

# WSU 4-H Authorization Text for Adult Members/Participants

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## About This Document

This document contains the text that Certified Adult Volunteer Leaders and adults who participate in 4-H programming agree to during enrollment and/or event registration. This document is not to be used in lieu of signing these authorizations in 4HOnline and/or during event registration and is only for your reference.

This document is valid only for the 2018-2019 4-H Year (October 1, 2018 – September 30, 2019).

## Assumption of Risk for the Current 4-H Year

I understand that there are risks in participating in 4-H Youth Development events and activities associated with Washington State University (WSU).

In consideration for and as a condition of being allowed to participate in this voluntary activity, I agree to take full responsibility for any and all risks that exist, including the risk of death or injury to my child or self or loss or damage to my property. I understand that there may be risks that WSU cannot predict or foresee, and I also assume full responsibility for those risks.

Membership in the 4-H Youth Development Program may involve participation in a wide variety of activities such as, but not limited to: club meetings, shows, clinics, working with animals, physical education activities, shooting or archery, water-sports, food preparation, woodworking, crafts, and travel. Risks in participating include, but are not limited to: temporary or permanent muscle soreness, sprains, strains, cuts, abrasions, bruises, ligament and/or cartilage damage, orthopedic damage, head, neck, or spinal injuries, loss of use of arms and/or legs, eye damage, disfigurement, burns, drowning or death. I also recognize that there are both foreseeable and unforeseeable risks of injury or death that may occur as a result of traveling to or from the 4-H Youth Development Program activities that cannot be specifically listed. Further, I recognize that the actions of other participants in the activity may cause harm or loss to my child, self or property.

## A Valuable Partnership

WSU Extension appreciates your commitment to share your knowledge and talents with 4-H youth, and hopes this experience will be fulfilling during the time you serve as a 4-H volunteer. Your satisfaction and progress in this position are important, and therefore subject to periodic reviews. Thank you for teaming with WSU Extension to expand educational opportunities for all youth and adults. Please read the following expectations of participation and behavior, and indicate your willingness to cooperate by signing at the end of this form.

**The Washington State University Extension 4-H Youth Development Program agrees to:**

- Provide a volunteer position description that lists specific duties.
- Respect volunteers as trusted partners in youth development.
- Share philosophy, mission, and goals of the 4-H Youth Development Program.
- Utilize, promote, and provide training in experiential education.

- Provide information on county, state, and federal policies that govern the 4-H Youth Development Program.
- Provide training and materials to facilitate the inclusion and participation of volunteers and youth from all backgrounds.
- Provide assistance, support, encouragement, supervision, and periodic evaluation.
- Identify approved curriculum and materials for projects and group organization.
- Provide ongoing training at the county level and information about volunteer opportunities beyond the county.
- Keep volunteers informed of events, programs, and opportunities for youth at the county, state, and national levels.
- Recognize volunteers for their contributions to the 4-H Youth Development Program.
- Resolve 4-H volunteer personnel issues.

**As a 4-H Volunteer, I agree to:**

- Perform the duties in my position description in a responsible and timely manner.
- Conduct myself in a courteous and respectful manner, exhibit good sportsmanship, and be a positive role model for all youth.
- Work cooperatively with WSU Extension staff, volunteers, parents, and members.
- Refrain from public displays of affection or sexual activities at all 4-H functions.
- Provide an environment that is free of any form of harassment towards other 4-H participants/members, volunteers, or staff.
- Respect, adhere to, and enforce the rules, policies, and guidelines established for the 4-H Youth Development Program.
- Participate in and support 4-H Leaders' Councils and other advisory groups.
- Support and promote the 4-H Youth Development Program through 4-H clubs, schools, after-school programs, and other appropriate settings.
- Support and promote 4-H Youth Development opportunities and inform youth of county, state, and national programs.
- Promote the spirit of inclusion and welcome participation of volunteers and youth from all backgrounds.
- Follow the volunteer "Expectations of Behavior" that I have read & understand.

