

IFAS Extension
4-H Youth Development

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DA: September 30, 2011
TO: County 4-H Faculty & Staff
FR: Keith G. Diem, Associate Dean – 4-H Youth Development
Jordan Callaham, State 4-H Events Coordinator
RE: Current 4-H Age Policy and Event Participation Divisions

A revised age policy for the Florida 4-H Youth Development Program became effective September 1, 2011. All counties are expected to have correct age divisions in place for their events to conform with current policy. The policy as of September 1, 2011 is:

4-H is open to all youth, ages 5-18, determined as of September 1 of the current 4-H program year.

Eligibility for enrolled 4-H members (those who have met previously stated enrollment criteria) is determined by the youth's age as of September 1 of the current 4-H program year, which runs September 1 through August 31. Any exceptions are noted under participation criteria defined for the event. Generally, age classifications for most 4-H events and activities are the following:

Ages 5 - 7: Cloverbud Division

Children under 8 years of age on September 1 of the current 4-H year, are ineligible to participate in competitive activities at any level (club, county, district, state, national or international). 5-7 year olds may exhibit or share project activities at a participation level against a predefined standard. Feedback and participation awards may be given to this group, but they are not permitted to be involved in peer-to-peer competition.

Ages 8 - 10: Junior Division

Any youth 8-10 years old as of September 1 of the current 4-H program year is considered a junior.

Ages 11 - 13: Intermediate Division

Any youth 11-13 years old as of September 1 of the current 4-H program year is considered an intermediate.

Ages 14 - 18: Senior Division

Any youth 14-18 years old as of September 1 of the current 4-H program year is considered a senior.

