

Minimum Expectations of Putnam County 4-H Independent Members

Youth, ages 5-18, are welcome to enroll as Independent 4-H Members. 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. They should be 5-18 years old as of September 1st of the current year and must be enrolled on 4-H online by the 31st of October to be eligible to show large animals in the fair (<https://florida.4honline.com>).
2. Attend a mandatory informational meeting with agent or program assistant for Independent Members.
3. Complete six hours annually on at least one project of choice.
4. Attend a minimum of **three** 4-H Council meetings **by the opening fair date** and **one meeting after the fair**, if youth are exhibiting animals in the fair. If youth are **not** exhibiting animals in the fair they need to attend four meetings by the end of the 4-H year (May 2nd is last County Council Meeting). County Council meetings are held the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm in the agricultural center auditorium.
5. For youth showing in the fair:
 - a. **Youth and parent/guardian** must attend mandatory fair meeting on January 3rd that will be held immediately following the county Council Meeting.
 - b. Youth also must present your project book (not fair record book) to 4-H office for project verification showing six hours of work in the project. Project verification will be February 28- March 2, 2017 **OR** participate in county events with a demonstration or a speech
6. Participate in one community service project per 4-H year. It is preferred that you attend one of the community service opportunities offered through County Council.
7. Turn in a complete project book (minimum of 6 activities completed) with a project report summary **by the first working day in June.**
8. Must either participate in county events (January 28th) with a demonstration or public speech related to project **OR** submit an educational poster to be displayed at the fair (turned in on Tuesday, March 14th from 3pm to 7pm at the fair educational “new” building).

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.

