
The Oklahoma FFA Association Guidelines for Dual Membership in 4-H and FFA

The following rationale and guidelines have been established by the Oklahoma FFA Association in regard to dues-paying FFA members who also desire to participate in 4-H club programs.

RATIONALE

Oklahoma has two of the finest agricultural youth organizations in the nation. The Oklahoma FFA Association believes:

- It is important to provide quality opportunities, recognition, incentives, awards, and scholarships that will make a positive difference in the lives of as many agricultural youth as possible.
- Dual membership in 4-H and FFA is compatible. Each organization offers enough unduplicated activities so that students can be members and participate in both organizations if they so choose.
- Students should make a commitment to the organization in which they desire to receive major awards and gain significant recognition.
- No student should be permitted to use the same projects, records, leadership activities, etc., for similar awards and recognition in both organizations.
- Business and industry, agriculture supporters, and other contributors to the Foundations of both organizations are not interested in providing duplicate awards, prize money, scholarships, etc., to individuals participating in similar activities in both organizations.
- Students who have been declared academically ineligible to participate in extracurricular activities by their local school administration must not compete as a member of either organization.
- The agricultural education instructor/FFA advisor plays an integral role in the supervised training program of FFA members. Therefore, students should not be allowed to switch project work back and forth in both organizations for the purpose of avoiding eligibility requirements, ethical practices, and other established rules and regulations.
- FFA members receive training from their agricultural education instructor/FFA advisor in a variety of agricultural related career development events specifically for the purpose of participating in FFA events and for FFA awards and recognition.

GUIDELINES

The Oklahoma FFA Association has established the following specific guidelines:

- FFA members cannot be a state officer in both organizations during the same school year.
- FFA members cannot participate in the same event/judging team area in both organizations during the same school year. For example, FFA members cannot participate on a livestock judging team in both 4-H and FFA during the same school year. However, they may judge livestock in one organization and dairy, equine, land, etc., in the other.
- FFA members exhibiting at fairs and shows cannot switch project work back and forth in both organizations during the same school year.
- FFA members cannot participate in speech contests representing both organizations during the same school year. 4-H demonstrations are not considered the same as FFA speech contests.
- FFA members cannot use past or present records kept on 4-H projects, livestock, judging team participation, leadership activities, and financial records as a part of their FFA records for awards and degrees in FFA.
- FFA members who have represented Oklahoma in a national career development event or national award area as a 4-H or FFA member are ineligible to participate again in the National Qualifying Event for that area as an FFA member.