

## Determining Utah 4-H Club Membership

### 4-H Volunteer Leader's Role in Determining Club Membership

The 4-H volunteer leader can determine the membership of their club as long as there is no discrimination based on the protected categories of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability and sexual orientation.

Club membership can be determined by the following:

1. **Type of club** – The 4-H volunteers can determine the type of club. Community clubs are generally open to all interested youth. Project clubs are generally smaller than community clubs and focus on a program area. Family clubs generally have the volunteer's children and/or related youth members. Under special circumstances, a volunteer can individually select the 4-H youth members in their club.
2. **Size** – The volunteer can determine the size of their club.
3. **Age and Ability** – The volunteer can determine the 4-H age category and/or skill level required to belong to their club.
4. **Past Experience** – The 4-H volunteer leader can select youth to be junior leaders or members of the club if their past experience would indicate that they would contribute to the club and provide a positive environment for the other club members. A volunteer can exclude a 4-H youth from becoming a member of their club based on past experiences. A volunteer is not required to accept a youth into their club if past experience indicates that the youth's and/or youth's parent's behavior will create an unsafe environment for others in the club. These unsafe behaviors include but are not limited to physical safety and/or emotional safety.
5. **Disability** – The volunteer should make reasonable accommodations so youth with disabilities can participate in their club. The volunteer is not required to accept youth as a full participant if their disability will create an unsafe environment for the youth or other members in the club.