

## **Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service Expectations for Volunteers**

Families and other programs serving youth place trust in the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service to provide quality leadership and care 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. The following expectations for volunteers guide their involvement in the Kentucky Cooperative Extension 4-H Youth Development Program.

The primary purpose of these expectations for volunteers is to ensure the safety and well-being of all participants (i.e., youth, their parents and families, salaried and volunteer staff). Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service volunteers are expected to function within the guidelines of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service and the Kentucky 4-H Youth Development Program when working with youth.

The following statements relate to the role of a volunteer with the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service:

- I will represent the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service to youth and adults by conducting myself with courteous manners and language, exhibiting good sportsmanship, serving as a positive role model, and demonstrating appropriate conflict resolution skills.
- I will abide by all applicable laws and Cooperative Extension Service rules, policies, and guidelines. This includes, but is not limited to, child abuse, fiscal management procedures and substance abuse.
- I will accept supervision and support from salaried Extension staff or designated middle management volunteers.
- I will make all reasonable efforts to ensure that programs are available and accessible to all individuals regardless of race, color, age, sex, religion, disability, or national origin.
- I will participate in orientation and on-going volunteer education and development, which includes youth protection standards, sponsored by the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.
- I will not consume or allow others to use alcohol or illegal drugs at any Cooperative Extension Service function, at which 4-H youth will be present or involved.

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- I will, when transporting youth, operate motor vehicles and other equipment in a safe and reliable manner and only with a valid operator’s license. I will comply with all motor vehicle-related state regulations and laws. All transported youth will be secured by properly operating seat belts.
- I will accept the responsibility to promote and support the vision, mission, and values of the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service and its programs.
- I will conduct myself in a manner that is in the best interest of youth and adults and the Cooperative Extension Service and will not use the volunteer position for purposes of private or personal gain.
- I will treat animals in a humane manner and teach program participants to provide appropriate animal care and management.
- I will use technology in an appropriate manner that reflects the best practice in youth development.

These expectations represent a contractual agreement between volunteers and the Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service.

I have read, understand, and agree to abide by these expectations for volunteers. I understand that suspension or termination of my position as a volunteer will result if I do not meet these expectations.

Signature of Volunteer	Date
Signature of Supervisor or Agent	Date

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