



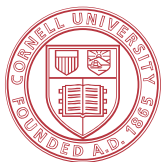
NYS 4-H Policy on Residency

Residency - Youth may participate in 4-H programs in one county only, preferably their county of residence. However, when an adjacent county offers opportunities not offered in the county of residence or when those opportunities are offered within a more reasonable commuting distance, participation in the adjacent county may be arranged. The 4-H Program Leaders of the two counties have the responsibility to involve the appropriate decision-making groups in their counties to determine the conditions for membership, exhibition and program participation by youth from each other's county.

We recognize that a child's residence may change through the year due to shared custody or other family reasons. 4-H Educators need to work with parents and 4-H Club Leaders to learn how family living arrangements affect the child's participation, and Program Leaders must remain flexible so policy decisions benefit the child.

Clubs - Clubs are to be chartered within the county in which a majority of the members reside. If there are special circumstances such as program opportunities, logistical difficulties or staffing challenges, with the permission of both county Educators or Executive Directors, a club may be chartered by a neighboring county.

Conflict between Club Volunteers and Association Staff does not represent a special circumstance whereby a club can switch counties. Conflicts should be ironed out with a spirit of cooperation and equal program opportunity.



Cornell University

