



Basic 4-H Volunteer Orientation & Training

4-H Volunteer e-Learning

Developed in Collaboration with Pacific Northwest Extension Programs

Four Volunteer e-Learning Modules

1. **“About 4-H”** provides information about the purpose, mission, philosophy of 4-H; connection to Land-Grant Universities; and, other valuable partners and resources.
2. **“Positive Youth Development”** helps us understand the essential elements of the 4-H education program, and ways to support positive development for youth in 4-H settings.
3. **“Getting Started in 4-H”** helps us learn about conducting meetings, understand after-school programs, and other ways to participate in 4-H.
4. **“Leadership and Teaching”** suggests ways to facilitate “experiential” (hands-on) learning in 4-H.

Each module involves interactive learning and requires 15 to 20+ minutes to complete, depending upon the amount of 4-H or youth development experience the learner has.

To Access 4-H Volunteer e-Learning

1. Go to : <http://nys4h.cce.cornell.edu/staff/Pages/VolunteerInvolvement.aspx>
2. Go to the heading, “Development Opportunities for Volunteers and Staff”
3. Click on the link: “4-H Volunteer e-Learning Course”
4. Go to the left panel and click on the box, **“4-H Volunteer e-Learning Course.”**
Or, if needed, choose to download a free program from the main screen.
5. Complete the four boxes:
 - a. **First name**
 - b. **Last name**
 - c. **State** [choose from a drop down menu]; and
 - d. Type in the **password = VOLUNTEER**
6. Click on **“About 4-H”** to begin learning in the first of the four e-Learning modules.

OVER

At Conclusion of Each Module

- A. When you click the “submit” button at the conclusion of each module, you will receive an e-mail (within about 10 minutes, or less) to announce completion of that module. (If you ‘close’ or ‘log out’ without pushing “submit” there will be no record of your learning.)
- B. When the CERTIFICATE of COMPLETION is on the screen, you may enter the appropriate county name, and click the “submit” button, and print that certificate for your records.
- C. A staff member at the a) State 4-H Office, and b) local County Extension Office, will receive notification that you have completed the learning modules.

Who will benefit from the e-Learning Modules?

- Potential 4-H volunteers
- First-time 4-H volunteers in the 4-H program
- Current 4-H volunteers who are re-enrolling
- Others who simply want to review the 4-H program, or learn more

Key Benefits of Volunteer e-Learning

Among the benefits of the Volunteer e-Learning, are that the modules are:

- Cost-effective for travel, time, and preparation.
- Consistent orientation in these four areas in every county and state.
- Available to learners any time.
- Self-paced and interactive.
- Convenient for reviewing information and receiving instant feedback.
- Proven to increase knowledge retention.
- Easy to update.
- Ready-to-Use – NOW!

Volunteer e-Learning is Not...

Volunteer e-Learning is not intended to replace all face-to-face education that is conducted in counties and states. There are opportunities, guidelines, and policies that are unique to each state and county that are important to communicate through a variety of other educational methods.

Outcomes of Volunteer e-Learning?

Volunteers, and others, have more knowledge about 4-H youth development.

Volunteers, and others, are more prepared to work with youth, effectively in the 4-H program.

All participants have increased interest in orientation and training.