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[https://diversity.ca.uky.edu/
content/jr-manrrs](https://diversity.ca.uky.edu/content/jr-manrrs)

**When you support
Extension,
diverse youth
enrich academics,
demonstrate
self-esteem and
leadership for
college preparation.**

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION EXTENDING KNOWLEDGE *Changing Lives*



Middle and high school members attend the Jr. MANRRS Conferences at the University of Kentucky where they interact with faculty, staff, collegiate MANRRS members (mentors), and sponsors.

Extension Creates Diverse Leaders in Preparation for the 21st Century Workforce



The 4-H Junior Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Related Sciences (Jr. MANRRS) program provides youth with professional and personal development programs at the local, state, regional, and national levels to expose youth to careers in science, technology, engineering, agriculture, and math; as well as providing leadership opportunities and mentorship.



Ninety-six percent of KY 4-H Jr. MANRRS members stated that the institute workshops improved their understanding of leadership, the agriculture industry, and being college and career ready.

4-H Junior Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences (Jr. MANRRS) is a pre-collegiate outreach program of the National Society of MANRRS for middle and high school aged students. The Jr. MANRRS program encourages students to have a positive attitude toward academic excellence, stimulates enthusiasm about science, technology, engineering, agriculture, and mathematics (STEAM), and encourages pre-collegiate youth to pursue degrees in agriculture and other related fields. The program increases the number of underserved and underrepresented students attending and graduating from college, provides mentorship from collegiate students and career professionals, encourages and supports parental commitment to their children's education, and raises cultural awareness among students. Collegiate MANRRS students serve as mentors to provide guidance and networking opportunities for Jr. MANRRS members. Jr. MANRRS members have the opportunity to attend state, regional, and national Jr. MANRRS meetings and conferences.

Since 2012, Jr. MANRRS chapters have expanded from 2 to 11 counties including Jefferson, Christian, Franklin, Daviess, Caldwell, Cumberland, Fayette, Madison, McCracken, Mercer, and Pulaski Counties, with over 230 current members. Cooperative Extension agents promote agricultural literacy in their local Jr. MANRRS programs, with members participating in service learning, science fairs, and apply skills in agriculture, natural resources, or related science disciplines. A majority of the students in Jr. MANRRS do not live on farms. The program introduces youth to traditional 4-H programs and ensures that the students are college and career ready.

Jr. MANRRS members have the opportunity to attend the Kentucky Jr. MANRRS Leadership Institute that is held on the University of Kentucky campus annually. Members participate in sessions, such as entomology, meat science, veterinary pathology, textile testing, nutritional assessment, and family studies, pertaining to majors in the College of Agriculture, Food and Environment and the School of



Jr. MANRRS scholars participate in college exploration sessions, such as veterinary science at the University of Kentucky during the Kentucky Jr. MANRRS Leadership Institute.



238 middle and high school Jr. MANRRS members from across Kentucky attended the Kentucky Jr. MANRRS Leadership Institute in 2016.

Human and Environmental Sciences (HES), while on campus. Through the workshops, youth learn about issues in agriculture, leadership, and networking. Agents reported that 96% of the members stated that the workshops gave them a better understanding of leadership, the agriculture industry, and being college and career ready.

Over the last five years, 95% of the Kentucky Jr. MANRRS members have graduated from high school and attended college. Twelve Jr. MANRRS graduates are currently enrolled at the University of Kentucky. Currently, 35% of the students that were involved in 4-H Jr. MANRRS have declared a major in agriculture.