

## Polk County 4-H Policy

**Reviewed and Approved by parents and leaders present at 4-H Volunteer Training on November 21, 2013 at First Baptist Church in Hatfield – 29 adults present.**

1. To be considered a bona-fide 4-H member, Polk County 4-H members should complete current enrollment on Arkansas 4-H Online between October 1 and December 1 each year. 4-H members must attend a minimum of eight (8) club meetings and participate in at least one (1) county-wide 4-H sponsored activity. New members (those who have never been a member of Polk County 4-H before) will be allowed to join and participate as long as they join prior to appropriate deadline.
2. 4-H members and certified leaders are eligible for up to ½ registration scholarship for any in-state 4-H educational workshop or event. See rule number 9 for requirements to obtain a scholarship.
3. 4-H members and certified leaders are eligible for up to ½ registration scholarship for any out of state educational workshop or event, one time per event in their 4-H career. See rule number 9 for requirements to obtain a scholarship.
4. All registration fees that are due from the 4-H member or leader to attend an event are due at the Extension Office five working days prior to the start of that event.
5. 4-H members that receive scholarships from 4-H are expected to give a 1 to 2 minute presentation about their experiences attending the event at the annual 4-H Achievement Banquet.
6. The 4-H program will pay 4-H members registration fee to district and state O-Rama when they are going as a representative of the Polk County 4-H program. A minimum number of certified volunteers needed to haul and chaperone at state O-Rama will also receive a paid registration scholarship by the 4-H program.
7. 4-H members that qualify for district and state O-Rama are expected to represent the county at the next level in that qualifying area. If they qualify in a district event and have plans to attend in a state only event, they are expected to compete in both events.
8. In order to receive paid registration fee to State O-Rama, 4-H members are required to compete at county and/or district level.
9. To be considered for funding scholarships for out of county educational events, 4-H members and volunteers must complete the “4-H Scholarship Application” available in the County Extension Office. This must be submitted and reviewed by the scholarship committee before the registration window for the event closes on 4-H Online. It is recommended that 4-H members who are considering an event, plan ahead and complete scholarship application prior to opening of registration on 4-H Online. Some events fill and close very quickly and we do not want to jeopardize their enrollment for the event.
10. All adults consistently attending 4-H club meetings with youth, regardless of the role they play, must complete the steps required to become a volunteer with the 4-H program. This consists of enrolling on 4-H Online as a volunteer each year in October; completing the E-HIRE 164 to be checked through the Child Maltreatment Central Registry every three years; submitting information through 4-H Online to have a criminal background check every three years; logging onto and completing the Arkansas Mandated Reporter certification at [www.ar.mandatedreporter.org](http://www.ar.mandatedreporter.org) and emailing the certificate of completion to [polk@uaex.edu](mailto:polk@uaex.edu) ; and completing a minimum of 4 units of continuing leader education each year as provided by the Extension Service. Consistently is defined as attending meetings or activities with youth in their care more than 4 times during the 4-H year.