

CCE Dutchess County 4-H Livestock Sponsor/Lease Agreement



- Complete one agreement form for each youth per species and per owner if different.
- Please provide and attach animal identification numbers where relevant. Use side profile and head photographs as needed.

Name of 4-H Member: _____ 4-H Age: _____

Check relevant species being sponsored:

Hog		Llama/alpaca		Poultry		Horse		Sheep	
Beef		Dairy Goat		Dog		Rabbit		Cavy	
Dairy Cow		Meat Goat							
Other (explain) _____									

The owner of the above-named animal(s) authorizes the 4-H member to use the animal(s) as their 4-H project animal for the period beginning (date): _____ and ending (date): _____.

Address the animal(s) will be kept at: _____

Will the 4-H youth be required to contribute to costs related to keeping the animal(s)? € Yes € No

If yes, please provide details below (costs involved related to owner expenses):

Will the 4-H youth be required to help with care/chores related to keeping the animal(s)? € Yes € No

If yes, please provide details below (frequency/hours/making up missed duties, etc.):

Will animal(s) be available to exhibit at 4-H/youth events? € Yes € No

Please use the space below to note any additional items covered by this agreement

I have read, understand, and agree to the guidelines below.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

Owner Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____

4-H Club Leader: _____ Signature: _____ Date: _____





4-H Animal Sponsorship/Lease Program Description and Rules (adapted from [Penn State](#))

Note that 'sponsored animal' is the term generally used by CCEDC but may also be referred to as 'leased'.

The intent of 4-H animal sponsorship is to provide opportunities for 4-H youth to gain experience with projects in livestock, dairy, or working animals. This project is aimed at youth who:

- lack financial resources needed to purchase and care for an animal,
- lack facilities and equipment necessary to provide proper daily care for an animal, or
- are prevented from participating in project experiences requiring ownership and daily care of an animal due to circumstances beyond their control.

Animals owned and housed by a sponsor are leased by 4-H members for the project year. With the owner, a schedule for sharing the care, training, and possibly the costs, for each animal is agreed on.

- 4-H members perform scheduled tasks and participate in 4-H activities with the animal(s).
- 4-H members may be asked to commit to contributing partly or fully to cover the costs associated with keeping the animal(s) healthy and conditioned according to their purpose.
- 4-H members may exhibit animals sponsored under the 4-H agreement only at 4-H shows permitting showing of sponsored/leased animals.

Objectives

- Youth unable to participate in 4-H animal projects requiring animal ownership, and experience responsibility for animal care, will have the opportunity to participate.
- Youth will develop an appreciation for animal agriculture.
- 4-H members will be provided with the opportunity to develop life skills in areas including leadership, citizenship, communications, careers, personal and value development, and relating to people.
- 4-H members will be provided with the opportunity to develop skills and knowledge related to animal sciences and the care, management, marketing, and use of animals and their products.

Eligibility

Youth must meet requirements for 4-H membership through Cornell Cooperative Extension, Dutchess County (CCEDC). For a youth to be considered a 4-H member they must:

- be at least 5 years of age and must not have turned 19 years of age prior to January 1st of the current year.
- be enrolled in one or more Dutchess County 4-H clubs
- be fully enrolled in 4-H Online
- be in good standing and comply with club bylaws, advisory policies and all 4-H requirements

Sponsors who are not volunteer leaders do not need to complete the CCEDC 4-H volunteer screening process. Sponsors who will be advising 4-H members as **volunteer 4-H club/project leaders** should be certified volunteers approved by CCEDC.





Animals to be leased must be suitable for the youth, for the project activities, and for any classes the youth might exhibit in. Sponsor animals must be available for exhibition/participation in related 4-H activities by mutual agreement.

- Title of ownership as stated on the registration certificate of the sponsored animal (if applicable) will remain in the possession of the sponsor (owner).
- If an injury or illness occurs to prevent the sponsor animal being used, a suitable replacement can be substituted if available.

General Rules

A written lease agreement is not required but is strongly recommended. If the parent or sponsor agrees to a written agreement, it must be submitted to the CCEDC 4-H Office. The agreement:

- will remain in effect until the end of the project year or until terminated by either party.
- may be terminated prior to the end of the project year for reasons such as: A. failure of either party to carry out responsibilities as outlined in the lease agreement, or B. changes in the farming operation of the sponsor.

The animal owner, the 4-H member and the CCEDC 4-H office should each have a copy of the completed and signed form. This form must have an effective date on or prior to the 4-H Animal Registration deadline for that species and must be in the name of the 4-H member.

Responsibilities of all parties are to comply with all CCEDC, NYS, National 4-H policies, and those specific to the sponsorship as stated in the agreement. By signing the agreement, parents/guardians of the 4-H member are tasked with providing the support needed to fulfill the agreement, such as paying any fees/costs, and transporting youth to perform agreed chores, attend events, and so on.

Insurance

4-H members that lease an animal for 4-H activities are in the same position from a liability standpoint as if they owned the animal. The parents of the 4-H member and the owners of the animal should have their own liability insurance to provide coverage as if it was an owned animal. The 4-H liability insurance is not 24-hour coverage. It is only intended to cover official 4-H activities, such as club meetings, project activities, shows and exhibitions. By signing any agreement, parents/guardians and sponsor/owners agree they understand and accept this risk.



