



Washtenaw County 4-H Programs - Age Policy



****Please Share with Parents****

“4-H age” is determined by a young person’s age as of Jan. 1 of the current 4-H year (Sept. 1 – Aug. 31).

4-H Cloverbud Members are aged 5, 6, or 7 as of Jan. 1.

A full copy of Michigan “*4-H Cloverbud Program Policy Information*” is available from 4-H staff. 4-H Cloverbud programs, like all 4-H programming, are designed to be age appropriate, educational and fun. Additionally, 4-H Cloverbud activities have a specific non-competitive focus, and have specific safety requirements when working with animals:

5-6 year olds require a parent, guardian, or certified 4-H volunteer to be present and on the ground holding the animals halter/lead (if halter/lead animal) anytime they are working with or near halter/lead animals. They may be involved with a nonhalted animal as well with direct assistance from a parent, guardian or certified 4-H Volunteer while in contact with the animal.

7 year olds require an older 4-H teen or parent, guardian or certified 4-H Volunteer to be present when working with haltered/lead animals as listed above.

In order to participate fully in 4-H and without required direct assistance from an older teen or adult, youth must be 8 to 19 years old as of January 1 of the current 4-H program year (i.e. a member who turns 8 on January 2 would still be a Cloverbud). A member who is 19 on January 1 will be in their last year as a 4-H member in the Washtenaw County 4-H program. For youth over age 8 with individual needs, accommodations can be made for additional assistance from an adult or older teen in any project area. Just let us know at least 2 weeks before any 4-H event.



4-H Ages for Livestock Participation

Using January 1, 2019 as determining date

Born	Age	Allowed Involvement
1999-2010	8-19	Full participation in all species and projects
2011	7	(Cloverbud) goats, rabbits, cats, llama Protégé, horse (walk-trot, lead line, and Protégé), swine, sheep, dairy and beef calf (with mentor), poultry, dogs (with an older youth or adult), still projects. No entry or sale of market animals. Can do archery, but no release aids.
2012	6	(Cloverbud) goats, rabbits, cats, llama Protégé, horse (lead line only), llama, swine, sheep, dairy and beef calf (with adult), poultry, dogs (with an older youth or adult), still projects. No entry or sale of market animals. No archery.
2013	5	(Cloverbud) goats, rabbits, cats, llama Protégé, horse (lead line only), llama, swine, sheep, dairy and beef calf (with adult), poultry, dogs (with an older youth or adult), still projects. No entry or sale of market animals. No archery.
2014		or after, too young to participate