

For the Market Programs:
Oceana County 4-H Automatic Enrollment Policy for 2025-2026
(if requirements below are met)

Purpose/Policy:	Those who have completed a market project the previous year may sign up in a predetermined window before any new project members.
Scope:	This policy applies to Oceana County 4-H residents only.
Objective:	To implement an improved re-enrollment process for the experienced 4-Her in their specific project area.
Eligibility:	Six conditions must be met to qualify for automatic enrollment in the 2025–2026 4-H Large / Small Market Programs.

Requirements for the automatic re-enrollment program:

1. 4-Her must enroll in the same project species as the previous year.
2. 4-Her must have achieved a "B" ribbon or better on their most recent market animal notebook entry at the Oceana County Fair.
3. Animal must have been sold at the Oceana 4-H Livestock Auction(s).
4. 4-Her must show a signed buyer photo form when submitting their applications for Tier 1 before October 26. The signed buyer photo form will need to be submitted in exchange for their market sale check on October 26 at the annual meeting or after that date at the MSU Extension Office.
5. 4-Her must have a completed 4-H Enrollment Form through <https://v2.4honline.com/>
6. 4-Her must be within the Oceana County Fair resident guidelines to be eligible for automatic enrollment.(see residency affidavit)

Additional Guidelines:

1. Automatic enrollment option is available if there is no gap in participation years (i.e. must participate in the same animal species project for back-to-back years).
2. Automatic enrollment option is not available if changing project areas (i.e. swine to beef, lamb to swine, small market to large market). It can only be used if the 4-Her is staying in the same animal species project area.
3. Automatic enrollment option is not available to members who have graduated high school.
4. 4-Her's already in the project (old enough to sell) will be given automatic enrollment priority over Little Buddy members.
5. **Projects not making weight or have an unforeseen issue** as to why their animal could not be in the auction; yet all other project requirements have been met (meetings, notebook, etc.) may consider the below steps:
 - A. 4-Her to send a letter to their respective committee, requesting an exception, by **September 1st** at 3:00 p.m.
 - B. Once received at the 4-H Office, the letter will be forwarded to the appropriate 4-H leader who will be required to provide either a letter of recommendation or a denial of the request in respect to time spent on the project, etc.
The leader's response is due by September 15th.
 - C. If the Committee approves the exception, the 4-Her may sign up in the same week as the Little Buddy members.
 - D. If the Committee does not approve the exception, the Committee will provide sign up direction to the 4-Her.
 - E. 4-Hers who were granted the exception under Item "C", will have priority over Little Buddy members for automatic enrollment.
 - F. Committee will make the final decision by **October 1st**.

Little Buddy Guidelines (example)

If there is space in the large market swine program and the swine little buddy has met four of the six conditions above (a little buddy does not have a buyer photo/signature requirement nor a sold through auction requirement), they may be automatically enrolled in the Large Market Swine Program. In the event of limited openings, eligible little buddy's may be selected by age (oldest would be allowed in the program first).

Final Authority: The appropriate committee; 4-H Market Livestock Committee, or the Small Market Animal Association Committee, will be the final authority on all matters of concern and can grant/deny exceptions to the above policy/rules.