Project Enrollment for 4-H and FFA Members and Showing Animals at the County Fair and the Ohio State Fair

4-H members must be enrolled in their county in the project in which they enter to show at the County Fair and the Ohio State Fair Junior Livestock Shows (including poultry, rabbits, and dogs), regardless of whether that project is offered for county exhibition. (1) For example: To show in a gilt class at the Ohio State Fair, youth must be enrolled in project 140 Swine Breeding Project and Record Book. (2) For example: To show a dairy feeder at the Ohio State Fair, youth must be enrolled in project 117DF Dairy Beef Feeder (Market); (3) For example: To show breeding poultry (chickens) at the Ohio State Fair, 4-H members must be enrolled in project 150CE, Exhibition Chickens; to show breeding poultry (ducks), they must be enrolled in project 150DE, Exhibition Ducks, and so forth. (4) For example: To show a dog in agility at the Ohio State Fair, 4-H members must be enrolled in project 201P, Performance; to show the same dog in obedience, project 201O, Obedience, etc.

FFA members must enter to show at the County Fair and the Ohio State Fair the same animal project they are taking through their Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE). (1) For example: To show a market lamb at the Ohio State Fair, FFA members must be taking market lambs as one of their Supervised Agricultural Experiences. For example: (2) To show a beef breeding heifer at the Ohio State Fair, FFA members must be taking breeding beef as one of their Supervised Agricultural Experiences.

Note: The same animal cannot be enrolled in two projects in the county (exception dog projects and 4-H PetPALS), with the youth planning to enter one or the other project at the Ohio State Fair. Decisions must be made by project enrollment deadline or county’s animal identification deadline (whichever comes first). (1) For example: A youth is not permitted to enroll the same beef animal in a breeding project (117B Beef Breeding) AND in a market project (117M Market Beef). (2) For example: A youth is not permitted to enroll the same rabbit in a pet rabbit project (Pet Rabbit Project and Record Book 227) AND in a breeding rabbit project (Breeding Rabbit Project and Record Book 225). She/he must choose which project in which to enroll that animal by county deadlines for that species. (3) Exception dog projects: For example: Youth may enroll the same dog in multiple dog projects such as in You and Your Dog (201D); Obedience (201O); Performance (201P) and Showmanship (201S) provided that dog can perform the required exercises of each project at the Ohio State Fair. (4) Exception: 4-H PetPALS: Youth may enroll in a pet rabbit project (225) and 4-H PetPALS (230), or 150CE Exhibition Chickens and 230 4-H PetPALS, etc. with the same animal.

4-H and FFA Membership
Ohio 4-H members are sometimes also FFA members, often within the same county or in an adjacent county. These members especially need to keep in mind the 4-H policy about 4-H projects being separate from school projects. To keep work in both organizations clearly separate, 4-H members are advised to take different species or non-livestock projects in the two organizations or, at the very least, to take market animals in one and breeding animals in the other. The idea is to refrain from exhibiting the same project more than once. See chart for allowable and not allowable examples.

Defiance County Junior Fair Eligibility Guidelines
1. All Defiance County Junior Fair exhibitors must successfully meet all requirements of their youth organization before being eligible to exhibit for competition. Specific guidelines are as follows:
2. Defiance County 4-H – Exhibitors must be between the ages of eight and nineteen years. An exhibitor is eligible when he/she reaches the age of at least eight years and enrolled in the third grade as of January 1st of the same year. Eligibility ends when an exhibitor reaches the age of nineteen years as of December 31st of the same year in which an entry is made.
3. Defiance County FFA – Entries are open to regularly enrolled high school agricultural students and enrolled in their school FFA chapter of the same year in which an entry is made. FFA members are expected to exhibit in the county of FFA Chapter.
4. Defiance County FCCLA – Entries are open to regularly enrolled high school family consumer science students and enrolled in their school FCCLA chapter of the same year in which an entry is made. FCCLA members are expected to exhibit in the county of the FCCLA Chapter.