Welcome to Sandoval County 4-H
New Parent Orientation
The 4-H program is dedicated to providing opportunities for young people to develop leadership and management skills, positive self-esteem, effective communication skills, a solid sense of personal responsibility and the ability to make sound decisions. The life-skills learned in 4-H enable youth to become productive, well-informed, self-reliant responsible adults.
4-H Colors
The 4-H colors are green and white. Green is nature's most common color and represents youth, life and growth. White symbolizes purity and high ideals.

4-H Slogan
"Learn by Doing"
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.
Age Requirements

- **Cloverbuds**: This program provides experientially-based "learn by doing" experiences for 5-8 year olds. The member must have passed her/his 5th birthday and be in kindergarten but not have passed her/his 9th birthday prior to January 1 of the current 4-H program year.
- **Novice**: Ages 9 to 11. A 4-H member must have passed his/her 9th birthday or be 8 years old and in third grade but not have passed his/her 12th birthday prior to January 1 of the current 4-H program year.
- **Junior**: Ages 12 to 13. A 4-H member must have passed his/her 12th birthday or be 11 years old and in the 6th grade but not have passed his/her 14th birthday prior to January 1 of the current 4-H program year.
- **Senior**: Ages 14 to 19. A 4-H member must have passed his/her 14th birthday or be 13 years old and in the 8th grade but not have passed his/her 19th birthday by January 1 of the current 4-H program year.
Minimum Expectations of Youth

• Attend 50% Of Club Meetings
• Enroll in at least one 4-H project/year
  • A project requires that members set goals relating to new things they want to learn and new skills that they want to gain during the club year.
• Complete one demonstration/project/year
• Complete one community service activity/project/year
• Complete and enter projects at Fair
• Complete project record sheet for each project
• Submit a Portfolio at end of year
Other Available Youth Opportunities

- Holding a Leadership Position
  - Club Level
  - County Level - County Council
  - State Level - State Officer, Ambassador, Diplomat
- Serving on a Committee
  - Planning fundraising events, community service events, etc.
- Attending County Events
  - County wide project workshops
  - County Camp
  - County Contest - Strengthens decision making & public speaking
  - County Fair
  - Awards Banquet
- Attending State 4-H Events & Schools
- National/International Opportunities
4-H is a family affair, offering many opportunities for both 4-H members and parents. The success of a child’s 4-H career depends greatly upon parent support and involvement. By being involved in 4-H, parents can ensure the best growth experience possible for their child.
Specific Responsibilities of Parents

- Learn and support the goals and objectives of 4-H.
- Provide or arrange for transportation for your children.
- Provide any materials and equipment your child may need.
- Show interest in what your children are doing and give them encouragement.
- Help out the club and leader when asked. Don’t wait to be asked, VOLUNTEER.
- See that your child finishes as well as starts their projects(s).
- Be a “shadow helper” - guide, advise, help - but let the child do his or her own work.
- Encourage your child when he succeeds and even more when he fails.
- Encourage and reward effort and progress, as well as the end results.
- Help your 4-Her be a good sport and appreciate the success of others.
- Make 4-H a family affair, get the whole family involved in 4-H activities.
- Remember, the development of the youth is the mission of 4-H.
- Know that you are building for the future.
- Know that today’s 4-H activities build the citizens and leaders of tomorrow.
- Support the 4-H leaders.
- Let the leaders know you appreciate them.
Other Parent/Leader Opportunities

• Becoming a 4-H Leader
  • Do you have an area of expertise?
• NM 4-H Adult Leaders Forum
• Western Regional 4-H Leaders Forum
• NM 4-H Leaders Association