# Beyond Ready Program Checklist

**DEVELOPING HEALTHY, PRODUCTIVE & ENGAGED YOUTH**

4-H's approach to readiness begins with participation in high-quality youth development programs. 4-H has historically helped young people prepare for work and life through the development of competencies, skills and tangible assets resulting in youth who are healthy, productive and engaged. The complex landscape youth face today calls us to go a step further in preparing them to navigate their readiness pathway during and after their 4-H experience. ***Are your programs intentionally preparing youth to be Beyond Ready for the changing world?***

## Beyond Ready Program Checklist

This checklist outlines the necessary elements of **Beyond Ready programming** outlined on the Beyond Ready Framework. Designed to aid the planning and preparation of Beyond Ready programming, the checklist can be applied to a single program or used to review collective program offerings. The questions are a guide to help you assess what you're doing well and where there is opportunity for growth.

Beyond Ready programming is defined by **a high-quality youth development setting**, a non-negotiable foundation, combined with intentional program experiences that focus on: **readiness for work**; **readiness for life**; and **individualized support for post-secondary pathways**.

☐ **Are you delivering high-quality Youth Development experiences?**

**Do the program design and practices intentionally include the elements of a high-quality developmental context?**

- ☐ Fostering Sparks *(a passion for developing an interest or skill that inspires a sense of direction)*
- ☐ Promoting Belonging *(a sense of security, connection and feeling valued)*
- ☐ Supporting Developmental Relationships *(a trusted relationship with a caring adult that fosters youth development)*
- ☐ Encouraging Engagement *(active pursuit of individual learning and development)*

**Non-Negotiable:** *All elements are necessary for 4-H Beyond Ready programming.*

*Notes:*

☐ **Are you creating opportunities for youth to be Ready for Work?**

**Does the program have the opportunity for youth to develop knowledge, skills and assets to be ready for work?**

- ☐ Teaching 4-H Project Content *(STEM, agriculture, health, other)*
- ☐ Building Work Readiness Skills *(professionalism, work ethic, organizational skills)*
- ☐ Supporting College and Career Readiness *(academics, college exploration and career exploration)*
- ☐ Fostering Leadership Development *(navigating differences, leading others, decision making, communication, collaboration)*
- ☐ Offering Real Life Experiences *(internships, apprenticeships, summer employment)*

**Customizable:** *Intentionally target development in one or more area.*

*Notes:*

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## ☐ Are you providing opportunities for youth to be Ready for Life?

**Does the program target the development of personal attributes to be ready for life?**

- ☐ **Promoting Personal Integrity** *(ethical decision making, honesty, reliability)*
- ☐ **Supporting Responsibility** *(self-discipline, personal accountability, perseverance)*
- ☐ **Fostering Purpose** *(direction, motivation, sense of meaning)*
- ☐ **Promoting Caring & Connection** *(concern, compassion, generosity, consideration)*
- ☐ **Promoting Goal Setting & Management** *(persistence, critical thinking, problem-solving)*
- ☐ **Encouraging a Growth Mindset** *(originality, creativity, curiosity)*

**Customizable:** *Intentionally target development of one or more personal attributes.*

*Notes:*

## ☐ Are learning experiences assisting youth in their development of Individualized Post-Secondary Pathways?

**Does the program employ intentional program content or strategies focused on preparing youth for future pathways?**

- ☐ **Mentoring Relationships** *(established developmental relationships that will provide youth with the guidance and support needed to navigate their pathways)*
- ☐ **Inspiring Future Pathways** *(challenging young people in their growth and expanding the possibilities to achieve their desired purpose)*
- ☐ **Creating Pathway Plans** *(establishing goals and encouraging meaningful progress toward their intended purpose)*
- ☐ **Preparing for Pathway Navigation** *(developing the skills and resources needed to adapt, address challenges and maximize opportunity)*

**Customizable:** *Intentionally employ one or more strategies that support young people in their post-secondary pathway.*

*Notes:*

## ☐ Does the program focus on a young person's whole being and prepare them to make positive decisions relative to Health, Productivity and Engagement?

**Do the program outcomes align with developing youth who are healthy, productive and ready to engage in their future pathways?**

- ☐ **Developing Healthy Habits** *(habits that lead to wellness in body, mind and being)*
- ☐ **Fostering Productivity** *(meaningful ways to spend their time and energy)*
- ☐ **Growing Engagement** *(participation in meaningful experiences that contribute to success for self and others)*

**Customizable:** *Intentionally target long-term readiness in one or more area.*

*Notes:*