



## Iowa 4-H Youth Development 4-H Program Fee Assistance Application Instructions for Youth

The Iowa 4-H Foundation has approved funds for use by youth who need financial assistance to pay the member fee for club and individual participation in the Iowa 4-H Youth program. These funds are intended to provide an opportunity for youth who otherwise would be financially unable to register as club or individual members in 4-H.

### HOW TO APPLY

The following guidelines have been established for applying for financial assistance.

1. Any youth who are potential participants in Extension youth programs, or programs recognized by the 4-H Youth Development programs are eligible. The member fee applies to youth who are registered as individual members or as members of 4-H clubs.
2. An Extension staff member, a volunteer leader, teacher, or parent may submit an application using VI-070201-JL. Please follow all instructions.
3. Participants should ideally pay some portion of their member fee. It has been our experience that those who pay a portion of the cost to participate in 4-H are more likely to stay involved in 4-H over a longer period of time. We also encourage local or county groups help provide some assistance if possible.
4. The Iowa 4-H Foundation has a limited amount of money from donors for financial assistance. These funds will be allocated among as many different individuals as feasible. Mindful of the research showing the importance of long-term involvement in youth development programs, the importance of first year member retention, and the state goal of increasing the number of youth in 4-H clubs, individuals requesting assistance in the first and second years of their 4-H involvement may receive priority.
5. Requests for member fee assistance may be submitted at any time to the Iowa 4-H Foundation. However, funding is limited, so timeliness is important (the Foundation operates on a budget year beginning July 1).
6. A brief statement of need **is required** by an Extension worker, 4-H leader, or parent explaining the financial situation of the family and other pertinent information. **No funding will be provided without this statement.**
7. Use a 4-H Member Fee Assistance Application for Youth Form (VI-070201-JL) **for each family or group home with an applicant or applicants.**
8. Notification will be e-mailed to county extension staff or program specialists submitting applications, normally within two weeks, and then checks for member fee assistance will be mailed to county offices.

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