**Washington State University Extension 4-H Youth Development Volunteer Expectations of Behavior**

The primary purpose of these Expectations of Behavior is to insure the safety and well-being of all 4-H participants (i.e., members, their parents & families, staff, & volunteers).

These expectations will guide volunteer behavior during involvement in the Washington State University Extension 4-H Youth Development Program. Just as it is a privilege for Washington State University to work with individuals who volunteer their time and energies to 4-H, a volunteer's involvement in 4-H is a privilege and a responsibility, not a right.

**As a 4-H Volunteer I will:**

- Treat others in a courteous, respectful manner, and serve as a positive role model for youth.
- Accept supervision and work cooperatively with county 4-H staff while involved in the program.
- Abide by policies and guidelines of WSU Extension state and county 4-H programs.

- Make all reasonable efforts to assure that 4-H youth programs are accessible to youth without regard to race, color, gender, national origin, religion, disability, or sexual orientation.
- Uphold an individual's right to dignity, self-development, and self-direction,
- NOT abuse any 4-H participant by physical or verbal means, and will report such abuse if observed.
- Refer to WSU Publication C1001E - *Child Abuse: Information for WSU Faculty, Staff, and Volunteers* - for child abuse information reporting procedures.
- Keep county 4-H staff informed of any incidents that may violate 4-H policies or personal rights.
- Treat animals humanely, and teach youth to properly care for animals.
- Operate machinery, vehicles, and other equipment in a safe and responsible manner.
- Handle fundraising & finances in an ethical manner according to C1059E, *4-H Leader's Guide to Handling Funds in the 4-H Youth Development Program*.
- NOT consume alcohol, use marijuana, tobacco (including vapor products), or illegal substances while responsible for youth in 4-H activities, nor consume anything that will in any way impact my ability to work safely with youth.
- NOT require 4-H participants to purchase materials, equipment, animals, or services from any specific places of business.

I have read, understand, and agree to the expectations of participation and behavior as outlined in this agreement. I understand that either WSU Extension or I may terminate this appointment without prior notice. I understand and agree that any action on my part that contradicts any portion of this agreement is grounds for the immediate suspension and/or termination of my volunteer status with the Washington State University Extension 4-H Youth Development Program.

### Release of Claims and Liability

I, my heirs and assigns, hereby release, the state of Washington, the Regents of WSU, WSU, any subdivision or unit of WSU, its officers, employees/volunteers, and agents, from any and all liability, claims, costs, expenses, injuries and/or losses to my person or property, which I may sustain and/or sustain as a result of death or injury, as a result of or connected with participation in this program and/or event. If any part or portion of this Release of Liability is determined to be invalid or unenforceable, the remaining parts or portions shall be enforceable. This release and all matters related to my activities involving Washington State University shall be governed by and interpreted in accordance with Washington law.

I have carefully read this document, understand its contents and am fully informed about this program and circumstances. I am aware that this document is a contract with WSU and the program sponsors. I enter this contract freely and voluntarily.

### Photo, Image, & Voice Recordings Consent

I understand that, unless noted below, photos, video, or audio records made of me may be used by WSU Extension and Washington State 4-H, without compensation, to promote the 4-H Youth Development Program. I understand that my name may be revealed in descriptive text or commentary.

## Survey/Evaluation Permissions

### Written Notice of Passive Consent:

As a participant in the 4-H Program you may be asked to help with the evaluation of the program to tell us how well the program is working. You may be asked to complete a written survey about what you learned from participating in the program.

Participating in the evaluation is not required. If you decide not to participate, it will not affect participation in this or future WSU Extension programs. The survey responses will be anonymous, and participant responses will not be identified in any way.

If you do not want to participate in the evaluation of the 4-H Program or you have questions about any evaluation, please contact your WSU County Extension Office.