

MISSION: The mission of 4-H is to assist youth in developing life and work skills that will prepare them to be capable, caring and competent citizens of a democratic society.

LEARNING MODEL: 4-H uses the experiential learning model where youth experience an activity, share the results, process the information, generalize and apply the knowledge and/or skill learned to other situations.

MISSION MANDATES/FOCUS AREAS:

Science, Engineering and Technology

Animal Science

Plant Science

Veterinary Science

General Sciences

Computer Science

Environmental Science

Citizenship

Communication Skills

Leadership Development

Community Service Learning

Healthy Living

Nutrition

Fitness

Health

DELIVERY METHODS/PROGRAMS FUNDED THROUGH GRANTS:

4-H Clubs

Content is delivered to youth in 4-H clubs by adult volunteers

Workshops, competitive events and other activities planned and implemented by staff and volunteers support the educational and mission mandate goals

Financial support through state and federal funds, the MA 4-H Foundation and user fees

The only delivery mode that requires every member pays a fee or requests a waiver

The most time intensive delivery mode for staff; program allows for long term relationship with adult mentor(s) and has been shown to produce most positive results in youth

Military Programs

4-H clubs for military youth (Hanscom AFB and MA Military Reservation/Otis Air Guard)

Educational programs for educators and communities on the effects of deployment on youth

Deployment cycle programming for youth affected by the deployment of a loved one

Financial support through Operation Military Kids and Military Club grants; some support from MA 4-H Foundation and OMK collaborators

Communities, Youth and Families at Risk Programs

Science focused and college positive program in Springfield

UMass students involved as volunteers working directly with youth

Funded through CYFAR grant; some support from state funds and the MA 4-H Foundation

Special Interest/Short Term Programs

Program is conducted by staff of other organizations such as libraries and after school programs

Little cost, often funded by user fees

In School Enrichment Programs

Teachers deliver 4-H in the classroom using 4-H curricula; most common is Embryology

Usually a fee for use of resources; very small time commitment for staff

Tech Wizards Program

Youth mentoring program currently offered in North Adams

Funded by OJJDP through National 4-H Council

4-H Camps

4-H Camps are separate 501 c3 organizations that partner with 4-H based on an MOA

Camps are self-supporting; they do receive some funds from the MA 4-H Foundation



**4-H Youth
Development Program**
UMass Extension

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