

A Valuable Partnership



Volunteers
and



the 4-H Youth Development Program

The Mission of Arizona 4-H Youth Development Programs

The mission of Arizona 4-H Youth Development is to provide educational opportunities for youth to become capable and contributing members of a global society.

Volunteers and Extension

Volunteers are valued members of the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Program team. A volunteer is anyone who gives time and expertise without expecting monetary compensation. Volunteers contribute their skills, talents and experiences to strengthen all aspects of the program and support its mission. They work with salaried staff as members of a team to help Extension make better use of limited resources and reach more youth and adults.

To Be A Certified Volunteer

To be considered for a certified volunteer position in the Arizona 4-H Youth Development Program, a person is required to:

- *Complete an application*
- *Provide references as requested*
- *Complete a face-to-face contact*
- *Sign and return behavioral guidelines*
- *Complete required county/state training*

- *know and carry out the Mission of 4-H/Youth Development Programs*
- *provide information about interests and experiences by completing volunteer applications and through consultations with Cooperative Extension(CES) staff*
- *follow the behavior guidelines*
- *maintain two-way communication with salaried staff*
- *participate in volunteer orientation and training provided by CES*
- *work as team members with CES staff*

Volunteers Can Expect Extension to:

- *negotiate suitable, meaningful and clearly-defined roles*
- *treat them as co-workers valued for the unique contributions they can make*
- *provide orientation, training, guidance, support and direction*
- *include them in planning and decision making*
- *involve them with salaried staff as contributing team members*
- *offer a variety of opportunities and experiences for personal growth*
- *provide feedback on their performance*
- *recognize and appreciate volunteer contributions*

Volunteers Are Expected to:

Behavioral Guidelines



Families and other youth-serving programs place trust in the Cooperative Extension Service (CES) to provide quality leadership in a safe environment for participating youth. The opportunity to work with youth is a privileged position of trust that should be held only by those who are willing to demonstrate behaviors that fulfill this trust. For these reasons, the following behavior guidelines are provided for volunteers working in the Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Program.

1. Work cooperatively with youth, families, other volunteers, Cooperative Extension faculty and staff and others in a courteous, respectful manner demonstrating behaviors appropriate to a positive role model for youth. Any type of harassment or hazing cannot be tolerated. Keep the best interests of youth and families as a priority.

2. Represent the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development program with pride and dignity. Obey the laws of the locality, state, and nation.

3. Comply with equal opportunity and anti-discrimination laws. Make all reasonable effort to assure that 4-H Youth Development programs are accessible to youth without regard to race, color, national origin, sex, religion, sexual orientation or disability.

4. Recognize that verbal and/or physical abuse and/or neglect of youth is unacceptable in 4-H Youth Development programs; refrain from physical or verbal abuse. Incidents of reported, suspected or observed abuse should be reported immediately to law enforcement or Child Protective Services.

5. Treat animals humanely and teach 4-H youth to provide appropriate animal care.

6. Operate motor vehicles (including machines or equipment) in a safe and reliable manner when working with 4-H youth, and only with a valid operator's license and the legally required insurance coverage

7. Abide by the same rules as the youth regarding no use of alcohol, tobacco products and drugs at a 4-H Youth Development function nor allow youth participants under supervision to do so.

Accepted by:

Print Name

Volunteer's Signature

Date

AzCES Rep's Signature

Date

YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING:
I have viewed the Youth Protection video.

Signature

Date

Completed

