19 Year Old 4-H Member Requirements

If your 4-H age is now 19 years old, as determined by January 1st of the current 4-H year, you have specific requirements as set by the Mecosta County 4-H Council to participate in 4-H in Mecosta County during the upcoming year.

- **Complete a Teen leadership project.** *(You need to have your leadership project approved by the Mecosta County 4-H Program Coordinator BEFORE you begin).* Complete an exhibit of your Teen Leadership Project for the Teen Leadership Project Class at the Mecosta County Agricultural Free Fair and, submit your fair project entry for the Teen Leadership Project class, to the MSU Mecosta County Extension Office by date of July 1st.

- **Present your Leadership Project** for judging in July and keep it on display in the Exhibit Building during the week of the Mecosta County Fair. You will need to set up a judging interview time for your leadership project at the fair in July.

- **Attend an approved leadership and/or personal development workshop, class, college level leadership class or, training,** *(by March 1st)* and write a short summary *(minimum of one typed page)* of your experience to be submitted to the Extension Office prior to March 30th , for review at the April Mecosta County 4-H Council meeting.

There are multiple leadership training options recommended this year for meeting the requirements, but you are welcome to identify your own choice via college, work, community or other civic or faith organizations. Attending governmental meetings will not count towards meeting this requirement. You must participate in a training or class that will enhance and/or increase your leadership skills. If you are participating in a leadership training opportunity of your own choice, you must provide the Mecosta County 4-H Council with confirmation that you successfully completed the course.

Registration and all costs for workshops and classes are your responsibility. Early registration is always suggested, many workshops fill early, so you will want to plan ahead. If you are attending an overnight 4-H workshop, you will need to complete a background check **BEFORE** you can register. You will need to stop into the Extension Office and complete those forms.

If you wish to attend a **training of your own choice**, please present a written description or, flyer of the leadership event that you are requesting approval of. Your request will be considered at the next scheduled meeting of the 4-H Council, but no later than February 1st. Your approved event or training must be completed and a written summary of your experience submitted to the Extension Office by March 30th.

If you are not planning to participate in 4-H this year, including not showing or exhibiting under 4-H at the Mecosta County Fair, participating in 4-H club, county or state events, this year please notify the MSU Mecosta County Extension Office at (231) 592-0795 of your decision.

**New for 2013** The Mecosta County 4-H Council has approved the 4-H Camp Counselor or, Camp Staff positions as a possible leadership project that you may use towards your 19-Year Old Project. You MUST apply and be selected as a camp counselor or, summer camp junior staff member, the summer before you turn 19, in order to use this experience as your leadership project. You must attend all counselor and staff meetings/training and full-fill your role in camp for this experience to be accepted.

*For a list of pre-approved workshops that will be counted as a leadership experience or workshop, contact the Mecosta County MSU Extension Office at (231)592-0795.*

*To have the class, or workshop you have identified as a possible leadership experience or workshop, contact the Mecosta County MSU Extension Office at (231)592-0795.*