

Tort Liability Memorandum

The attached memorandum is reviewed periodically by the State 4-H Office and the State of Oregon legal advisors, and representatives from OSU Extension.

It is not intended for distribution to anyone other than Extension faculty members or staff.
Do not distribute it to volunteers, parents, or youth.

Please read the introduction carefully. The term "volunteer in the 4-H program" is defined as "those volunteers who are enrolled in the 4HDMS as individuals recruited for leading a group, assisting in an activity, serving in a middle management role, or serving as a resource leader in the training of other adults." In the legal sense, enrollment in 4HDMS is the accepted documentation of volunteer participation in the likelihood of a claim being made against the tort liability coverage.

Extension faculty with 4-H responsibilities should support the intent of the tort liability policy, but not make it more than it is. **The policy is intended to protect only those individuals who have been recruited and enrolled and are under the direction and control of Extension faculty, performing services on behalf of the State Board of Higher Education, OSU, and the Extension Service.**