

## 4-H Ages and Divisions for 2023 – 2024 4-H Year

Division	Cloverbud	Junior	Intermediate	Senior
	5-8 years old as of September 1, 2023	9-11 years old as of September 1, 2023	12-14 years old As of September 1, 2023	15 – 19 years old As of September 1, 2023

### Handy age calculator

<http://www.calculator.net/age-calculator.html>. Put in the birthdate in the first line and September 1 (2023 for this year) in the second line. It will calculate their age

We use midnight between the night of Sept 1 and the morning of Sept 2 as our cutoff date. If a member was born ON Sept 1 they would be counted as their birthday occurring in the previous year. If they were born on Sept 2 they would be counted in the upcoming year.

### Age related policies from the Oregon 4-H Policy Manual

**2.3** A young person's age on **September 1** shall be used to determine their age for the upcoming 4-H program year (which begins on October 1 and ends on September 30). A young person who is 19 on September 1, and graduated from high school, is not eligible to participate in 4-H in the upcoming 4-H program year (with the exception of the circumstances described in 2.3.1 and 2.8). Age is considered the best determinant of youth development.

**2.3.1** Students who are 19 on September 1 and **have not** yet graduated from high school, may participate in 4-H in the upcoming 4-H program year.

**2.4** Oregon 4-H uses the following age divisions for eligibility in competitive events. (Effective October 1, 2014)

Juniors	9-11 years of age on September 1
Intermediates	12-14 years of age on September 1
Seniors	15-19 years of age on September 1

**2.4.1** 4-H provides numerous opportunities for youth to be recognized for their achievements. Some recognition comes as a result of competition against peers. **4-H members will be allowed to participate in competitive events in the upcoming 4-H program year if they have reached their ninth birthday by September 1 and otherwise qualify to participate.**

**2.5** Some 4-H experiences are **limited to young people of specific ages**. For example, young people under age nine participate as “Cloverbuds” and do not participate in competitive events.

**2.6** School-aged youth **may participate in 4-H without being enrolled in a public school.**

**2.7** Individuals who have surpassed the upper age limit for membership in Oregon **may participate in national contests and events if they qualified for those contests and events as members if national rules allow.**

**2.8** **Young people with developmental disabilities** remain eligible to participate in 4-H during the upcoming program year in which they are 21 on September 1.

**4.2 “Cloverbud”** programs are the mechanism by which young people ages 5 through 8 may participate in 4-H. Cloverbud programs introduce young people to cooperative learning and the many things they can do in 4-H.

**4.2.1** Children under age nine participating in 4-H, **may not** ride on motorcycles, motorbikes, or all-terrain vehicles or participate in shooting sports as part of their 4-H experience. They also are **not to** have direct contact or be responsible for the care and maintenance of cattle, horses, sheep, llamas, goats, swine, and dogs as part of their 4-H experience. (Also 10.5)

**4.2.2** Children under age nine may not participate in competitive events as a part of their 4-H experience, where they or the items they have constructed are evaluated. They may participate in non-competitive events for participation recognition only.

**4.2.3** As part of their 4-H experience, children under age nine may participate in team sports like soccer, basketball, and volleyball without keeping score to avoid a competitive experience. If awards are provided, every child should be recognized equally with a participation award.