



North Dakota State University Extension Service

4-H Participation Expectations

*A goal of the North Dakota 4-H program is to provide opportunities for children and youth to build character. North Dakota 4-H supports the CHARACTER COUNTS!SM**

Six Pillars of Character: Trustworthiness, Respect, Responsibility, Fairness, Caring, and Citizenship.

In order to ensure that North Dakota 4-H programs provide positive environments for all individuals to learn and grow, North Dakota 4-H participants, staff and volunteers agree to abide by these expectations of behavior:

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 a planned event. If I am not feeling well or have a schedule conflict, I will inform my chaperon or a person in charge. I will be in the assigned area (e.g., club meeting room, building, dorm) at all times. I will not be absent from a program site without authorization. North Dakota 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, personal property and transportation vehicles with respect. I will follow all published dress code guidelines for an event and/or activity. I will not use vulgar or abusive language or cause physical harm. I will appreciate diversity in skill, gender, ethnicity, and ability. North Dakota 4-H does not tolerate statements or acts of discrimination or prejudice. I will respect the personal space and choices of other participants and will not participate in inappropriate displays of affection or physical contact.

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 follow hours and room rules established before the event begins and will respect the rules established for each event. An adult designated by the 4-H program may inspect luggage or rooms when there is a reasonable suspicion that there is a violation of law or NDSU Extension Service event or camp regulations.

I will be fair. I will be just, fair, and open. I will participate fairly by following the rules, not taking advantage of others and not asking for special exceptions. I will not cheat or misrepresent project work.

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 others to have a good experience by striving to include all participants. I understand that bullying behavior of any kind (ex. physical, social, emotional, sexual, or electronic) is prohibited. Bullying behavior may include, but is not limited to, negative actions such as: verbal aggression, emotional attacks, sexual harassment, racial discrimination, physical aggression, isolating others, or electronic harm.

I will be a good citizen. I will be a contributing and law-abiding citizen. I will be respectful to the environment and contribute to the greater good. I will not have in my possession, use or distribute any illegal substances such as tobacco, alcohol, or non-prescribed drugs. I will not misuse prescription drugs. If I am found to have any of these items with me or if I have taken any illegal substances, notification of law enforcement will be conducted by adult staff/volunteers. I will not have in my possession or use weapons or dangerous materials.

North Dakota 4-H Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures

North Dakota 4-H expects youth participating in programs to behave in an acceptable manner in accordance with North Dakota 4-H Participant Expectations.

As a participant of the North Dakota 4-H program I have read or have had this document read to me, the items listed as the North Dakota 4-H Participant Expectations as well as this North Dakota 4-H Code of Conduct policy. I will behave in a way that reflects positively on me as an individual as well as the North Dakota 4-H program. I understand the meaning of the North Dakota 4-H Participant Expectations as well as the North Dakota Code of Conduct Policy and will abide by them. If I do not abide by the items named in the North Dakota 4-H Participant Expectations, I may experience the following consequences:

1. Lose privileges at the event.
2. Be dismissed immediately from meeting, activity, event or other program (for example: remainder of the fair, camp, judging trip.) Notification of my parents/guardians will occur and I will be sent home at my own expense prior to the conclusion of the activity.
3. The possible forfeiture of future participation in state wide and out-of-state events as well as possible forfeiture of future awards and premiums at the county level. If this step is considered, input and determination will be made by event staff, county staff, state staff and the parents/guardians of the involved 4-H member(s).
4. Possible dismissal from the North Dakota 4-H program.

I have read and agree to abide by the North Dakota 4-H Participant Expectations and the North Dakota 4-H Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures. I am aware that my actions and decisions affect myself as well as others. I am aware that violations may result in consequences.

Member Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Parents and legal guardians attending or participating in 4-H youth development programs are also expected to conduct themselves according to the North Dakota 4-H Participant Expectations and the North Dakota 4-H Code of Conduct Policy and Procedures, and assist and support youth in their efforts to adhere to the Expectations and Code.

Parent/Legal Guardian #1 Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

Parent/Legal Guardian #2 Signature _____ Date ____/____/____

MEDIA RELEASE

I hereby give permission to the NDSU Extension Service to use any photographs, video or audio of me (or my child, if under 18) taken by designated 4-H activity photographers for programs, promotions, web sites or for any other educational use by the NDSU Extension Service. I also recognize that these photographs, video or audio tape are the property of the NDSU Extension Service.

Signature (parent or guardian if participant is under 18) _____ Date ____/____/____

Credit is given to the Maryland Cooperative Extension Service 4-H Program for information shared from their 4-H Behavioral Expectations and Policy/Procedures Document.

Visit North Dakota 4-H on-line at www.ndsu.edu/4h

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