



## 2026 Participant Information

The New Mexico 4-H FCS School is designed for 4-H members ages 9-13 who are interested in learning skills related to Family and Consumer Science Projects and finding out about project opportunities in New Mexico. 4-Hers choose one track per year. All participants will engage in a service-learning project and fun activities.

### Directions

This event will be held at the Bernalillo County Extension Office located 1510 Menaul Ext. Blvd NW, Albuquerque, 87107. A map with directions is available at <https://bernalilloextension.nmsu.edu/map.html> or from your County Extension Office.

### Arrival Time

Check-in time for FCS participants is 8:30-9:00 a.m. on Saturday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2026. **DO NOT** plan to arrive early.

**\*\*Optional:** Contest night will be held on March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026 @ 6:00PM at the Bernalillo County Extension Office. Dinner will be provided.

### Departure Time

Do not plan to leave prior to 11:30 am on Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026. Lunch will **not** be provided.

### Policies

- The New Mexico 4-H FCS Schools are a unique experience where each participant, chaperone, and Junior Instructor demonstrates the personal character 4-H is respected for. Please sign a **Combined Liability Form\*** which is policy for all State 4-H events. Each youth and adult participant must have a signed **Combined Liability Form\*** on file before they will be allowed to participate in the event. Activities during FCS School are often videotaped or photographed for promotional purposes. \*These forms are available online or from your County Extension Office – youth will not be allowed to participate without all required signatures and forms. All youth, junior instructors and chaperones must register through their county extension office.
- All clothing must meet the Event Clothing Guidelines. We will be participating in activities throughout the weekend so youth are encouraged to wear comfortable attire. Due to safety concerns, all participants must wear closed toed shoes during activities and tracks.
- Youth and chaperones are expected to attend the event in its entirety, DO NOT plan to arrive late or leave early.

### Insurance

All participants are covered by American Income Life Insurance for accidents and illnesses from the time they leave home with a designated chaperone until their return. Please report any accidents or illnesses to Marissa Morgan.

### Junior Instructors

Senior 4-H members may apply to serve as junior instructors. They will be under the direct supervision of the FCS School Instructors. Though they are not being paid, this should be considered as a job – junior instructors are expected to participate fully as directed by instructors and abide by all policies of the NM 4-H Program and this event. There is no registration fee if a youth is selected to serve as a junior instructor; however they are responsible for travel to and from the event. Junior Instructors will be provided more information about orientation and assigned track if selected.

### Phone Messages

Youth cell phones will only be permitted during breaks or meals. Marissa's cell number is (505)-728-8118. In the event of an emergency, contact Marissa and she will locate your child.

### Chaperones

Each county must designate a chaperone (or make arrangements with another county for their youth to be chaperoned). Chaperones must be screened, enrolled 4-H leaders or Extension Staff meeting the guidelines in the NM 4-H Policy & Procedures Manual 200.A-3 (R-19). Chaperones will not be allowed to participate in youth tracks due to limited space. There will be no fees for chaperones but they must register for a meal count. Our ratio for chaperones is 1 adult for every 8 youth – that means one adult male for every 8 male youth and one adult female for every 8 female youth. If enough appropriate chaperones are not registered, it will be the responsibility of the county to recruit additional chaperones.

4-H Volunteers/Chaperones who will be transporting youth (other than personal children), on behalf of 4-H, to and/or from the event must provide a copy of valid driver's license and current proof of insurance to the County Extension Office prior to the event. This is in accordance with NMSU Working with Minors Policy in effect as of March 15, 2019.

New Mexico 4-H statewide events are designed to be age appropriate activities conducted in a safe environment. In order for these events to meet their goals and be successful, the 4-H program relies heavily on chaperones. Chaperones are responsible for and must participate with the delegation, providing support and direction for the delegation at all times. Due to limitations in facilities and financial resources, and the liability involved, we cannot accommodate children who are not registered participants for the event and we cannot register youth who do not meet the age guidelines established for any given event. A chaperone's (Extension Personnel or Adult Volunteer) non-participating child(ren) may not travel or lodge with the chaperone until the conclusion of chaperone responsibilities to the delegation.

### Lodging

*Please visit the NM 4-H Website for direct links for the reservations.*

### Food

The following meals are provided: Friday dinner, Saturday lunch and dinner. If you have special food needs you did not declare on your medical form, please notify Marissa ASAP. Some refreshments will be available throughout the day. **DO NOT** bring extra food or snacks. Remember – you will **need money** for lunch on Sunday (traveling).

### Registration and Refunds

Registration for each track is first come first served – we are limited in each track. If you miss the cutoff, you will be placed on the waiting list. If you cancel, refunds will only be made after the event is completed and only if the vacated spot can be filled from the waiting list.