



NOTE: Please include this form in your record book.



Manatee County 4-H Independent Membership Practices

Effective September 1, 2016

Minimum Expectations of Manatee County 4-H Independent Members (Club – Z_Independent)

Independent 4-H members do not attend regular club meetings, but will be expected to meet some **minimum** standards.

- _____ 1. Meet the same eligibility requirements of all 4-H members. *Must be 5-18 years old as of September 1st of the current year and be enrolled in at least one non-animal project each year.* (<https://florida.4honline.com>).
- _____ 2. Identify an adult mentor to guide and support them in their project work and plan of work. This mentor must be a parent/guardian or screened Level two volunteer.
- _____ 3. Attend an informational meeting for Independent Members or an appropriate substitute training.
- _____ 4. Complete a minimum of six hours annually on at least one non-animal project.
- _____ 5. Attend a minimum of two 4-H Youth Council meetings annually. Youth Council meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 7:00pm in the Harlee 4-H Center.
- _____ 6. Complete one or more community service learning activities (club or county) during the 4-H year.
- _____ 7. Participate in County Fair by exhibiting at least one project entry in the 4-H Exhibit area. *(Highly suggested)*
- _____ 8. Participate in County Events Day with a demonstration/illustrated talk or public speech related to project. *(Highly suggested)*
- _____ 9. Submit a completed record book by the county deadline date.

If any 4-H member does not comply with these expectations, members may not be eligible to enroll in 4-H as an independent member the following year.

Individual Study:

Independent members must have a 4-H agent approved plan of work for the 4-H year and meet with a mentor a minimum of four times per year during the program year. Progress towards goals should be submitted to the 4-H office. Counties may elect to allow youth to continue independent membership based on completed work or extenuating circumstances.

Source: Florida 4-H website, June 23, 2015.

September 29, 2015