What is 4-H?

4-H is a community of young people across America learning leadership, citizenship and life skills.

4-H began over a century ago as an educational program for the nation’s rural youth. Today, 4-H meets the needs of and engages young people (both rural and urban) in positive youth development experiences. 4-H youth development is an education program of the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension.

4-H is the largest out-of-school youth organization in the United States with over 7 million members. There are over 49,000 young people engaged in 4-H programs across the state of Nevada. The 4-H program promotes life skills development through an expanding number of delivery modes: 4-H community and project clubs, military and 4-H Afterschool programs; special interest groups; school enrichment; camping and more.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BECOMING A 4-H MEMBER IN WASHOE COUNTY: www.unce.unr.edu/4H/
frequently asked questions

Who can join?
Youth, ages 5 to 19 may join.

Where do I sign up?
Contact the Washoe County University of Nevada Cooperative Extension office to find a club near you today. Experience 4-H with a friend and invite them to join with you.

When should I sign up?
The 4-H year begins on October 1st, but you can join anytime!

What is there to do?
Members, age 9 to 19 select 4-H project(s) to explore through club and county activities. Cloverbud members, age 5 to 8 participate in non-competitive activities exploring a variety of fun, hands-on interest areas, *not including shooting sports*.

Does it cost anything?
Washoe County registration fees are $1 per year. Other costs are minimal.

For livestock projects, there are costs involved with the purchase and upkeep of an animal.

Club Dues/Fees — Per member fee charged by some clubs used towards refreshments, project book costs, club t-shirt, supplemental insurance, etc. Please ask the club leader about their 4-H club fee structure.

4-H Events & Opportunities — Fees charged for participation in events and opportunities such as camps, workshops, conferences, trips, etc.

4-H History in Nevada

In 1923, the first State 4-H Club Camp was held at the University’s livestock farm south of Reno. Five years later, the first Junior Livestock Show was held near San Francisco, with Nevada beef as part of that event.

In 1938, with the help of Mr. and Mrs. William Rabe of Gardnerville and the Nevada Farm Bureau, a permanent state 4-H Camp was established at Lake Tahoe. One year later, the first annual Nevada Junior Livestock Show was held in Reno.

During World War II, 4-H club members joined the salvage campaign to help the war efforts. One club brought in enough scrap iron in its drive to build four tanks for the armed forces.

In the decades that followed, 4-H clubs flourished, maintaining many of the original agriculture projects, but also adding projects of interest to many of our urban youth.

Today, nearly 50,000 young people each year in Nevada learn life skills in clubs, school and after-school programs. Locally, members focus on science, technology, home arts and the traditional animal projects.

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT MEMBERSHIP NOW, Visit [www.unce.unr.edu/4h/](http://www.unce.unr.edu/4h/) to find out more about joining 4-H in Washoe County. Or visit us at the University of Nevada Cooperative Extension Washoe County 4-H Youth Development Programs 4955 Energy Way Reno, NV 89502

Or contact:
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A wide range of projects and activities are available to choose from, including, but not limited to:

- Shooting Sports*
- STEM (Robotics, Rocketry, Engineering, Photography)
- Cooking
- Sewing
- Livestock (Sheep, Beef, Goats, and Swine) Breeding, Market, and Dairy
- Small Animal (Poultry, Rabbits, Cavy (Guinea Pigs), Dogs)
- Adventure (Outdoor and earth science activities)
- Gardening
- Teen Leadership / 4-H Ambassadors
- Entomology (insects)
- Horses (Equine Science)
- 4-H Western Area Summer Camp