



January 2024

Hello!

Are you interested in joining a 4-H Club in Lorain County? The process is three simple steps:

1. Connect with a local 4-H Club.
2. Choose 1-2 projects.
3. Enroll in the 4-H Online enrollment system.

We currently have over 50 4-H Clubs in our county with many still taking new members for this program year. Most clubs meet 9-12 months of the year, 1-2 times per month. Meetings last from 1-2 hours depending on the time of year and educational program being offered.

Most 4-H Clubs begin enrollment in January. I encourage you to reach out to several of the clubs in your area to research a bit more about each club. It is important that you find the club that best meets your family's needs, interests, and schedule. Please utilize the **Lorain County 4-H Club list** to select a few clubs that meet near you. This list is available on our website at <https://lorain.osu.edu/> under Discover 4-H On Lorain County.

Questions I recommend families to ask when shopping for a 4-H club include:

1. What are the ages of youth involved in your club?
2. What types of projects and activities does your club offer?
3. How often does your club meet?
4. Where does your club meet?
5. What are the membership requirements for your club? (i.e., required number of meetings/events to attend, membership dues, etc.)

To be eligible to join 4-H, a project member must be 8 years old and in the 3rd grade by January 1st. These members focus on club work and project work. Cloverbud members must be 5 years old and in Kindergarten by January 1st. Cloverbud members work in a group setting engaging in non-competitive activities with other children in their age range.

The Lorain County 4-H Program charges a 4-H Member Activity Fee of \$15.00 per member each year. Clubs may also request minimal club dues at the time of enrollment. If you join a 4-H club after the general enrollment deadline (usually early April) you are eligible for summer enrollment and to take one non-animal project. Summer enrollment deadline is July 1st.

The next step to joining a 4-H Club is to select 1-2 **4-H projects**. A 4-H project is simply a topic that a 4-H youth member chooses to explore throughout the year. Ohio 4-H offers over 150 projects in the areas of:

- Animals- dogs, cats, rabbits, swine, cattle, horses, etc.
- Family & Consumer Science (FCS)- food and nutrition, clothing and textile science, home living, etc.
- Ag & Still-life-leadership and citizenship, creative and leisure arts, natural resources, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM), etc.

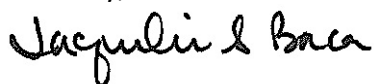
A complete list of projects are listed in our Ohio 4-H Family Guide here: <https://ohio4h.org/familyguide> This provides a great overview of Ohio 4-H, the projects we offer, and many of the learning opportunities 4-H provides.

Once you have attended a 4-H Club meeting and selected projects, you will **request enrollment** in our 4-H Online enrollment system. <https://v2.4honline.com/> Follow and complete the screen prompts in the system. If you would like additional assistance with this process please refer to our 4-H Online Enrollment Guide. This can be found on our website at <https://lorain.osu.edu/> under 4-H Forms.

Should you have questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to the OSU Extension office to speak with our 4-H staff, or any 4-H Club volunteer.

Have a beautiful day!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jacqueline S. Baca". The script is cursive and fluid.

Jacqueline S. Baca
Extension Educator, 4-H Youth Development

