNECESSARY ROUGHNESS TO ROOM FURNISHINGS, FURNITURE, EQUIPMENT, ETC., NOR WILL I REMOVE ANY ITEMS** (towels, remote controls, etc) as souvenirs. Occupants of a room or conveyance are financially responsible for any damage or results of misconduct.
14. **REPORT ANY MISBEHAVIOR TO THE APPROPRIATE CHAPERONS IMMEDIATELY** when at any official 4-H activity and observe a breach of the code of conduct.
15. **NOT TRANSMIT, POST, OR WILLINGLY RECEIVE CORRESPONDENCE, TEXT, GRAPHICS, MOVIES, SOUNDS, OR OTHER MEDIA** which contains: profanity, advocacy of the use or possession of illegal substances or alcoholic beverages, advocacy of the illegal use or the illegal possession of weapons, or solicitation or the advocacy of sexual misconduct.
16. **NOT HARASS OR CYBERBULLY OTHERS THROUGH THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY.** Harassment by e-mail, chats, or otherwise shall not be tolerated.

Realizing these guidelines are not all inclusive, the LSU AgCenter and/or its agents reserves the right to amend this code of conduct. Decisions on discipline will be the responsibility of the Extension professional(s) supervising/event coordinator and may range from a verbal reprimand to permanently being banned from 4-H membership.

By signing this form, the member and parent/guardian(s) agree to abide by and support the Louisiana 4-H Code of Conduct.

Signature of 4-H Member

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Date



The LSU AgCenter provides equal opportunities in programs and employment.



LOUISIANA 4-H
YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

2025-2026

CONSEQUENCES OF MISBEHAVIOR

Violators May Expect:

- To have the opportunity to explain actions to the professional Extension staff in charge.
- Behavior that is disruptive to the event will be documented and a letter describing such will be sent to the Regional 4-H Leadership Team, Parish Extension Agent(s) and parents/guardians of those involved. Examples of offenses are as listed below, but not limited to:

Minor Offenses

1. Habitually late to program activities
2. Not in room at designated time
3. Not possessing good manners and using language that is offensive to others
4. Not respecting the rights and privacy of those rooming with or attending an activity
5. Lying or untruthfulness to chaperones, leaders, event organizers or others in attendance

Intermediate Offenses

1. Inappropriate visitation
2. Leaving a 4-H activity without the permission of staff member(s) in charge
3. Intentional damage to meeting site, sleeping quarters, person, or other person's property
4. Bullying

Major Offenses

1. Smoking, vaping, or using tobacco products
2. The use of alcohol or drugs
3. Carrying an unauthorized weapon
4. Threatening another person with a weapon or bodily harm
5. Cheating
6. Sexual activities
7. Theft of any kind
8. Acting in a manner considered by 4-H leadership to be harmful or potentially harmful to the health or well-being of themselves or others, whether such act occurred within, or outside of the 4-H program

Consequences

- For every offense 4-H member will receive a verbal reprimand.
- For every offense the violator shall write letters of apology to the appropriate people.

Minor Offenses

- Consistent discipline problems requiring more than two reprimands is grounds for sending a 4-H member home at the parent's/guardian's expense.
- Habitual discipline problems requiring more than four reprimands during one calendar year is grounds for the 4-H member to not be allowed in any parish, region, or state activities for the remainder of the 4-H year. In addition 4-H member may be asked to resign from all 4-H offices or leadership roles held or to give up monetary awards or scholarships from the Louisiana 4-H program.

Intermediate Offenses

- One or two violations is grounds for removal from the event/activity and/or sending a participant home at the parent's/guardian's expense.
- Three violations during one calendar year is grounds for the 4-H member to not be allowed in any parish, region, or state activities for the remainder of the 4-H year. In addition, 4-H member may be asked to resign from all 4-H offices or leadership roles held or to give up monetary awards or scholarships from the Louisiana 4-H program.

Major Offenses

- Automatic removal from event/activity and/or sending a participant home at the parent's/guardian's expense.
- One major offense during any 4-H year may lead to suspension of membership in all Louisiana 4-H and Youth Development programs for the remainder of the 4-H year, along with the possibilities of facing criminal charges, pending offense. In addition, 4-H member may be asked to resign from all 4-H offices or leadership roles held or give up monetary awards or scholarships from the Louisiana 4-H program.

Course Of Action

Event managers responsible for 4-H events and activities are encouraged to communicate to 4-H participants and adult chaperones prior to the event a standard of acceptable behavior. Standards of behavior and consequences should be reviewed with participants as part of the initial orientation.

1. Event Manager obtains all the relevant facts.
2. Brief the on-site adult responsible for the youth delegate (Extension faculty member or 4-H volunteer).
3. If not on-site, but available via phone, brief the Parish 4-H Agent, Parish Chair, Regional 4-H Coordinator and Regional Director responsible.
4. Review consequences of misbehavior. The following steps should be taken when sending a 4-H member home:
 - Extension faculty member contacts parents.
 - Parents advised that child is being sent home by safest, most direct means, and that parents are responsible for cost.
 - Event manager decides if parents should be given the option of picking up the child.
 - Parish Extension faculty member collects money from parent to pay transportation charges.
 - Follow-up correspondence from event's manager to appropriate parish Extension faculty member, Regional 4-H Leadership Team, child and parent for documentation.
5. For all reprimands a Summary Letter and Accident/Incident Report Form will be completed and mailed to the 4-H member, parent, Parish Extension Agents, Regional Director, Parish Chair, Regional 4-H Coordinator, Louisiana 4-H Department Head, and Associate Director for Youth Programs. Additionally, notification will be made to Regional 4-H Leadership Team prior to letter and form being mailed.

I have read the Louisiana 4-H Consequences of Misbehavior and understand what violators may expect. I agree with the Code of Conduct and do intend to abide by it throughout my 4-H activities.

Signature of 4-H Member

Parish

Date

As the parent or guardian of _____, I have read the commitment and do support all points. I give permission to the professional Extension faculty in charge to carry out the Code of Conduct as described including inspection of rooms.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date