

Volunteer Application Process

We welcome your interest in becoming a volunteer with the Ohio State University Extension 4-H Youth Development program. 4-H volunteers work directly with young people in teaching, mentoring, and advising situations. Therefore, we take the role of selecting volunteers very seriously. The steps to apply to become a volunteer are outlined below.

Step 1: Application Form

Obtain and complete the written volunteer application forms. Return them to OSU Extension no later than March 1st.

Step 2: Interview

Schedule an interview with Christy Leeds, 4-H Extension Educator. Daytime and evening times are possible. Allow 30 minutes for this interview. It is your responsibility to call or email and make an appointment for this interview. If you find you have difficulty finding time to schedule this, consider carefully whether you have time to commit to being a 4-H volunteer. This interview will be an opportunity for you to learn about the role and expectations of adult 4-H volunteers, and for us to learn about your interests and talents that may relate to 4-H projects and programs. Bring any questions you have at this time.

Step 3: Background Check

Pick up or download a “BCI Request and Reimbursement Form” to take with you to complete your background check. Prices vary depending on Webcheck® location. If you would like to be reimbursed, keep your original receipt and bring it, along with the reimbursement form to the OSU Extension Office.

Step 4: Orientation

This training required for new volunteers will include general information about the 4-H Program in addition to OSU’s required training. New Volunteer Orientation is scheduled for **Friday, January 31 from 9 am – 10:30 and Monday, February 24 from 6 pm – 7:30**. Volunteers must attend one of these sessions.

Step 5: Annual Education Requirement

Please plan to attend one of the Advisor training sessions in January:

- Wednesday, January 15, 6:30 – 8:30 pm
- Thursday, January 23, 6:30 – 8:30
- Saturday, February 1 from 9 – 11:30 am.

Although this training is optional during the application process, it is highly encouraged. Once you become a 4-H volunteer, this will meet the annual education requirement in order to remain an active volunteer. More information about this will be shared in the orientation and interview process.

