"Exploring Citizenship, My Government" is designed for the older Intermediate and Senior 4-H member desiring to learn about government at the local, state and national level. 4-H members will understand the importance of citizen involvement in government.

In this project, you will:

- Understand how local, state, and national governments are organized and operated.
- Become aware of career possibilities related to government.
- Plan and carry out projects that will increase your knowledge of government and your involvement in government.
- Keep a written record of activities undertaken and what was learned from each activity.
- Function as an involved and informed citizen to see that government operates for the people.

Leadership Activities:

- Do a survey in your community to learn how people feel about citizen participation in government and how involved they are in their government. Use the results of this survey to plan an “active citizen” campaign.
- Interview local government officials. Find out their qualifications, their responsibilities and how they got their job. Share what you learn with others.
- Plan a tour of the State Capitol while the legislature is in session. Invite your County 4-H Council Officers and other teen leaders who are interested to attend.

Resources:

- Exploring Citizenship, Unit IV, My Government Workbook 100.F-26
- General Project Record Sheet 300.A-7 (R-18)

Tips:

- Complete project book and summary form.
- Attend club/project meetings.
- Plan and implement your own government project by completing one activity in each of these areas: American Democracy; Division of Power in a Democracy; Political Parties in a Democracy; and the Voter in a Democracy.

Suggested Citizenship Activities:

- Conduct voter registration drives and “get out and vote” campaigns in your county.
- Use your ideas to plan and implement a state citizenship project.
- Serve as a State Legislative Page.
- Find a political candidate who seems to believe in the same things you do. Volunteer to help with their campaign.